

BE & JM Lewis

August 1, 2019

The Secretary
Legislative Council, Economy and
Infrastructure Committee
Parliament House
Spring Street
EAST MELBOURNE Vic 3002

Dear Secretary,

Our farm is 1200 acres at Tatong, south of Benalla. On our farm we run 160 Angus cows with calves at foot and 40 Angus replacement heifers, 560 XBD ewes to produce 550 prime lambs, and 200 merino wethers.

It is of major concern to us the threat that animal activists pose to our industry -

- ⑩ the threat the animal activists pose to the biosecurity of our farm
- ⑩ the safety of our family
- ⑩ the welfare of our animals
- ⑩ our ability to grow food and contribute to the economy

We employ local shearers, a hay contractor, fencing contractor and farm hand at seasonal times of the year.

We ask that you protect farmers rights, our privacy, business and the integrity of our biosecurity system and animal welfare outcomes.

Legislation needs to prevent these extreme people from invading our farms, harassing and disrupting our businesses whilst producing food.

We strongly ask you to apply Legislation whereby hefty Trespass fines apply to prevent these extreme activists from entering our farms. The penalty needs to fit the crime they are committing, even a term in gaol to give them the message that what they are doing is criminal. The previous fines of \$1 are an insult to farmers and do not deter these morons. They have to be brought to account. This is an illegal activity.

Yours faithfully

Barry Lewis

Joan Lewis