

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Rural Affairs and Transport
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

To whom it may concern

Submission on the live export of animals

My family has lived on the land since the 1850's.

I grew up helping my father slaughter sheep and cattle for home use from the age of 2, was taught by my father to slaughter both sheep and cattle, dress the carcass and home butcher the animal. I am now a 60-year-old female married to a retired surgeon who many would think has no idea of what live slaughter actually means.

Without exception the slaughter was quick and humane – this philosophy also carried through to the feral animals on the property.

Australia should not under any circumstances export live animals. Australia has no control over the animal once it leaves Australian shores. The transport, even under best practice, is not humane. There is no excuse for Australia to do the wrong thing just because some other country may step in and take the trade. We now live in a global community and the outcry against this export will become worldwide. This trade is unethical and grossly cruel.

By slaughtering and butchering in Australia there will be more employment for those in country areas, those abattoirs which have been closed can be updated and reopened with the money spent that has been going offshore.

Having said that, if (and the lure of the dollar is so powerful that most Australian politicians seem unable to look past the dollar and do what is right for Australia) live export does resume the very least that should happen is that an Australian representative should be present at every abattoir at every slaughter of Australian cattle insisting that stunning (the only humane method) is used in the slaughter of all Australian animals whether in Indonesia or any other part of the world. All abattoirs should be owned either outright or as a majority shareholder by Australia, particularly when Australian dollars have been spent with what seems no accountability. The \$value of that animal should not pass to the producer until after slaughter so that that animal is still Australian property and only under those circumstances is Australia able to dictate the terms of slaughter in a foreign country.

I believe all those involved in the live export trade should be investigated and held accountable to the letter of Australian law. Please support the Greens and those independents supporting the Greens in the total ban of live export of all animals from Australia.

Yours sincerely

Judith McKinnon