

7 December 2016

To:

Consumer Policy Unit
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

I am writing to make a submission in relation to the draft Information Standard for Free Range Egg Labelling.

I ask that the Information Standard provides consumers with certainty by:

- Tightening the exceptions for providing access to the outdoor range so that access cannot be denied on a routine basis;
- Including a requirement that regulators consider the following in determining what “meaningful and regular access” means:
 - Flock size and stocking densities inside the barn;
 - Size of openings relative to the number of hens;
 - Placement of physical structures and architecture inside the barn;
 - The condition of the outdoor range including providing adequate shelter, foliage and vegetation; and
 - The extent to which hens actually access the range

As a consumer, I believe further clarity should be provided in relation to the above, so that consumers are able to make an informed decision about their purchase of eggs. The Free Range Egg Labelling standard should mandate conditions that improve hen welfare & should be mandatory for all egg suppliers.

Yours sincerely

Ms Lisa Aitken