

Inquiry Of Egg Hatchery Finds Welfare Violations

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — The owner of a northwest Iowa egg hatchery where a video shows unwanted chicks being tossed alive into a grinder says an independent investigation found animal welfare policy violations at the plant.

But West Des Moines-based Hy-Line North America said in a Tuesday statement that it won't release further details.

The Chicago-based group Mercy for Animals publicized the undercover video last week. It was made at Hy-Line's Spencer hatchery.

Hy-Line has said "instantaneous euthanasia" is standard industry practice. But its Tuesday statement says some practices depicted in the video don't reflect the company's standard procedures.

The statement says corrective measures have been taken but the company declines to elaborate. It also won't say who conducted the investigation.

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