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Mr Miles Hampton  
Managing Director,  
Roberts Limited  
2 Collins Street  
**HOBART TAS 7000**

Dear Mr Hampton,

**RE: LIVE EXPORTS**

I am writing to you as a result of Roberts' involvement in the live export trade and its stated intention to continue this involvement.

The cruelty of the live export is a matter of public record. The animals are transported under cramped conditions, standing for weeks in their own urine and excrement. The high ammonia levels from the animals' waste cause breathing and eye problems. Many animals starve to death from being unable to adjust to eating pellet feed. Additionally, there is a long history of incidents such as ventilation failures, fires on board ships or ships being rejected at their destination. These incidents continue to occur despite all supposed attempts by the industry for improvement.

Of further concern are the brutal conditions in which the animals are handled, transported and slaughtered in importing countries. These conditions fall far short of what would be deemed acceptable in Australia. Sheep are slaughtered by having their throats' slit without pre-stunning, resulting in a protracted and painful death. Recent video footage taken of Australian animals in the Middle East documents sheep being beaten with poles and thrown from one truck to another and cows having their eyes gouged and tendons slashed in order to disable them before they are just as cruelly slaughtered.

It has been stated by numerous experts that this industry cannot be made "humane", and in 1985, the Senate Select Committee Inquiry into Animal Welfare in Australia determined that on animal welfare grounds alone the live export trade should cease and be replaced with a carcass trade. The Keniry Enquiry, with its partisan approach and narrow Terms of Reference, did not address the cruelty aspects that are widely known within the Tasmanian, and wider Australian communities.

Since Roberts has expressed its intention to continue to be involved in this industry, I want you to know that neither I, nor anyone over whom I might have the slightest influence, will use any services of the Roberts group until such time as it declares that it will cease activity in the live export trade.

Yours sincerely,

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..... (Name - please print)