

**Submission  
No 336**

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

**Name:** Ms Belinda Henry

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Dear Committee members,

Please find a brief submission on battery cages in NSW.

There is no excuse for animal cruelty. Eggs can be produced with animal welfare as the priority.

Caging any animal, including hens is cruel and unnecessary - small cages where they live the whole of their lives. It is physically and mentally cruel. The birds cannot perform normal ( or any) behaviours like nesting, foraging, scratching, and dustbathing, they cannot even extend their wings.

It does not take any scientific research to understand that this is cruel, unnecessary, unhealthy for the hens and ultimately reflective in what humanity is.

It should not require scientific proof to treat animals appropriately but please look to the The European Union Scientific Veterinary Commission, the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee of New Zealand, and the National Farm Animal Care Council of Canada to provide the scientific basis for the conclusion that battery cages do not meet the welfare needs of hens and must be phased out.

You are aware of the large number of countries that have already done so or are in the process of doing so as well as food companies. There is a public demand for what is just so obviously doable and right. Utilising animals for food does not require treatment that is so evidently cruel and unnecessary.

I want to see the NSW Government act on the scientific evidence and the community's expectations on animal welfare, and commence a phase out of battery hens.

Kind regards,  
Belinda Henry