



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2019-2020 Supplementary Questions**

**Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment**

### **ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

Hearing: Thursday 31 October 2019

**Answers due by: Tuesday 26 November 2019**

**Budget Estimates secretariat**  
Phone 9230 3067  
[BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

### Questions from the Hon Mark Pearson MLC

#### **Dingoes as apex predators.**

1. Could the Minister please provide the details of the research that is currently being undertaken by your department in regards to the role of dingoes as apex predators and their impacts on ecosystems?
2. Are there reports available from the department showing the progress of these studies and are they available to the public?

#### **The impact of exclusion fencing on kangaroos and other native animals**

3. Can the Minister advise what role his department plays on the interagency Kangaroo Management working group, what agencies are represented and whether the working group's minutes and reports are publicly available?

#### **Non-commercial kangaroos - drop tags**

4. What accountability mechanisms are in place now that the requirement for drop tags has been removed and how are the new tally systems monitored for accuracy?
5. Now that drop tags are no longer required, does the Minister think that leaving corpses in the paddock is counterintuitive in terms of providing food for introduced animals such as foxes, cats, wild dogs and pigs?

#### **Commercial kangaroo licences – removal of head from carcasses.**

6. I understand the Minister's previous answer regarding inspections for body wounds, but this does not address concerns that the head shot was a clean kill. With the head being removed before inspection, how can the Minister be confident that an unknown percentage of kangaroos are not suffering from jaw and face wounds before being killed?
7. Can the Minister explain why the evisceration of kangaroo carcasses in the paddock, leaving behind entrails and heads, is an acceptable industry practice given that it creates a food source for introduced animals?
8. The commercial kangaroo harvesting industry relaxed its male-only policy last year.  
  
Would the Minister consider introducing a ban on gender selection for commercial hunting of kangaroos, as a precautionary measure given that no research has been undertaken in the impacts of male only kills?

**Licence conditions for kangaroo commercial harvesters.**

9. Is the minister concerned that the Kangaroo Management Taskforce is proposing to reduce carcass weights given that a kangaroo below the 14kg weight is a juvenile and not of breeding age or size?
10. Kangaroos killed by NSW land holders with non-commercial kangaroo licences for the periods:
- 8th August 2018 to 23/9/2019: 279,454
  - 1st January 2018 to 7th August 2018: 135,886
  - 2017: 134,345
  - 2016: 107,575

Minister, are you alarmed at the dramatic increase in kangaroo slaughter since the removal of drop tag and the easing of licensing requirements?