The Northern Territory Government is working in conjunction with all states and Territories to implement measures to contain the exotic disease found in NSW horses.

The Primary Industry Minister, Chris Natt said while the risk to the Northern Territory is low, horse owners must respect the national restrictions on moving horses.

“As part of the national standstill all horses in the Territory are required to stay put,” he said.

“There was minimal horse movement into the Territory in the lead up to the standstill and this has helped ensure our horse stocks are protected.

“Equine Influenza is a highly contagious disease and the standstill will ensure there continues to be little risk to Territory horses.”

Mr Natt said Chief Veterinary Officer, Dr Brian Radunz is involved in national discussions as part of the Consultative Committee on Exotic Diseases. It’s expected the standstill will be reassessed on Thursday.

“Officers from the Primary Industry Group are in the process of notifying all vets, pony clubs and the racing industry about their responsibilities under the standstill.”

The Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines has also set up a web address for further information: www.nt.gov.au/dpifm\horses

More information can be obtained from the national hotline 1800 234 002.

Media Contact: Emma Haskin 8901 4157