Submission No 32

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS AMENDMENT (VIRTUAL STOCK FENCING) BILL 2024

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Virtual fencing allows graziers to effectively subdivide paddocks with minimal cost and effort. This would facilitate much better grazing management and in turn improved weed control, feed utilisation and stock performance. There are major environmental benefits which result from this including:

- Reduced chemical usage
- Reduced potential for erosion and runoff
- Less opportunities for invasive weeds and vertebrate pest species
- Improved animal health and liveweight gains, due to greatly improved feed utilisation
- Reduction in cost and material usage associated with conventional fencing

Devices currently in use pose no risk to animal welfare, in the same way that electric fencing poses no risk to animal welfare. Plenty of scientific evidence is currently available to support this submission.

Tony Jeglic

14 May 2024