

**Submission
No 46**

**INQUIRY INTO ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY IN NEW
SOUTH WALES**

Name: Mrs Jennifer Macdougall

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I wish to lodge very strong objection to the failure of the NSW Government to protect dogs in so called puppy farms. Currently there is almost no protection for these animals and we are continually reading of the cruelty involved, with female dogs kept often in appalling condition, with little or no veterinary care and forced to have litter after litter of pups. There is also no limit on the number of dogs that can be kept on such farms. These farms should be completely outlawed and breeders restricted to a few animals kept in normal humane circumstances, in clean housing and with constant attention to their physical and emotional needs .To shut companion animals up and use them in a factory farming situation is just unacceptable on animal welfare grounds. Why is the NSW Government so reluctant to pay attention to the welfare of animals in this state - already the greyhound industry has continued unabated with deaths and injury to dogs ongoing, despite the expose of the welfare issues in this industry under the Baird Government which recognised the cruelty, but then backflipped on any change due to pressure if you please from a radio shock jock! To not outlaw puppy farms, let alone greyhound racing which is already being banned in many US States reflects and unwillingness of the current Government to place animal welfare above financial considerations. I urge the Government to ban puppy farms, immediately; and to take concrete steps to improve animals welfare standards and laws, with meaningful fines and penalties for breaches. On another matter, as a farmer I see so much cruelty with almost no fear of penalty on the part of the perpetrator, particularly when it comes to eliminating every kangaroo on broad acre farms in our area, and even the emus are shot by some farmers who cannot tolerate seeing a single one in their crops. There is absolutely no control now being exercised by the Government on the killing of wildlife on broad acre farms .This is also unacceptable and it is long overdue that the Government put in place meaningful laws to protect wildlife on farms as well as take action in regard to puppy farms and animals in sport.