

Ending the live export of sheep is long overdue. Tens of thousands of sheep have already died aboard ships, and many more will be subjected to suffering, abuse, pain, and potentially horrendous deaths the longer this trade is permitted to continue. **The government made a commitment, supported by the majority of Australians, to end the live export of sheep – which it must now fulfil.**

New Zealand's landmark ban proves that ending this trade without delay is possible, and past investigations and reviews indicate that a swift shutdown is necessary to prevent the prolonged suffering of animals. I urge Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and the Labor government to set Australia down a kinder path by ending the live export of sheep during this elected term and working towards a future without any live-animal export.

Of course, sheep are not the only victims of this cruel trade. A 2021 PETA Asia investigation in Indonesia found Australian cattle being improperly stunned and killed in painful, abhorrent ways. The footage shows that despite a government assurance scheme, cruelty is systemic in the industry. Cattle should also be included in the plan.

Cruelty is found in every corner of the live-export industry, and although the Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System was put in place more than a decade ago, exporters and abattoirs still either don't understand the regulations or don't care about following them because there are no meaningful consequences for non-compliance.

I support ending the live export of sheep and all other animals.