

# **THIS IS TO SUPPORT ALL three BILLS & FOR THE SENATE INQUIRY INTO LIVE EXPORTS**

## **SENATE ENQUIRY SUBMISSION**

(PALE) People Against Live Exports &- RSPCA QLD with Australian Muslim Animal Welfare Association ( AMAWA)

### **IMPROVEMENTS IN ANIMAL WELFARE FOR AUSTRALIAN LIVE EXPORTS**

We welcome the opportunity to submit our comments to the 2011 Inquiry into Live Exports

#### **Animal welfare standards in Australia's live export markets:**

ONE & 3 OTHER RELATED Matters

MLA FUNDING & Other Related Matters

#### **Purpose**

To bring to the attention of the Senate Inquiry information on the need for further use of MLA & Government funding into live exports re animal welfare legislation in line with community expectations (and the growing concerns of the community in this regard.)

#### **Topics covered in this submission include:**

- ◆ **An analysis of the current funding used for promotion of live exports.**
- ◆ **The live export trade and the economic future using MLA funding long term**
- ◆ **Farm animals and cruelty concerns in live exports**
- ◆ **Request to expand the use of MLA funding to promote opening more abattoirs in regional areas**

Pale) is the voice of main stream and multicultural people of the Australian public. It is compiled of farmers, red meat industry, Islamic teachers, Ministers, Mums and Dads, Aboriginal and Indigenous & regional communities.

We are not vegan vegetarian, although many are supporting. We uphold the view it is detrimental to animals to lobby against people eating meat. A clear distinction also needs to be made

between the views and representation from genuine animal welfare minded main stream people versus the extreme views from animal rights and animal liberation groups. We

also work with The Australian Muslim Animal Welfare Association & with mla funding for marketing **We can and will promote Australia Agriculture to open more Abattoirs**

**to phase out live exports. However we are sceptical if that is the true agenda of some – that said.**

We wish to support the Bill to Ban Live Exports- both Bills and make the following comments about funding & Senators cooperating with the other 92% of the Australian public.

**1♦The live export trade and the economic future using MLA funding long term& how funding may better be used.**

Our preferred objective is a part of MLA funding be used for the purpose to market to open abattoirs in Australia.

Funding should be available in our opinion to *all ends* of marketing not only for the purpose of live exports.

In May 2010 (for one example) if we are to consider where our funding is best spent- Australia must also consider (among other things) that

the Indonesia Trade Minister informed Stephen Smith Minister for Australia, they were targeting to cease live cattle imports from Australia

by 2014. With that in mind and other markets looking more to move with the times and import red meat- how can we only be asked to

look at the funding of live exports without looking at the bigger picture.

We ask all senators to at least support this- & it falls within the guidelines under MLA funding within this inquiry.

**♦ An analysis of the current funding used for promotion of live exports**

Under *current system*- there no marketing to promote opening abattoirs. It should be noted in fact there is a great deal of opposition .

See these docs below to confirm our statement

**Main Identity**

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**From:** <@voiceless.org.au>  
**To:** <info@livexports.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 11 April 2006 9:36 AM  
**Subject:** Fw: re animal welfare

Dear Wendy,

Thank you for your email.

Just to clarify, Voiceless has a policy not to endorse any meat industry - including free-range or abattoirs. We are primarily working to raise awareness of animal cruelty issues, particularly in the factory farming industries. We, therefore, are not able to join you in your work with Halal Kind Meats.

Like you, Voiceless is opposed to the Live Export trade. We believe there is no humane manner in which animals can be shipped internationally for slaughter. In the years to come, we will continue to work towards achieving a ban of the live export trade, through projects funded by our grants program and the work of our legal and educational arm.

Wishing you well.

With kind regards,

Elaine Morris  
Manager - Communications & Education

  
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20/02/2008



**World Society for the Protection of Animals**

People against Live Exports and Intensive Farming (PALE)  
Wendy Lewthwaite  
33 Sweetgum Street  
Ashmore  
QLD 4214  
Australia

March 2006

Dear Wendy,

Many thanks for your recent application to become a WSPA Member Society. Having reviewed your application it has been decided to withhold membership at this time.

WSPA conducts an extensive review of every organisation that wishes to become a Member Society. WSPA has very specific operating policies and procedures and we feel that the aims of PALE are not completely in line with those of WSPA.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your application and your continued interest in WSPA.

With best regards

Charlotte Scott  
Member Society Development Manager

**If senators are serious about Banning Live exports in their Bill they need to work with all interested parties and not just one or two.**

We agree live exports is a dead end economy wise to Australia and inherently cruel.

To expand funding ( or take part of the funding) MLA funding to also work on this area - as well as any others simply makes good sense.

Funding should be available in our opinion to *all ends* of the meat trade and why not promote our beautiful country to open more abattoirs.

Especially so given our organisation works for free to assist farmers buyers and Government alike.

We view it as *impossible* to give a full report on MLA funding or any other type of marketing funding without including into that report the overall effect of the results of funding for marketing going into promoting live exports.

