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Telephone: [REDACTED]
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Tuesday, 18 April 2023

Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir or Madam

RE: LIVE ANIMAL EXPORTS

It distresses me that I have to yet again write to you with regards to this matter. For about 3 decades I have been writing to your department as well as PM's and MP's on this issue and the main response to these letters is to gloat of government and industry improvements to overseas transport and slaughter conditions.

It is only through the amazing courage of [REDACTED] and her team of volunteers from *Animals Australia* that the continual failures of Australian governments and your department are exposed. If one organisation and one brave individual armed with a video camera or phone can, on a limited budget, continue to reveal the extreme cruelty of the live export industry the question has to be asked whether your department has been doing your job properly. Why is it continually left to *Animals Australia* to expose the cruelty of this trade and the incompetence of your department? These inhumane transport and slaughter methods seem to continue despite a decade of funding, overseeing, training and infrastructure.

Over the last 3 decades whenever the cruelty of this industry is exposed I have seen the same predictable government and industry reactions; outrage, temporary bans, reviews, inquiries, promises to investigate and improve. Yet 10, 20, 30 years down the track we see more and more images of cruelty and suffering.

Claims of export markets requiring fresh meat because of lack of refrigeration does not make sense to me. As far as I'm aware, Australia and New Zealand were exporting frozen meat products to Britain as far back as World War I. And surely a chilled or frozen piece of meat arriving at market would have the same shelf life as a recently butchered piece of meat.

I think more and more people realise that no animal for slaughter can be transported over large distances humanely. No amount of profit or economic benefit can justify the amount of suffering these animals must endure. As such I ask for a total ban on all animals exported for slaughter.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]