

**Submission
No 141**

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

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Everyday Australians have fought long and hard to have legislated a ban on live animal export. This inquiry threatens to undo years of progress, not just for sheep but also for other animals like cattle who endure the cruelty of live export. We can't afford to go back. The live sheep export ban is a significant step forward for animal rights and their welfare, setting a global example and encouraging other countries to reconsider and phase out similar practices. Animals endure severe suffering during long, stressful sea voyages.

Ship accidents can result in the drowning of animals and loss of human life.

Consumers increasingly demand humane treatment of animals.

Long journeys expose animals to extreme heat, dehydration and illness.

Consistent animal welfare standards across borders are hard to maintain.

Banning live exports can improve a nation's ethical reputation.

Live export harms the environment and contributes to carbon emissions.

Cruel practices, such as rough handling are common.

Animals are often subjected to extreme conditions and cruel practices in foreign countries.

Sheep suffer from heat stress, leading to severe health issues or death. Ships are not cleaned during voyages, creating unsanitary and harmful conditions.

Many in my community are incredibly concerned about the live export practices, particularly how sheep suffer from extreme heat and long journeys. The distress they endure for such extended periods is heart-wrenching. Supporting humane alternatives aligns better with our values and sheep are spared from suffering. Having witnessed the stress and suffering that individual sheep endure during live export, I can attest to the trauma it causes. Seeing animals in such distress is deeply troubling and highlights the urgent need for practices that ensure their well-being.

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.

I've researched alternatives like plant-based agriculture and lab-grown meat and found them promising. These methods could offer a more ethical solution to live exports.

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.

Thank you