

News releases - Geoff Brock

Healthy pet food production helped by a \$65,000 grant

July 21, 2016

A \$65,000 Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback Futures Program grant will assist Dew's Meats in Orroroo to turn off-cuts into a premium value-add ingredient for pet food.

Dew's Meats – a kangaroo processing business – will turn bones and offal currently considered as waste into a healthy kangaroo meal product to add to pet foods.

The company will manufacture a new range of pet food products onsite and will also provide the highly nutritional protein to established premium pet food markets, domestically and overseas.

The project includes the construction of a dedicated building in the Mid North town of Orroroo to house the pet food processing operation and upgraded production and distribution systems.

The \$130,000 project will create six ongoing positions, as well as four jobs during construction.

Background

Dew's Meats is a family business that has been processing kangaroo in Orroroo for 40 years.

Premium kangaroo cuts are supplied through the 'Orroroo Kangaroo' brand to restaurants, food service and retail clients, as well as being used to produce a range of premium smallgoods.

The \$2 million Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback Futures Program opened in November 2015 in recognition of the challenges brought about by the downturn of the resources sector and the impending closure of the Port Augusta power station and Leigh Creek coal mine.

Grants have been made available from \$50,000 up to \$200,000 in 2015-16.

The program supports the delivery of small projects contributing to the economic diversification, resilience and capacity building of Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback communities, creating sustainable economic benefits to the region and the State.

This project aligns with the State Government's economic priority of 'Growth through innovation'.

Quotes attributable to Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock

This is a great opportunity for Dew's Meats who have identified how to value-add to their already established business by using bi-products and tapping into a new market.

Dew's Meats is set to produce a premium pet food ingredient and products which can be exported both interstate and overseas through this project.

This project will allow the company to increase its production levels and increase their intake of kangaroos from South Australian harvesters. This brings flow- on benefits, including an increase in the economic contribution of the kangaroo industry to the State, and providing more opportunities for people living and working in the region.

Projects awarded funding through the Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback Futures Program are stimulating new business activity, supporting stronger communities and creating job opportunities in the region.

Quotes attributable to Taryn Ackland, Managing Director, Dew's Meats

Dew's Meats is a proud South Australian business. We support local producers and supply our products to local markets, as well as interstate and future export markets.

This grant will allow us to diversify and grow our business and revenue, and will allow us to capture new markets with a premium, high value ingredient product and pet food range.

There is a demonstrated market demand for this type of quality product. We will be creating a premium, safe and nutritious ingredient for pet food production, both through our own range of pet food products as well as for export markets.

This will allow us to use the entire carcass of the kangaroo, reducing our current waste levels significantly.