THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES



SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS 25 Mar 2008

SUBMISSION TO QUARANTINE AND BIOSECURITY REVIEW

The attached paper, 'Evaluating extreme risks in invasion ecology: learning from banking compliance', contains some ideas relevant to the assessment of quarantine risks by Biosecurity Australia, the Eminent Scientists Group and the IRA Appeals Panel. The ideas relate especially to the concerns in sections 64 and 66 of the issues paper on political pressures on the risk assessment process.

The paper argues that the conflicting concerns of stakeholders expressed through political means are not a nuisance to be suppressed through another level of review but a resource that should be taken into account and integrated into the risk assessment process. That is to some extent done already via invited comments from stakeholders. The paper further suggests that formal processes in this area have been developed with success in the field of operational risk assessment in banking, and that biosecurity can learn from banking important methods on the structuring of the risk assessment process and the use of consultants.

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