

**Submission
No 150**

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

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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 prioritize 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.

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.

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.