

11 August 2016

Productivity Commission,  
G.P.O. Box 1,428,  
Canberra City. 2601.

Re: the need for an Authority of Animal Welfare

*Dear Commissioners,*

I am one of the many who think, similarly to you, that the creation of a national independent Authority of Animal Welfare is essential to protect both exotic and native animals from suffering and cruelty at the hands of commercial exploiters.

Current state-based laws are ineffective in numerous cases, such as: the trucking animals over long distances, non-stop, without water or feed; shooters who operate across borders; puppy farmers can defeat a ban in one state, for example Victoria, by moving to another.

The Authority should have the powers to investigate, police and prosecute offences against non-human animals. It would also benefit by having employees/advisers who are expert in the nature of animal suffering.

*Yours faithfully*