INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE PHASE-OUT OF AUSTRALIAN LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS BY SEA ON NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally express my opposition to the live export of animals from Australia. This practice raises significant ethical, animal welfare, and environmental concerns that warrant urgent attention and action.

Firstly, the welfare of animals during live export is often compromised. Reports of long transport times, extreme weather conditions, overcrowding, and inadequate access to food and water have been documented. Animals are subjected to unnecessary stress and trauma throughout the process, which is fundamentally at odds with our responsibilities as caretakers of these sentient beings.

Moreover, the conditions in which these animals are kept during transport can lead to severe suffering and, in many cases, death. The potential for injury or illness is high, and the lack of adequate veterinary care exacerbates these issues. Once they arrive at their destination, the animals may face inhumane treatment and slaughter practices that further highlight the ethical concerns of this industry.

Beyond animal welfare issues, there are environmental implications associated with live exports. The carbon footprint from transporting livestock over long distances is considerable, contributing negatively to our efforts to combat climate change. Adopting alternative practices, such as exporting processed meat instead, could significantly reduce the environmental impact while still supporting our agricultural industry.

Furthermore, the live export industry undermines Australia's reputation as a leader in animal welfare standards. As global awareness of animal rights continues to grow, it is crucial that we align our practices with the values of compassion and respect that Australians cherish.

In conclusion, I strongly oppose the live export of animals from Australia on moral, ethical, environmental, and welfare grounds. I urge policymakers to consider alternatives that prioritise the well-being of animals and promote sustainable practices in our agricultural sector.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my perspective on this important issue. Sincerely,