

Live Export Submission from Fraser Paterson

I am writing this submission on the basis of seeing the live export trade banned.

I appreciate there are farmers and other businesses that will be affected by this decision, but I believe that as a nation it is inappropriate for us to benefit financially from an industry that has many horrific outcomes to animals that we would not tolerate here on our own shores. I also understand that the live export trade could be migrated to a chilled meat trade. While this may take some time to do, I would remind you that the industry has had over a decade to rectify the animal cruelty problems that have been reported on from time to time, so now is the time to make a stand and do the right thing, as the industry has not been capable of doing so.

I would also like to comment that it is NOT just the cruelty to the cattle that we have seen recently on television. The cruelty and misery of sheep and cattle continues as part of their transportation to their destinations. It is totally unacceptable that in 2010 alone it is estimated that just under 30,000 sheep died en route to the middle east and over 1000 cattle on ships. We don't accept this level of fatality of animals in Australia and we can not accept it just because they have been loaded onto ships for the purpose of being slaughtered (often inhumanely) in another country. Being "out of sight and out of mind" to us in Australia does not make this right or acceptable.

I believe that the building of a chilled meat trade in Australia will provide additional jobs for Australians and higher financial returns for Australian businesses in the long term. In addition it can be done (and supervised) within Australia, with more humane outcomes for the animals involved.

I would also like to make comment about the submission process as I believe that many concerned Australians are not aware of this process. I would ask that you extend the process and provide wider advertising of it in order to get further input from concerned Australians.

Sincerely
Fraser Paterson