

From: Jo Hobson
Date: 15 July 2011

Re: My submission to the Senate Standing Committees on Rural Affairs and Transport (the Committees) about the Inquiry into live exports with reference to:

The Live Animal Export (Slaughter) Prohibition Bill 2011 [No.2] and the Live Animal Export Restriction and Prohibition Bill 2011 [No. 2]

I support the two above bills and the phasing out all live animal exports from Australia over the next 3 years for the following reasons:

1) The Four Corners program on this matter showed the extreme cruelty involved in the Indonesian abattoirs. In 2003 Animals Australia also highlighted the extreme cruelty involved in animals sent to Egypt which was banned.

Over the years the RSPCA Australia has also documented the inhumane treatment of Australian livestock shipped overseas and yet the trade continued with little change. There is no guarantee that such procedures, occurring out of sight of Australian animal welfare officers, can ever be guaranteed to be performed humanely.

2) During the phasing out of live animal exports I submit there should be set up an independent Australian organisation that can monitor the welfare of Australian farm animals transported and slaughtered overseas.

3) During the phasing out of live animal exports this newly set up independent Australian organisation should ensure that all Australian farm animals slaughtered, within or outside of Australia, should be stunned before slaughter.

Jo Hobson