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MEDIA RELEASE

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GREYHOUND RACING

Like most people, I am shocked and appalled by the absolutely abhorrent and distressing footage shown in the Four Corners report last night.

Animal welfare is an issue the NSW Government takes very seriously.

The RSPCA NSW and Greyhound Racing are investigating the claims and I expect those agencies to take decisive action to stamp out illegal live baiting practices.

Live baiting is completely illegal in Australia, and anyone found to be involved in the practice will be dealt with by the appropriate authorities.

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 (Section 21) prohibits the use of live rabbits or any animals in the greyhound industry and penalties up to \$110,000 for a corporation and \$22,000 and/or 2 years imprisonment for an individual apply.

Animal cruelty is unacceptable, and any person concerned about a breach should contact one of the enforcement agencies - RSPCA NSW, the Animal Welfare League NSW or NSW Police.

The NSW Government is currently overseeing a scheduled five-year statutory review of the Greyhound Racing Act 2009.

In light of last night's report, the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing (OLGR) has extended the time for submissions for a further two weeks to 2 March 2015.

Details can be found: http://www.olgr.nsw.gov.au/olgr_default.asp

ENDS

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