



## Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie

Deputy Leader of The Nationals  
Minister for Regional Services  
Minister for Sport  
Minister for Local Government and Decentralisation  
Senator for Victoria

Ms Hannah Stuart  
Campaign Manager  
Be Cruelty Free Australia

11 FEB 2019

Mr Troy Seidle  
Vice President  
Research and Toxicology Department  
Humane Society International  
PO Box 439  
AVALON NSW 2017

Dear Ms Stuart and Mr Seidle

I welcome your correspondence of 11 February and am writing to confirm your support for the Industrial Chemicals Bill 2017.

I have attached an agreed final set of commitments that the Government will make to Humane Society International and the #BeCrueltyFree Australia Campaign to ensure animal welfare outcomes can be achieved through this Bill and related legislation.

These bills accommodate, as part of their fundamental design, the general international trend away from reliance on the use of animals to determine the hazards and risks associated with the use of industrial chemicals, as well as the Liberal National Government's specific election and Budget commitments regarding banning the use of animal test data for chemicals used solely as cosmetic ingredients.

Given the pressing need to progress debate on the bills in order to give effect to the Government's commitments, I would appreciate your immediate response to this letter confirming your organisation's support.

Yours sincerely

Bridget McKenzie

Encl (1)

## **Government commitments to Humane Society International and the #BeCrueltyFree Australia Campaign in relation to animal testing – Industrial Chemicals Bill 2017**

Consistent with previously expressed commitments to encourage alternatives to animal testing and explore ways to further reduce reliance on animal testing for all industrial chemicals, the Government will:

1. Issue a public statement committing to continuing to reduce reliance on animal test data.
2. Implement strategies to encourage the cosmetics industry not to use animal test data, through provision of information and advice to industry.
3. Explore and subsequently incorporate measures within the Ministerial Rules to further limit the use of animal test data in relation to multi-use cosmetic introductions, while maintaining human health and environment protections, including by limiting the use of new animal test data for cosmetic end uses in:
  - a) applications for assessment certificates where the introduction is of a chemical with multiple end uses, including for cosmetics; and
  - b) categorisation into exempted or reported categories where the introduction is of a chemical with multiple end uses, including for cosmetics.
4. Require a declaration of compliance with the animal test data ban as a part of pre-introduction reporting or post-market annual declarations as appropriate to the category of industrial chemical introduction.
5. Include information about the requirement to comply with the ban in industry education material about the new scheme (AICIS).
6. Require the Executive Director of the AICIS to publish statistics on the use of animal test data and declarations in relation to compliance with the animal test data ban.
7. Consult on the publication of targets for the post-market monitoring program, which will include monitoring of industrial chemicals used in consumer products (including multi use cosmetic ingredients). This will involve:
  - a. targeted consultation with key community groups, involving HSI, in developing the post market monitoring program;
  - b. publishing general targets for each introduction category, including exempted introductions, prior to the commencement of the new scheme;
  - c. biannual reporting against targets; and
  - d. consulting with stakeholders in reviewing targets annually for a minimum of three years.
8. Facilitate rapid uptake of new non-animal approaches as they become available.

9. Include representatives from HSI and other relevant stakeholders, in a governance arrangement to guide the implementation of its policy to ban cosmetic testing on animals.
10. Clearly articulate the principle of 'animal testing as a last resort' in the 'Industrial Chemicals Categorisation Guidelines' which will be a public document, and reflect this commitment in the Explanatory Statement for the Ministerial Rules when tabled in parliament.
11. Agree in principle to explore the ability to use a portion of the funding under the current 2017-18 budget measure, subject to government budget operating rules, to support the development and uptake of new approach methods to replace animal use in regulatory testing, and explore further funding in future budget contexts.