

Sarah Catherall

From: corinne mackenzie [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 22 July 2019 2:44 PM
To: aglawsinquiry
Subject: Submission: Inquiry into the Impact of Animal Rights Activism on Victorian Agriculture

Miss Corinne MacKenzie
[REDACTED]

In addition to my submission dated 20 July I reiterate that not only activists expose unlawful animal cruelty in Australia's agriculture industry. Employees have also provided evidence (anonymously and publicly) to animal welfare or activist organisations. Clearly those individuals felt their employer, relevant industry organisations and the Depts of Primary Industry / Agriculture would not act upon the breaches of Australian law (& many media and activist exposés have confirmed this belief).

Consequently, limiting animal activism also limits an important avenue of recourse available to employees in the agricultural industry who seek resolutions to animal cruelty.

As employers who consistently breach animal protection laws likely have a high correlation with workplace safety breaches I'd encourage employees and activists to also refer consequential evidence of workplace health and safety risks directly to the Dept of Health and/or Worksafe agency in their state. (Worryingly, in respect of a 2019 video of animal cruelty and neglect at [REDACTED] which also showed serious human health and safety risks, the Qld Dept of Agriculture repeatedly ignored requests to address those health and safety issues and refer them to the Qld Dept of Health, and Worksafe)

I'd also encourage farmers that do comply with animal protection laws to not turn a blind eye to other operations which don't, as protecting the 'bad eggs' only damages the industry as a whole - consequently, while industry and government continue to demonstrate they are unable or unwilling to address animal cruelty and breaches of Aust law the work of animal activism remains a necessity.