

The phase-out must begin and end as soon as possible. Every delay means more sheep subjected to inexcusable suffering – from the daily stresses of sea transport to fully conscious slaughter in importing countries.

□ I will never forget watching the ship that carried dying sheep to the Middle East. It stays in my mind and from that point in time onwards, I became a vegetarian followed by now becoming a vegan. Live export and the follow up treatment on arrival, causes unimaginable suffering and the world stands by and continues to let this barbaric trade continue. We are much better than this and need to lobby for permanent change.

□ I hope that I will see phasing out of live exports which I support 100%. Some countries are already doing this or have done this. Australia must be a forerunner and take a stand against the live exporting of sheep and all animals who are bred and raised, sadly and tragically, for man's consumption. Is it necessary? Do we have to do this? There are alternatives that must be considered.

□ Many if not most Australians want certainty that this trade will end. We ask that the phase-out be legislated and that it will begin within the current government's term, and that the phasing out is done as quickly and effectively as possible.

□ I support farmers during these undertakings to receive sufficient government support to help them to transition during this time.

□ Australia's international reputation as a fair and compassionate nation will be highlighted and we can follow the example of New Zealand who set a precedent in ending live export, a very noble and compassionate undertaking. The agricultural sector is often viewed as being uncaring and unscrupulous due to its treatment of livestock as mere commodities. A phasing out of live exports will help the industry to become the once respected and admired sector that it once was.

□ I supported Labour at the last election and think that many of their policies come from compassion and understanding. I am very disappointed to hear they may be reintroducing live exporting after stating they will begin the phase out. I urge Labour to bring compassion to the animal world as it does to humans who are vulnerable, including those animals born and bred to be exported. Recognise their sentient nature, their suffering is akin to human suffering. They have no voice. Labour can give them a voice by implemented policies as soon as possible.

□ The live export trade is cruel for many reasons. Watching sheep suffering on that condemned ship many years ago, dehydrating on the deck, and then being tossed overboard still alive while the deck hands took selfies of all of this, is something that I thought humans were above, especially in Australia. Perhaps I was wrong, however, there are many, many others with the same view as mine and we cannot all be wrong. We pay taxes for the betterment of Australia in all its forms, and therefore have an expectation that our leaders take our needs and values into account while making decisions and passing legislation.

□ Sheep suffer heat stress on the ships, and on arrival at the overseas destination, are then slaughtered without being stunned. This is a horrific end for all of them. Can the Federal Government please act as soon as possible to end this trade? While the many steps to implement this will take time and will be complex, we ask for compassion to begin a swift and effective end to this brutal trade.