

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback to the Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) on live sheep exports to the Middle East.

I am deeply frustrated at the governments total disregard for widespread community outrage expressed at the suffering of Australian animals, for the Live Export Trade.

The export process that confines live sheep for weeks at a time on ships that are no more than floating ovens, is cruel and shameful. The reports detailing on-board suffering of these defenceless farm animals are widespread, yet this information continues to be ignored.

As a farmer's son I know that the farming interests catch cry that they 'care deeply' for their livestock is belied by the fate of their sheep. The animals are rounded up in the middle of an Australian winter, crammed onto live export vessels, and shipped straight into the heart of a sweltering Middle Eastern summer.

Regular advice from the Australian Veterinary Association that it is too hot to send Australian sheep into the Middle East during the Northern Summer, remains totally unheeded. It is clear that the scientific evidence base is the antithesis of current Government support for the live export trade.

It is evident to any fair minded and informed Australian, that the Livestock carriers with their multibillion dollar live export industry and various farming interests, has this governments backing. This is compounded by the slavish adherence from Ag bureaucrats, who have little regard for paltry public sentiment that abhors the ongoing cruelty.

Listen to the public voice and stop this brutality now.

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