

25.05.2023

To the Australian Government Consultation Committee,

Re: Live Sheep Export phase out submission

Thankyou for allowing me to make a submission as member of the general public. I am thrilled with the Albanese Government approach to improving many facets of Australian life including live sheep export phase out. I am very supportive of the ending of this very distressing policy. No creature should be subjected to the stresses at sea and the appalling killing processes that the people of other countries undertake. We have no control over animal cruelty once they leave our shores even when all regulations have been followed. I believe our responsibility should cover the whole of the animals' life. We need certainty that the phase out will be legislated in this term of government to guarantee it really does go ahead. The sooner the better for the poor creatures we are supposed to be looking after.

Australia's reputation as a fair and compassionate (and dare I say advanced) nation has been damaged by this trade and the dreadful images of the suffering that has been allowed to occur.

The farmers need support to help with the business plan transition. I do not dispute that. They may need to find other markets, diversify, decrease stock. I know financial stresses can affect the mental health of those making their living from the land so we need to offer support for these people to turn their businesses around from this policy-led farming design. To be honest, I still don't know how farmers could allow such cruelty to befall their animal stock but they did and now that change is being made so they should be helped.

My main points are:

- Phase out should be **legislated** in this term of government.
- It should be **implemented** within **2 years** maximum.
- **Farmers** need to have **financial and business assistance** to change their business models.
 - particularly smaller farmers (I don't know if large agribusiness companies need as much support).
 - Perhaps even additional funding for those who undertake a regenerative farming approach
 - Given climate change affects on the land, I would suggest that this would make a great opportunity for the farmers/the nation to be more sensitive to the landscape and **not** pursue the increase in consumer demand for such meat that is not a sustainable resource on Australian land.
- **This should be the beginning** of further banning live sheep export by air and also the application to cattle. The cruelty of transport, marketplaces, throwing sheep in the boot of the car, lack of food and water, animal terror, and the unstunned death by "hacking" in sight of other animals awaiting that fate is well recorded, abhorrent and we can't control it on foreign soils.

Yours sincerely,

