


May 25th 2023



Dear Panel

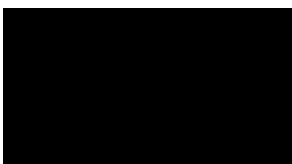
What a difficult task you have been given! I was President of Sheep Producers Australia in 2018, so I fully understand how the ALP find themselves in this unfortunate position where they feel obliged to fulfill a promise made in 2018.

Your committee has been charged with consulting with the Australian community to provide advice on how the live sheep trade should be phased out, and when the trade should be phased out. It is very difficult to provide advice on the “how” if we don’t know the “when”, therefore I will confine my comments to the when.

You would be aware that following the Awassi Express tragedy there were many enquiries and reports which provided numerous recommendations to improve welfare standards for the exporting of live sheep. My advice to this committee is that the trade should be phased out when it is shown that the recommendations that have been adopted by the industry are not achieving the desired outcome. If this can be clearly demonstrated, then a date can be set, and I would be willing to assist with providing advice on how that phase out can be achieved.

I note that the ALP’s live export policy at the last federal election stated that the current science and evidence did not support stopping the export of live cattle. My colleagues in the sheep industry are insisting that the sheep trade should be afforded the same courtesy.

Yours sincerely



Allan Piggott
Vice-President Livestock SA
Past President Sheep Producers Australia