

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF BATTERY CAGES FOR HENS IN  
THE EGG PRODUCTION INDUSTRY**

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

We have to phase out battery caged hens in Australia as an urgent priority.

For many years, the the Australian public has been actively campaigning against battery cages. Hens in battery cages experience extreme confinement and behavioural restriction, without enough space to even stretch their wings. Due to the inability to walk, flap their wings, or perch, hens in battery cages suffer very poor muscle and bone strength, a high rate of bone fractures, frustration, abnormal behaviours, and poor welfare. The ability to perform natural behaviours is important to positive welfare in poultry.

Many scientific studies have concluded that good welfare cannot be achieved in battery cages. The overwhelming consensus among animal welfare experts is that the welfare of hens in battery cages is severely compromised. The whole of the European Union and the United Kingdom have legally phased out battery cages, and Canada and New Zealand are currently phasing them out. These decisions were based on comprehensive scientific reviews. A detailed scientific European report makes a clear case against battery cages.

Please take action to legislate this now.