

## Media Statement



### **AECL response to Animals Australia video**

*21 August 2014*

The Australian Egg Corporation (AECL) does not support, in any way, farming practises resembling those in this footage nor the implications inferred in the footage and media article.

AECL is taking urgent action to ensure the farm complies with the industry quality assurance program, Egg Corp Assured (ECA).

AECL believes this footage is not current. It is a pity the footage wasn't brought to AECL's attention immediately for verification and checking. However we believe it has previously been brought to the attention of the RSPCA.

ECA farms are independently audited by third party certification bodies, such as SGS Australia and the BSI Group ANZ Pty Ltd, and are conducted annually. ECA also conducts unannounced or 'spot' audits and verification audits of ECA farms.

To be an ECA licensee, egg farmers agree to and must abide by the scheme rules and audit criteria. Egg farmers can and have had their ECA licence revoked if they are found to be non-compliant and do not take steps to rectify any non-compliance issues in a timely manner. AECL takes this type of claim seriously and is acting swiftly in the interests of all ECA licensees and participants.

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***For media enquiries, please call (02) 9409 6909.***