



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment

DAVID HAZLEHURST
DEPUTY SECRETARY
AGRICULTURE TRADE & ABARES GROUP

EC20-000321

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Vets Against Live Export (VALE)
c/- Lady Barron Post Office
Flinders Island
TAS 7255
info@vale.org.au

Dear Dr Foster

I refer to your letter of 13 June 2020 and email earlier this morning, concerning my decision to grant an exemption under the *Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (Prohibition of Export of Sheep by Sea to Middle East—Northern Summer) Order 2020*.

I acknowledge your close interest in the preparation of the sheep for this voyage, which I share. It is not possible to determine the wool length and the weight of the sheep in the photo accompanying your email, however departmental veterinarians inspected the livestock at the registered premises prior to departure for loading and are satisfied the consignment of sheep to be loaded meet the required conditions.

The department has deployed an independent observer to accompany this voyage. The public can expect an independent observer summary report to be published after the completion of the voyage, as is the standard practice for publication of voyage information collected by IOs.

Work has commenced to determine whether other technologies can be effectively used for future voyages, however this work is not advanced enough to enable roll-out for this voyage.

Yours sincerely

David Hazlehurst