

David Byrne  
Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection  
DG XXIV  
European Commission  
Rue De la Loi 200  
B-1049 Brussels

October 2000

Dear Commissioner Byrne

**RE: Delay of Amendments to the 1991 Pigs Directive**

As one of the Vice-Presidents of the Animal Welfare Intergroup, I would like to inquire into the Commission's latest proposals on the welfare of pigs. I understand that your long expected report, which proposes amendments to the 1991 Pigs Directive, has been withheld in DG Agriculture since 10th August for a socio-economic report.

This would appear very regrettable. In my view, the call for a report need not delay publication of the Commission's legislative proposals. The socio-economic implications of those proposals can be examined at the same time as the proposals are being considered by the Parliament and the Council.

Please could you reassure me of your own personal commitment to animal welfare issues and of the document's quick recovery.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Caroline Lucas MEP