

Submission re farm biosecurity, surveillance, privacy laws, nuisance laws and review minimum, penalties.

BACKGROUND : In our small township we have two residents who are self proclaimed "animal activists". I do not believe they are employed (and are probably unemployable) who spend their days driving slowly around the countryside looking for possible targets. The local Police are very used to their complaints re litter and associated matters from events conducted, as well as the R.S.P.A. re animals. Locked gates do not deter them, they have hay or other food to entice animals closer, a huge contamination risk to animals and property,

The Department of Agriculture regularly offer courses (which we are obliged to attend) regarding biosecurity and it is vitally important that diseases are not transferred from footwear farm to farm or locality to locality. Farmers are very aware of the risks involved. The animal activists have no requirement to register or attend courses

The animal activists in our area do not have a farming background or knowledge of animal husbandry and have not been observed at seminars organised by the Department of Agriculture.

There seems to be no control by "proper" authorities on the activity of these activists and no provision for punishment, e.g. recent case where a fine of \$1.00 was imposed. This is deplorable and laughable. Holding up the traffic in Melbourne?

There should be a register of animal activists, they should attend courses in biosecurity, all types of animal husbandry and be educated in legal aspects of entering property without permission. Business is required to be registered, names available, animal activists must be awarded the same privilege.

Thelma Coster,



10TH June, 2019.

