



Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment

Inquiry into the health and wellbeing of kangaroos and other macropods in NSW

**Response to Supplementary questions to the Kangaroo Industry Association Australia (KIAA)**

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1. Would the equivalent international counterparts of the KIAA be the Japan Whaling Association and the Canadian Sealers Association?
  - a. We are unaware of the make-up and operations of these organisations.
2. Because THINKK has found that to provide Australians with just one serve of kangaroo meat per week, 22 million kangaroos would have to be killed every year, do you agree that given that large volume plus the reality that kangaroos cannot be farmed, kangaroo meat will never be more than a novelty market?
  - a. Kangaroo has an established place in food consumption in Australia and overseas. It is of course a niche and valuable market and it is somewhat offensive to the nearly 3000 people involved in the industry to describe it as a novelty.

In terms of the figures from THINKK the average yield of meat per carcass is 25kg. A standard serve according to Nutrition Australia is 90 – 100gm lean raw meat. To provide one serve per week per person (assuming every single person in Australia no matter what age or dietary habits) would require 5kg of raw meat per person, we estimate their number to be inflated by 440%.

3. Given in KIAA successfully lobbied the Minister for Environment to fund an industry wide audit by the RSPCA into animal welfare practices, can you explain the outcomes of the RSPCA's audit and furnish evidence that this audit actually took place given that your actual references link to a 1985 document cited in identical terms in 1999?
  - a. The RSPCA report can be viewed [here](#)
4. Given you state on page 10 of your submission that the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) assessed the kangaroo industry and awarded it Level 5, the highest level of competency for animal welfare, can you please provide evidence of this claim (as we have been unable to find this)?
  - a. This is our understanding and the report can be viewed [here](#)
5. In terms of accountability, can you advise how often are shooters are audited or inspected at the point of kill to check for compliance with the National Code of Practice?
  - a. The KIAA is not responsible for the audit program of compliance with the National Code of Practice. Audits are conducted by the NSW Department of Environment Energy and Science.



6. What are the industry's estimates at the number of joeys that are (a) killed by shooters and (b) those that flee and cannot be found after the shooting of their mother?
  - a. The KIAA does not collect these figures and we refer the question to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.
7. Can you explain how or why between 2011-2014 eastern grey kangaroo populations increased by 200% across all zones yet the take across all zones decreased from 38% to 8%.
  - a. We refer population and quota management questions to the responsible authority the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. We do note that kangaroo populations have been sustainably managed over the long term in NSW despite fluctuations.
8. Can you explain how or why the average take from 1997 to 2007 was 69% of the quota but the average take of the quota from 2008 to 2018 dropped to 22%?
  - a. We refer population and quota management questions to the responsible authority the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. We do note that kangaroo populations have been sustainably managed over the long term in NSW despite fluctuations.
9. Can you clarify how many Indigenous people KIAA employs and how many Indigenous people work as shooters?
  - a. The KIAA is the industry association and does not employ any people and members do not record the ethnicity of employees. There are however Aboriginal owned and operated kangaroo business in operation across NSW.
10. What is the current economic value in dollars of the kangaroo industry in NSW?
  - a. Approximately \$50,000,000
11. Can you confirm the exact dates Macro Meats stopped production in 2021 and explain every factor that led to this?
  - a. The KIAA is unable to respond to any question on a company's operational matters
12. What is your view of the impact of exclusion fencing on kangaroo numbers?
  - a. Please refer to p13 of our submission.
13. Do you agree with the assessment from many farmers saying kangaroo numbers are increased, and if yes why is it then that quota takes have been dropping every year since 2011?
  - a. We rely on the population surveys and quota management by Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.



14. Do you think there should be an immediate halt in the erection of more exclusion fencing in NSW until the effects of exclusion fencing are independently studied to determine their impact on animals and the environment?
  - a. The KIAA does not recommend any change to any policy without the recommendations developed through scientific study of the impact of exclusion fencing.
15. Question to Mr King (Executive officer KIAA) - Could you please justify how and why KIAA uses long term averages considering you stated that there had been three changes in the zoning in 1991, 2004 and 2008?
  - a. According to the transcript it clearly shows Mr King did not state there had been three changes, that statement came from the Chair, Ms Faehrmann. The KIAA does not produce the figures for these averages, they were taken from Federal Department of Environment data and the graphs provided were national figures.

**Supplementary question submitted to Doug Jobson, Macro Meats**

Please note that Doug Jobson did not appear at the Inquiry in his capacity at Macro Meats but as a Director of the KIAA and on behalf of the KIAA.

1. Given you stated that “the algorithms used for the quotas are beyond me”, could you please have someone who does understand the algorithms provide them in step by step mathematical detail given your company relies heavily on these figures?
  - a. We refer the Inquiry and this specific question to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment as we have no role in this process.
2. Given that in questioning about the supply and demand of kangaroo products you stated “we would like more kangaroos and more meat” and that quotas for kangaroos are not even close to being met, what is the reason that you cannot get enough kangaroos and meat?
  - a. Primarily in this season due to wet / flood conditions impacting our ability to access harvest areas.