

26 November 2015

Peter Blackwell Post Approvals Section **Environment Assessment and Compliance Division** Department of the Environment GPO Box 787 CANBERRA, ACT 2601 Email: Peter.Blackwell@environment.gov.au

Dear Peter

## Referral EPBC 2011/6057, 210-238 Maidstone Street Altona

## Project no. 18903

This letter provides confirmation that Biosis, acting on behalf of Maidstone St Joint Venture Pty Ltd, has completed the relocation of the three Spiny Rice-flower Pimelea spinescens subsp. spinescens identified outside the on-site conservation reserve at 210-238 Maidstone Street Altona.

The plants were translocated using a tractor mounted, approximately 50 cm diameter tree-spade provided by Established Tree Transplanters. Plants and potential locations identified to receive them within the onsite conservation reserve were watered on 9 November 2015. The selected locations were in close proximity (within 5 m) of the western most plant identified near the southern boundary of the reserve (see attached survey plan).

Plants were then translocated into the reserve and watered on 10 November 2015 (see attached photos).

The translocated plants were then watered again on 17 and 25 November 2015.

Plants will continue to be watered weekly as required to ensure they do not succumb to drought stress after the shock of translocation. Watering will not be completed during weeks where 10 mm or more of rainfall are recorded for the Altona / Laverton area. This will continue until moist soil conditions become naturally established after the end of the 2015/16 Summer period (expected during the autumn of 2016).

The translocation as conducted is proposed to satisfy Condition 8 of the approval conditions associated with EPBC 2011/6057 in that all individuals of Spiny rice-flower recorded outside the on-site reserve have now been translocated into the reserve. Therefore the on-going implementation of the salvage and translocation plan does not involve any land within the proposed development footprint.

Maidstone St Joint Venture Pty Ltd is currently negotiating with Council and the Department of the Environment a satisfactory outcome for the fencing of the on-site conservation reserve. Once the reserve has been appropriately fenced, it is proposed that the balance of the land outside the fenced reserve can be

Biosis Pty Ltd **Melbourne Resource Group** 



subject to activities associated with the development of the site which would otherwise result in the loss of ecological values within the approved development footprint.

Please acknowledge that the translocation as conducted satisfies Condition 8 as it applies to areas outside of the on-site conservation reserve.

Please contact me on 8686 4833 if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

**Stephen Mueck** 

Senior Consultant Botanist Mobile 0429 808 732





**Photo 1:** Hole dug in the on-site reserve by the tree spade to receive the translocated Spiny Rice-flower.



**Photo 2:** Translocated Spiny Rice-flower now within the on-site conservation reserve at 210 – 238 Maidstone Street Altona.

