

**Submission  
No 152**

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE PHASE-OUT OF  
AUSTRALIAN LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS BY SEA ON NEW  
SOUTH WALES**

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## 1. Animal Welfare Concerns Related to Live Export

Live export subjects sheep to prolonged stress and discomfort, with little to no relief during long sea journeys. The risks of heat stress, overcrowding, and inadequate care are well-documented and remain a significant concern. I urge the committee to prioritise the welfare of these animals by considering the severe impact these conditions have on their health and well-being.

Animals exported from Australia face extended periods at sea, which increases their exposure to heat stress and other welfare risks. Even with stringent regulatory measures, the long voyages, particularly through tropical regions, pose significant challenges that cannot be fully mitigated.

Many in my community are incredibly concerned about the live export practices, particularly how sheep suffer from extreme heat and long journeys. The distress they endure for such extended periods is heart-wrenching. Supporting humane alternatives aligns better with our values and sheep are spared from suffering.

## 2. Exploring Alternative Markets

To address animal welfare concerns while transitioning from live exports, we should consider advancing the production of lab-grown meat and other animal products. This method not only circumvents the ethical issues associated with live animal transport but also offers a way to meet demand sustainably.

I have researched alternatives like plant-based agriculture and lab-grown meat and found them promising. These methods could offer a more ethical solution to live exports.

## 3. Case Studies of Successful Transitions from Live Export

Several regions have successfully phased out live exports by investing in local processing and other humane alternatives. For instance, New Zealand's move to end live exports by sea has been met with positive outcomes for animal welfare and the industry alike. We can learn from these examples and develop strategies that both protect animal welfare and support our farmers.