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October 8th, 2008

To Whom It May Concern,

I was asked to view recent footage taken at a California egg production facility and provide my expert opinion as to the conditions demonstrated. I am a licensed, practicing veterinarian in the state of California, and member of the 2007 graduating class of UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. In addition, I hold a bachelor's degree in Animal Biology with an emphasis on behavior and welfare.

Several labeled clips were provided for my revision; Killing, Live Hens on Dead Piles, Sick/Injured Hens, Trapped, Crowding and Death. Below I've listed a summary of the conditions observed in each of the corresponding segments.

Killing

In this segment an unidentified worker is seen wringing the necks of hens and tossing them aside onto the floor, where several other carcasses have already been tossed aside. There are several examples shown wherein following the neck wringing the birds are clearly still alive, yet they are thrown aside with the other dead hens. This footage illustrates that the technique used at this facility is not consistently effective and is not a reliable, humane method of ensuring death in these birds. The animals tossed aside while still alive have assuredly endured painful, severe injuries as a result of the crude and imprecise method employed and, furthermore, are then left to linger and die slowly on their own.

Live Hens on Dead Piles

This portion shows multiple examples of live hens being found within heaps of dead carcasses. The majority of these hens appear to be in dire condition, visibly crippled animals can be seen, birds that appear to be demonstrating agonal breathing, birds so physically deteriorated they are barely able to lift their heads. Without question, leaving a live animal to die of its own recourses while surrounded in a mound of dead carcasses is an inhumane, unacceptable practice. The fact that these birds also clearly are suffering from physical injury adds to the cruelty demonstrated by this practice.

Sick/Injured Hens

This section of the film shows a variety examples of severely injured animals on the production line. Birds are shown with prolapsed cloacas, facial and ocular abscesses, broken limbs, and ulcerated, bloody genitively. All of these conditions are painful, chronic health conditions that left untreated lead to prolonged suffering and ill health. They also pose serious threats to the sanitation of the product {in this case the egg} given the animals are often covered in blood, feces, and purulent material as a result of some of these injuries and are then left amidst the other birds. Allowing these birds to endure these atrocious physical ailments without the benefit of medical attention or immediate euthanasia seriously infringes upon their welfare and constitutes abhorrent animal cruelty in my opinion.

Trapped

Birds in this portion of the film can be seen with various body parts trapped within the wire confines of their cages. Most often heads and necks are trapped, but there are also clips wherein the birds have their limbs trapped as well, along with entire torsos. These animals are left on the

assembly line and can be seen being repeatedly bombarded with eggs as they pass along the trough their heads and limbs are caught in. There is no evidence that there is any sort of recourse for these birds, who invariably must suffer broken limbs, appendages, and painful, repetitive injuries as a result of having gotten a part of themselves trapped within the battery cages.

Crowding

This section shows what appears to be typical, industry standard battery cage crowding wherein birds are literally so crowded they are unable to stand, and as such must flop and crawl atop one another. The intense crowding demonstrated on this portion of the film clearly impinges upon the welfare of these animals who are unable to perform even the most basic of acts, such as simply standing up, turning around, or stretching their wings.

Death

Numerous examples of dead animals are shown in cages of live hens. These conditions are unsanitary and inhumane, as they demonstrate not only a level of care so poor animals are dying on their own before pulling culled, but then are also left to rot amongst live animals who are trapped within the confines of the same battery cage.

In closing, the overall conditions demonstrated within the video footage made available show clear animal cruelty, undeniable inhumane treatment of the birds and egregious animal suffering.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christi Cambor, DVM". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christi Payne Cambor, DVM