

EXCLUSIVE

Gina Rinehart lodges fresh ABC complaint over '\$2-a-day' fake news by Victorian Socialists candidate Hera Sheppard

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EXCLUSIVE: Gina Rinehart launches new complaint against ABC

Gina Rinhart has launched a new complaint against the ABC for broadcasting comments she argue

Gina Rinehart has lodged a new complaint with the ABC over misinformation it broadcast on Wednesday, falsely claiming that the Australian billionaire is pushing for Australians to "work for \$2 a day".

In a complaint sent by her company Hancock Prospecting and seen by News24.com.au, the mining magnate said the claim made by Victorian Socialists candidate Hera Sheppard, 18, on ABC radio was plainly false.

Asked about One Nation's surge in the polls on ABC Radio South West Victoria, Ms Sheppard said: "That is, in my opinion, as a result of the massive amounts of funding from billionaires like Gina Rinehart who are pushing for Australian workers to work for \$2 a day".

Host Jeremy Lee failed to challenge the claim or push Ms Sheppard to substantiate it.



Hancock prospecting boss Gina Rinehart has complained to the ABC over Hera Sheppard's false claims.

Ms Rinehart's complaint said the Victorian socialist had deliberately misrepresented comments from 2012 in which the Hancock Prospecting boss said she was worried Australia was [competing with countries which do pay workers \\$2 a day.](#)

"Business as usual will not do, not when West African competitors can offer our biggest customers an average capital cost for a tonne of iron ore that's \$100 under the price offered by an emerging producer in the Pilbara," Ms Rinehart said in 2012, when Ms Sheppard would have been four years old.

"Furthermore, Africans want to work, and its workers are willing to work for less than \$2 per day. Such statistics make me worry for this country's future."

Ms Rinehart asked the ABC to issue a correction on the program.

News24.com.au understands the ABC has not responded to the complaint which was made on Wednesday, the day of the broadcast.

News24.com.au has contacted the ABC for comment.

The fresh complaint about the ABC's accuracy comes [after it belatedly apologised, following a national backlash,](#) for an offensive film it aired that depicted a fictional attack on Ms Rinehart.

The short clip featured remarks about a "revolution" before describing an attack on the billionaire businesswoman in explicit terms.



Ms Rinehart said the claim made by Victorian Socialists candidate Hera Sheppard on ABC radio was plainly false. Picture: Victorian Socialists



ABC South West Victoria host Jeremy Lee failed to challenge Ms Sheppard on her false claim that the Australian billionaire is pushing for Australians to "work for \$2 a day". Picture: Facebook

Titled "A Very Relaxing Video", the four-minute film was created by Race Around the World contestant Kate McGuinness while filming in Scotland.

The segment included a sexually violent reference to Australia's richest woman.

In a previous statement, Hancock Prospecting said it was waiting to see if there would be "long overdue" changes to the ABC's editorial standards in the wake of the fallout.

"We wait to see the long overdue changes to the ABC’s 'editorial standards'. Such editorial standards need to stop sexual violence and torture-until-death episodes being shown or depicted in any form against any woman on the ABC, including under the pretence of satire or art or any other cloak," it read.

"Satire needs to be funny; what the ABC approved to be aired for 25 days, in its violent torture-until-death content, was not.

"This concept that a woman can be regarded as worthless (even if she has contributed hugely to a country), so it’s ok to sexually torture her to death, is not a new concept.

"It is practised by terrorists and has been practised elsewhere in the world, and must never be regarded as art, or acceptable in our country, even by the ABC."

The ABC Ombudsman found the controversial film did not breach editorial policies, but had fallen short of community expectations.

The Ombudsman is an internal complaints reviewing body which reports directly into the ABC board.

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