

# APP202879 - PredaStop for feral cats

Submission Reference no: 32

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**Submitter Type:** Not specified

**Source:** Web Form

**Overall Notes:**

**Clause**

What is your position on the application

**Position**

I oppose the application

**Notes**

Many cats do indeed travel further than 500m from their home. An "average" of 200m as suggested by the applicant is misleading, as statistically the average is only a mid-way point, and by definition, cats in the quoted study traveled more than 200m. A recent study by the Otago University showed that cats in rural areas or areas of low residential density travel much further than cats in an urban or densely populated area. There is no indication in the application as to where the cats in the quoted study were - urban or rural - and it may be that the findings are not relevant to this situation. Cats travel long distances for many reasons - toms seeking females, cats that are chased by dogs or other cats out of their usual area, cats that are lost or trying to return to a previous address, for example. Indeed, one of my cats was chased by other cats and killed by a car two kilometres from home, and she was not usually a wanderer. As it is unlikely that contractors will make any effort to identify the cats they kill, pets that are killed will not be recorded in any way, and the propaganda that will be attributed to this lack of identification will almost certainly take the form of "no pet cats have been recorded as being killed by PAPP operations", and will be used as justification to continue. I do not accept that an unwillingness to spend time and money ensuring landowners and residents are properly informed is a good reason to put pets at risk. While keeping cats inside at night may be seen as a partial solution, it does not provide total protection, nor is it always possible for owners to get cats in at night, or prevent escapes. If poisoning is to be used as a means of pest control, then those who want to use it simply have to accept that they have a responsibility to ensure they only kill the animals they are targeting, regardless of cost or inconvenience.

**Clause**

All submissions are taken into account by the decision makers. In addition, please indicate whether or not you also wish to speak at a hearing if one is held.

**Position**

No I do not wish to speak about my submission at the hearing

**Notes**

**The submitter have elected to withhold their personal details from publication.**