

Inquiry into phasing out live sheep export

Dear Panel,

I am an Australian resident and voter and would like the panel examining the phase out of live sheep exports to hear my voice.

I strongly want to push for the end to live export of sheep from Australia and believe this should be stopped as soon as possible. This practice is extremely stressful and cruel to these animals who do not deserve to be put under the conditions that exist on these ships. To support this transition and those affected the government need to consider the following:

Phase Out Timeframe

The phase-out needs to begin and end as soon as possible. Each delay will mean more sheep are subjected to inhumane suffering – from the daily stresses of sea transport to fully conscious slaughter in countries importing our sheep where welfare standards are almost non-existent.

Farmer & community support

Support for farmers & communities before and during the transition will be crucial to the success of this phase-out. Government incentives to assist with restructuring farms to plant based agriculture should also be considered.

Reputation

Australia's International reputation regards animal cruelty is an embarrassment. Our ranking in terms of World Animal Protection's official rankings is 49. New Zealand's recent ban is an example of how a civilised country should behave toward animals and respects the views of the general public over a few vested interests. We can demonstrate this practice can be terminated and that with appropriate support and communication the industry can transition to other means of financial support.

In conclusion

It is clear Australians want certainty that this trade will end. The phase-out be legislated and commences in this term of parliament. And that it begins and ends as soon as possible.

With regards

Sharon Scull