



Animal Protectors Alliance
81 Morrison Street,
Kambah, ACT, 2902

Dr. Sophie Lewis,
ACT Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment (*by email and Australia Post*)
GPO Box 158
Canberra, ACT, 2601
Email: envcomm@act.gov.au

14 June 2022

Dear Dr Lewis

We are writing to inform that we have noted your arrogant, dismissive, and generally disgraceful response to our carefully considered and comprehensively organised submission of 6 May 2022. We will add your response to our already long list of documentary evidence (itemised in our submission) concerning the government's untruthful, irresponsible, dangerous, always cruel, often unlawful, and possibly corrupt responses on this matter.

It is abundantly clear that you did not bother to read our submission. If you had, you would know that the vast majority of the matters necessitating our submission post-date the 2013 ACAT. Of those relating to earlier events, all were either matters not addressed by ACAT or matters specifically arising from the incompetence and the inexcusable failures of ACAT itself to behave with the independence and intelligent deliberation which the public have the right to expect from such a Tribunal.

Your own failure in this matter is even less excusable, given that the public's right to appeal - to a potentially less partisan and more competent ACAT - on any matter relating to the government's kangaroo slaughter (including unlawful behaviour and risk to human safety) has been legislatively removed since 2017.

You say "this matter has been considered by my predecessors in the role of Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment every year since 2013". As noted in our submission, we are aware that in 2013-14, your predecessor, Robert Neil, was deeply concerned about the failure of the government to undertake any monitoring or evaluation of the effectiveness (in terms of its alleged objectives) of the kangaroo killing program since 2009. Unfortunately, Mr Neil moved on before he could get a sensible response out of the government.

The public have not been informed of any consideration of this matter by your office in any year since Mr Neil left the position. You certainly cannot be referring to a submission APA sent to Dr Auty in 2016. That submission was specifically concerned with the failures of various government officials and institutions to address the illegal and dangerous (to people) shooting that took place in 2015.

These failures to protect public safety, of course, remain one of the numerous unresolved issues referred to in our current submission. Dr Auty's response was as arrogant and dismissive as yours, but it did, at least, result, in improvements in signage.

Please provide detailed copies of your office's "consideration" of each and every one of the matters raised in our submission in:

- 2014,
- 2015,
- 2016,
- 2017,
- 2018,
- 2019,
- 2020 and
- 2021.

If you are unable or unwilling to do so, or if this "consideration" turns out to consist of nothing more than yet more unscrutinised acceptance of the government's preposterous arguments, or a repetition of smug assertions that the matter was dealt with by ACAT and needs no further consideration, this too will be added to our list of evidence against the ACT government and its minions.

Every individual who has contributed to this massacre, this cruelty, and this unambiguous extermination campaign against defenceless animals will ultimately held accountable for it when the full horror and tragedy of its consequences are finally made known to the public.

Nothing other than comprehensive documentation of your office's annual "consideration" of this matter since 2013 is required in response to this letter.

Yours sincerely

Frankie Seymour
On behalf of the Animal Protectors Alliance