

Submission  
No 126

**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

The institutionalised animal cruelty that is permitted in the live export trade is horrific and sickening.

Repeated polling has shown that a significant majority of the Australian community are appalled and revolted by Australia's live export practices, particularly how sheep (and cattle) suffer from extreme heat, avoidable cruelty, and long journeys. The distress these animals endure for such extended periods is heart-wrenching.

The live export industry has demonstrated countless times that it cannot be relied upon to honestly, humanely and effectively self-regulate. The industry has repeatedly proven that it wilfully breaches animal welfare laws. The Dept of Agriculture has also repeatedly proven itself to be a conflicted, ineffective government regulator which is unduly influenced by big business interests and lobbying and does not respond to even the most egregious (and publicised) breaches of Australian animal welfare laws.

The industry, Dept of Agriculture and certain politicians unfathomably have no compunction with live export animals being exposed to unbearable, inhumane suffering from extreme heat, overcrowding, avoidable injuries, wallowing in piles of faeces and urine, and dying horribly onboard live export ships.

Government should not be promoting and facilitating a live export business that has been repeatedly proven to routinely perpetuate acts of animal cruelty that are regarded by any reasonable persons as abhorrently criminal. And if exposed in other domestic animal settings would be legally and socially unacceptable. None of the people responsible for promoting and perpetuating such animal cruelty are anyone you'd want sitting at your dinner table - rather they are people you should reasonably expect to be behind bars to keep the community a safer place.

Government should not be enabling and legalising animal cruelty behaviours that have a high correlation with a prevalence of violent criminal profiles and are well known to contribute to perpetuating and escalating criminal behaviours such as domestic violence, assault and child abuse.

The conflicted Department of Agriculture and politicians should not be providing exemptions to animal welfare laws that apply to other domesticated animals.

Supporting humane alternatives aligns better with community values (even if not with those politicians and farmers who purport to "love their animals").

The community expects sheep (and cattle and all farm animals) be spared from suffering inhumane treatment which amounts to torture. A ban on live export is long overdue!