

**Supplementary  
Submission  
No 16a**

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

**Name:** Dr Aysha Sezmis  
**Date Received:** 18 September 2024

---

## # Submission to the Inquiry on the Impact of the Live Sheep Export Ban

Dear Inquiry Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for maintaining the ban on live sheep exports from Australia. This ban represents a significant step forward in animal welfare, and I urge the committee to consider the following points in favor of upholding this crucial policy.

### ## Key Issues:

#### 1. Animal Welfare Concerns:

- Sheep endure severe suffering during long, stressful sea voyages.
- Animals are exposed to extreme heat, dehydration, and illness during transport.
- Overcrowding and unsanitary conditions on ships lead to health issues and deaths.
- There's a high risk of accidents resulting in mass animal drownings.

#### 2. Environmental Impact:

- Live export contributes significantly to carbon emissions.
- The practice is not aligned with growing consumer demand for sustainable and ethical food production.

#### 3. Ethical Considerations:

- Maintaining the ban upholds Australia's reputation as a leader in animal welfare.
- It's challenging to ensure consistent animal welfare standards across borders.

#### 4. Economic Alternatives:

- There are proven alternative markets and opportunities for New South Wales sheep producers.
- Expanding chilled and frozen meat exports can benefit both animal welfare and the economy.

### ## Recommendations:

1. Maintain the current ban on live sheep exports to prevent animal suffering and environmental damage.
2. Invest in and promote alternative markets for sheep producers, such as expanding chilled and frozen meat exports.
3. Support research and development of alternative industries, including plant-based agriculture and lab-grown meat, to offer new economic opportunities.
4. Study and implement lessons from other regions or countries that have successfully transitioned away from live exports, such as New Zealand.
5. Provide support and resources to help farmers transition to more ethical and sustainable practices.

The live sheep export ban is a crucial step towards improving animal welfare and setting a global example. Overturning this ban would be a significant setback for animal rights and

Australia's ethical standing. I urge the committee to prioritize the welfare of animals and the long-term sustainability of our agricultural sector by maintaining this important ban.

Thank you for your consideration of these critical matters.

Sincerely,

Aysha Laila Sezmis