

Submission to the Independent Panel considering the Phase Out of Live Sheep Exports by Sea.

Submitted by: [REDACTED], 14 May 2023

Thank you for seeking submissions on this important topic. I am delighted that we have an administration which has chosen to govern with integrity. The topic of live-export is very important to me primarily in recognition of the appalling conditions the animals suffer in the transportation process, but also in the knowledge that the destinations have been shown to be deficient in animal welfare regulation resulting in further suffering on arrival at the export destination.

My responses to the questions proposed by the panel are below, and I thank the panel for considering my opinion in this matter.

1) How should the government implement the phase out of live sheep exports by sea? Why should the government use this approach?

- Immediate ban on live exports of sheep by sea.
- Live export has never been an acceptable practice, every subsequent export trip is one too many, and causes great suffering to sentient creatures.
- The industry has time and again proved that it cannot transport these animals under humane conditions.
- Many of the export destinations operate in a context that has no regard for animal welfare at all. It makes Australian exporters equally culpable of animal cruelty.

2) What is an appropriate timeframe to phase out live sheep exports by sea? What are your reasons for proposing this timeframe?

- Phase-out should commence immediately and complete with urgency.
- Live export has never been an acceptable practice, every subsequent export trip is one too many, and causes great suffering to sentient creatures.

3) Will you or your business be impacted by the phase out of live sheep exports by sea? If so, please provide details of the impact.

- N/A

4) What will the phase out mean to you, your employer or employees, suppliers, customers, friends and family, and/or your community?

- N/A

5) What barriers and/or constraints might there be for exporters, farmers, and other participants across the supply chain to transition away from live sheep exports by sea?

- This practice should never have been permitted, and the animal suffering these operations cause mean the concerns of those involved in the supply chain should not be accommodated to any significant degree.

6) How should supply chain participants be supported as they transition away from live sheep exports by sea?

- This practice should never have been permitted, and the animal suffering these operations cause mean the concerns of those involved in the supply chain should not be accommodated to any significant degree.

7) What would you or your business and/or other supply chain participants need to do to transition away from live sheep exports by sea?

- N/A

8) How long do you think it will take for you and/or other supply chain participants to transition away from live sheep exports by sea?

- N/A

9) What can be learnt from other countries that have ceased live sheep exports? What lessons can be learned from Australian states or territories that no longer export live sheep by sea?

- N/A

10) What opportunities should the government and/or industry pursue in the lead up to and following the transition out of live sheep exports by sea? (e.g., expanding domestic processing and value adding, increasing sheep meat exports, other).

- As a vegetarian and environmentalist I would prefer we look to non-meat alternatives and that these industries are scaled back.

11) What would industry participants need, or need to do, to take advantage of opportunities?

- N/A

12) What are the barriers and/or constraints to pursuing opportunities?

- The production and consumption of meat products is known to have a significant detrimental impact on our environment. Our commitment to a reduced-carbon future and an improved natural environment for future generations should represent a major constraint on pursuing further opportunities in this industry.