

**Submission  
No 18**

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

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Live export subjects sheep to prolonged stress and discomfort, with little to no relief during long sea journeys. The risks of heat stress, overcrowding, and inadequate care are well-documented and remain a significant concern. I urge the committee to prioritise the welfare of these animals by considering the severe impact these conditions have on their health and well-being.

Animals exported from Australia face extended periods at sea, which increases their exposure to heat stress and other welfare risks. Even with stringent regulatory measures, the long voyages, particularly through tropical regions, pose significant challenges that cannot be fully mitigated.

To address animal welfare concerns while transitioning from live exports, we should consider advancing the production of lab-grown meat and other animal products. This method not only circumvents the ethical issues associated with live animal transport but also offers a way to meet demand sustainably.

Several regions have successfully phased out live exports by investing in local processing and other humane alternatives. For instance, New Zealand's move to end live exports by sea has been met with positive outcomes for animal welfare and the industry alike. We can learn from these examples and develop strategies that both protect animal welfare and support our farmers.

Having grown up in a sheep farming family, I've seen firsthand the challenges and welfare issues of live export. Our community takes pride in the transition we've made towards more ethical farming practices. The public has responded gratefully to our shift from purely economic value to a focus on sustainability and animal welfare, ensuring that no suffering is involved in our operations.

Thank you,

Louis