

**Submission  
No 5**

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

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The live sheep export trade is a travesty and should never have been permitted to start let alone continue for decades. Public awareness of the cruelty and horrors sheep experience during long and distressing voyages as well as at the end destination has grown over the years. As a result, there is broad public consensus that this is unacceptable and must cease. For many years, the writing has been on the wall that it's a matter of time before this industry will be brought to an end. In fact, over the past 10 years or so, many decent, compassionate and smart farmers alongside related industries have proactively restructured their businesses towards alternative income sources - without the benefit of generous publicly funded subsidies. As such, there is no excuse to hang on other than laziness and greed which is only being encouraged by another unnecessary inquiry which apart from being a waste of tax payer money, is almost certainly nothing more than an exercise in political opportunism. Particularly given the federal Labor government campaigned to end the live sheep export trade and has a mandate to the Australian public who voted for this, myself included. To backflip on this would be anti-democratic and an affront to voters. In summary, there is absolutely no case to pursue or extend this trade beyond the deadline nominated by the Labor government and those impacted in the industry have had years to prepare so rather than pursue this farcical inquiry, the laggards need to stop dragging their feet and focus on preparing for an alternative income source.