

To the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry,

I am strongly against live sheep exporting. I believe that sheep deserve to be treated with care and compassion before they are used for food. As an animal activist, I don't believe these animals should be used for food, however, I understand people do eat lamb regularly and I believe that sheep deserve to be treated with care and compassion before they are killed. Animals Australia has shown with photographic evidence how sheep are treated within these exports and have highlighted the cruelty that is involved with live sheep exporting and the suffering that occurs. Lambs are drowning in faeces and the sheep must deal with the horrid stench of their excretions which is disgusting.

The farmer that went on Perth Now News on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May and said only 1% of sheep die on the ships. The Guardian states that 575,000 sheep were exported from Australia in 2021. If he is even right, that alone is 5,750 sheep who didn't even make it to the destined location. That doesn't even include the number of sheep who arrived sick or who had suffered onboard.

Australians want this cruelty to end. Australians believe that animals for consuming should be killed in only humane and quick methods and should not have to suffer for weeks beforehand. Farmers should receive support from the government to help them transition and phase out of live exporting. They should reduce the number of sheep they are breeding and only sell to the Australian market. The Labor party did promise to phase out the trade over 5 years. The Guardian in 2022 quoted RSPCA chief executive, Richard Mussell, who said it was "crucial" that legislation to shut down the industry be passed in this term of parliament, "even if that end date goes beyond this".

Australia should follow New Zealand, to show how Australians care about their animals and believe that animals should be treated humanely. It shows that we are using our voices to stand up for those sheep who don't have a voice in their suffering.

Thank you,

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