

24<sup>TH</sup> May 2023

Re: live sheep export end date submission

Dear Sir / Madam,

I'd like to make my concerns clear regarding the phase out of live sheep export from Australia.

The shocking history of this industry right up to recent times highlights the problems associated with transporting large numbers of animals over such great distances in an economical way without severely impacting the **welfare of those animals**.

As well as the transport welfare issue, the conditions that the livestock must endure at the destination up until their **slaughter** has also been repeatedly demonstrated to be **far below acceptable Australian standards**.

The **waste produced** from these loaded ships while at sea is well in excess of any treatable volumes and is therefore **dumped directly into our oceans**.

I understand the **financial ramifications** of ending this trade are great, however this should **never be a justification for overlooking the weight of negative aspects** that it creates.

Once the certainty of cessation of the trade is established, I'm sure the need for the protein source that our livestock can supply would be able to adapt to supplying it in alternative ways that would create **new employment opportunities** to counter the losses that our economy will suffer.

For these reasons, I would urge the **Australian Federal Government to legislate an end date** for their undertaking to discontinue this form of trade. This will inevitably lead to a transition toward a brighter, more sustainable future for our sheep farmers via onshore processing.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this issue,

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