

10 May 2023

Live Sheep Exports Consultation
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

I am fully supportive of the early conclusion of exports of live sheep and I do so for the following reasons:

1. The export of live animals on stock ships is an unnecessarily brutal and cruel process. It has no place in the 21st century.
2. Similarly, we have no control over the manner in which Australian sheep are killed on arrival. Anecdotal evidence would indicate that the methods employed overseas would in many cases, be illegal in Australia on animal welfare grounds.
3. Australia's involvement must impact negatively on our reputation in the developed world.
4. Exporting live sheep is exporting Australian jobs.
5. Exporting live animals is yet another example of Australia exporting low value-add commodities. It's time that we stopped behaving like a Third World nation, and drew the full benefit of our exports.

The means by which this ban is implemented seem simple enough: announce a date after which contracts to export live sheep are invalid, and a further date, perhaps three months later when sheep may not be exported. The date of such an announcement must be soon, during the cool season in the southern hemisphere.

I understand the Government is committed to ceasing live sheep exports, and I strongly believe that the Government has the support of the majority of Australians in this. There seems no reason to delay its implementation.

Sincerely

Shane Baker