

Submission
No 115

**INQUIRY INTO PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP ROSEHILL
RACECOURSE**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 15 July 2024

Partially
Confidential

Submission to the Inquiry into the Proposal to Develop Rosehill Racecourse

Dear Select Committee,

I am making a submission to the Inquiry regarding the proposal to develop Rosehill Racecourse in NSW, because I am concerned about horse welfare. The Terms of Reference of the Inquiry include: (g) *“the impact on animal welfare and any integrity concerns associated with the proposal which relate to animal welfare, and (h) any other related matters.”*

Horseracing in NSW has numerous problems with cruelty:

- Unwanted horses sent to the knackery
- More horses than needed being bred, resulting in more unwanted horses
- Horses being raced too young for their immature musculoskeletal system, making injuries more likely
- Horses being whipped in races despite studies showing it makes no difference to performance
- Use of tongue ties
- Horses breaking down and being killed on the track
- Horses being confined to stalls for many hours a day and denied grazing.

Selling Rosehill Racecourse presents the NSW government with an opportunity to improve horse welfare. I support the proposal for Rosehill Racecourse to be sold, if money gained by the sale is used to improve the welfare of racehorses, by for example:

- Ensuring lifelong traceability of every horse in the NSW racing industry
- Funding a safe, lifelong retirement for every horse in the NSW racing industry
- Immediate action to improve racehorse welfare on the racetrack and off track by replacing current standards of welfare with those based on the 2020 Five Domains Model for animal welfare assessment, and require that members of the racing industry are educated accordingly
- Providing a fund to help transition members of the racing industry into professions outside racing.

Yours faithfully,