The fact we have `another inquiry into the industry & MLA we rely upon as proof. In 2000, the Australian Meat Processor Corporation concluded that the "live export trade could be costing Australia around \$1.5 billion in lost GDP, around \$270 million in household income, and around 10,500 lost jobs". Overall our research shows over forty thousand jobs lost because of live exports.

Without factoring in all of the hidden costs and facts nobody can give a true report on marketing of the live exports trade.

Funding to MLA to promote `only live exports is `*not a level playing field* in our strong opinion or to pretend they are fixing animal welfare problems are misused funds. In establishing a another Senate inquiry with shortsightedly terms of reference to only comment of the way in which MLA has been handled- and where we can spend even more of the Australian tax payers and farmers levies solely based on the same system is our opinion pointless and we need think how we can expand our marketing options for Australian Agriculture industry and think outside the box.

Our endeavours are slightly different to many because we are realistic and understand farmers are important part of Australia's industry.

Therefore PALE would like to see some MLA funding made available to open marketing opportunities to work hand in hand to promote marketing opportunities to invite investment in Australia to built infrastructure for abattoirs. It is vital we start now in our opinion to offer several marketing practises instead of putting all our eggs in the one basket with relying on only spending funding for live exports. We need to expand our marketing for Australian agriculture.

If we are to be asked by this inquiry to offer submissions into the MLA funding then we must include the overall possible outcome of the end results . If we then take into consideration the MLA & other funding to this inquiry then we must be prepared while looking at the MLA funding to also look at the possible outcomes of the funding into live exports

PALE refers to one of the submission just for one example of the Sheepmeat Council of Australia (SCA), Wool- Producers (WP) and Cattle Council of Australia (CCA) on the provisions of the National Animal Welfare Bill 2005 They stated =

1. To adopt basic guidelines it would effectively shut down Australia's valuable live export trade.

replace the Australian Government as the arbiter of live export standards and the issuing authority for all permits and licences.

There is a need for Australia's animal welfare provisions to be based on sound working practices and economical long term positive outcomes for Australia, and world-class science, rather than emotion.

We simply can't have some farmers who breed especially for these overseas markets holding any government to ransom with threats of dumping cattle on the lawns of parliament – blaming the government for taking steps to do something about the cruelty to our Australian farm animals. Threatening to starve and shoot cattle for the purpose of media coverage to hold a gun at the head of our Prime Minister – who ever that Prime Minister might be at the time. They too must work with us to find alternatives and not ALL graziers are poor. Many are very wealthy. So they should be prepared to invest in Australia too. While our origination is 100% committed to Australian Agriculture reasonable treatment of Australian farm Animals & taking some form of responsibility for the animals graziers breed is mandatory.

<http://nsw.amieiu.net/content/secretarys-report>

Concerns that the live animal trade will have a long-term negative impact on the viability of Australian based abattoirs and meat processing works are increasingly being heard. Until recently, government and industry investigations into the issue have failed to critically assess the real nature of the equation at hand. However, a continuing insistence that because of this the live trade continued to be in the best interests of the Australian economy (and therefore its people) is a leap too far. In continued support of the live trade, most proponents for the trade have asserted that the ability to substitute a chilled meat/carcass trade for the current live animal trade is minimal, if not non-existent.

According to this logic, if Australian producers were to stop exporting live animals, an initial rise in slaughter would occur, followed by a gradual decline back to a point where meat exports were only slightly above the amount when live exports existed. Therefore, it was reasoned, a ban on live exports is not in the interests of the Australian producer or economy. These assertions of non-substitutability have then been further perpetuated by logistical 'furfies,' such as lack of refrigeration at destination, or the need for traditionally slaughtered *Halal* meat within the Middle East.

As current details of Australia's meat exports indicate, these assertions are no longer valid:

- A large proportion of Australian export licensed abattoirs employ *Halal*-accredited slaughtermen;
- Many of the Middle Eastern nations that import live animals also import chilled meat from Australia.

We ask ALL members of the Senate to ensure they work with everybody & not exclusively with Animals Australia RSPCA National or any other organisation .

I think the message is very clear from the so called peak bodies. We agree they are entitled to put forward their own views but these views only represent represent 8% of the public-

while ours represents 92/. We object in the strongest possible terms Senators and members of parliament only working with some people- and not with all the members of the Australian public and other organisations.

We will not take up anymore of the senate's time posting more. I think the message is very clear from the so called peak bodies. We agree they are entitled to put forward their own views but these views only represent .We live in hope of seeing an effort for senators in future to work also with our organisation because who can forget those images of the suffering animals. This goes on all day everyday in many places to our Australian Animals.

Here is the petition that nobody wanted below for the record and in support of the BILL.

<http://livexports.com/petition/results.php> pls note there are two rounds

PALE SUPPORTS the bill to Ban Live Exports.

We thank the senate for their time.

Antje Struthmann

CEO

PALE People Against Live Exports & Intensive Farming