

Submission
No 107

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

Name: Ms Rebecca Lewis
Date Received: 18 September 2024

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to ask for your assurance that the live sheep export ban remains in place. Knowing what these gentle creatures endure is absolutely heartbreaking.

It has been well documented that they are subjected to cruel and brutal handling, and a horrific end after a long, and extremely stressful sea journey. None of us would swap places with them. I care deeply that yourself and others understand who these sweet beings are, and how they've been misrepresented purely for profit for far too long.

I have sheep as companions, we have a trusting bond because they are safe and respected, and are no different from any other companion animal. They are incredibly intelligent and very sweet and sensitive. (See attached photo)

Aside from the ethics of subjecting sentient beings to this horrific ordeal, consumers are demanding humane treatment of all animals. Surveys consistently demonstrate that the majority of people prefer kindness over cruelty, and are voting for abolition of animal exploitation.

Here is a paragraph from a new survey (09/09/2024) from Animal Think Tank:

"Support for the potential abolition of animal exploitation is already fairly strong. When asked, one in four people agreed with the statement: "I would support a law which protected the rights of all animals in not being harmed, exploited or killed—even if it would mean that humans could no longer use animals for their meat, milk, eggs, or other body parts."

Similarly, 45% of participants agreed with the statement: "It would be better if society did eventually stop using animals for human benefit altogether (e.g. food, entertainment, clothing)."

I believe the time is now to take a stance and be a leader for the nation's reputation by keeping the live export ban in place. Many farmers are now transitioning to more ethical ways to make a living by growing plant based crops, such as oats, mushrooms and nuts to meet popular demand.

Thank you for listening and your positive, progressive action.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Lewis.