



# Australian Government

## Department of the Environment and Heritage

File N°: 2006/09337

Contact Officer: Janine Douglas

Telephone: (02) 6274 2562 Facsimile: (02) 6274 1878

The Director  
Vacenta Pty Ltd  
9 Glen Court  
CHANDLER QLD 4155

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to you to provide information about the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). I understand that Vacenta Pty Ltd is considering a residential subdivision at Lot 705, Manyana Drive, Manyana, New South Wales and I am writing to explain how the EPBC Act could apply to this proposal.

The EPBC Act protects matters of national environmental significance. Matters of national environmental significance include World and National Heritage properties, wetlands of international importance, nationally listed threatened species and ecological communities, listed migratory species, Commonwealth marine areas and nuclear actions. Matters of national environmental significance which are relevant within the Manyana area include nationally listed threatened species. In particular the Giant Burrowing Frog (*Heleioporus australiacus*) may be present in the Manyana area.

A person proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance must refer their proposal to the Department for assessment and approval. Substantial penalties apply to a person who takes such an action without approval.

Not all actions affecting matters protected by the EPBC Act will have a significant impact and require approval. Guidelines for determining if the impact of an action is likely to be significant are available from the Department's website at [www.deh.gov.au/epbc](http://www.deh.gov.au/epbc). These guidelines are designed to help you decide whether you need to refer your proposal to the Department. If the question of significance is unclear, you can refer your proposal and the Department will advise whether or not approval is needed within 20 business days.

I have enclosed a brochure providing further information about the EPBC Act. A referral form, together with further information on the EPBC Act is also available at the Department's website.

If you determine that you do not need to refer this proposal, it would be appreciated if you could provide the Department with a copy of any relevant environmental studies demonstrating that a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance is unlikely.

Should you have any queries about the matters raised in this letter please call the contact officer, Janine Douglas on 02 6274 2562. Alternatively, if you would like further information about the referrals process, you may contact our Referrals Section on 02 6274 1596.

Yours sincerely



Jan Klaver  
Assistant Director  
Compliance and Audit Section

1 August 2006