Submission No 15

INQUIRY INTO GREYHOUND WELFARE AND INTEGRITY COMMISSION

Name: Miss Angela Furlan

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I wish to make a submission as regards the inquiry into the Greyhound Welfare & Integrity Commission (GWIC). Whilst I think the establishment of the GWIC is essential to ensure the welfare standards in the greyhound industry, I harbour serious concerns as to its ability to perform its duties unhindered.

An important term of reference of this inquiry refers to the funding agreement between the GWIC and Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW). I have concerns about this funding arrangement, specifically going to how such an arrangement affects the effectiveness of the GWIC. It concerns me that since the GWIC is beholden to GRNSW for funds - with the GRNSW driven by industry viability rather than animal welfare standards - this funding arrangement impairs the GWIC's ability to properly perform its duties. The need to change the GWIC's funding model so that the government controls funding - not GRNSW - is tantamount to GWIC's effectiveness.

Related to this is the importance of the GWIC's ability to crack down on bad practice and animal cruelty within the industry. The importance of action in areas such as whole-of-life tracking of greyhounds, healthy greyhound euthanasia prohibition and enforcement of maximum penalties for administering prohibited substances cannot be understated.

Thank you for accepting my submission.