SUBMISSION CONTENT:

--

I moved to Raglan, Victoria in 2016, and travel on country roads every day. I have made a point of driving on every possible road to see what is the best way to get from place to place. I have also driven on country roads in other States and Territories. I am most worried by the fact that when I use roads that have a 15 or 10 tonne limit, many farmers and local businesses ignore those limits and drive huge pieces of machinery on those roads, to take shortcuts and to avoid police patrols. The size and shape of some of those vehicles forces the driver of the other vehicle, normally a car, to have to leave the road entirely. I don't have a solution to this, but these huge vehicles are also causing more than normal damage to the road surfaces and edges of these weight limited roads.

One other thing. Roads can never be perfect. Instead of blaming the state of the country roads for the large number of deaths, it's a fact that driver distraction and lack of driving skills that is causing many of the problems. Drivers need to be re-educated every 5 years or so about using defensive driving skills and driving to the conditions of the roads. That's the major problem. People have extremely poor driving skills nowadays. That low level of skill can be fatal on country roads with uneven surfaces, wildlife nearby, and a huge range of vehicles using those roads.

Thanks for the opportunity to put in this submission.

Angela O'Neil

--

File1:

File2:

File3: