

Submission: stopping live sheep exports by sea

I am writing to you as a concerned Member of the Public in relation to live sheep exports getting phased out and ending.

How

The government should stop live sheep exports by sea with animal welfare front of mind.

While the government is considering the needs of all stakeholders and providing support to industry, it infuriates me how little animal welfare has featured in governments decisions.

The inherent risks associated with transporting live animals over such long periods are incompatible with Australia's commitment to animal welfare and compassionate treatment. There is a growing global consensus that the export of live animals for slaughter or fattening is barbaric and outdated.

It is a priority that the animals welfare is put as number one and we look at modern kindly ethical alternatives that looks after producers and their farm animals too.

When

I urge the government to stop dragging its feet and phase-out live exporting in the current term of Parliament as a priority. The phase-out getting reversed is a real possibility should the Labor government not win the next election.

The phase-out must be implemented ASAP and end as soon as possible. Every delay means more sheep are subjected to barbaric treatment – from the barbaric daily stresses of sea transport to fully conscious slaughter in importing countries. Very very behind the times and sickening.

The trade is barbaric – even **if** all regulations are followed, sheep still suffer heat stress at sea and painful un-stunned slaughter overseas. It's incomparable how such treatment is allowed in today's world.

Along with many Australians, I voted for Labor because they committed and promised to end live animal exports. I will remember if they don't uphold their election promise and live animal exporting is not ceased during the Labors current term or virtually phased out.

Benefits to stakeholders

Many countries as you should be aware of are already ahead in times and have already taken steps to end or restrict this trade due to its ethical concerns. A much more modern way in today's world.

By promptly ending live animal exports by sea, Australia can make a profound statement to the international community about its commitment to animal welfare and responsible trade practices, and that we are a modern Country moving with the times. A quick end to the welfare of countless animals currently receiving horrific torture. Come on Australia it's time to be a leader in animal protection and show we have ethical standards.

Australians care about its animal welfare and want to see major change in how Australia treats animals, live exports is a major one we want change in along with many other changes towards treatment of its animals. By implementing the public's call for change now, Australian's may start to have trust in its leading government to implement commitments and promises they make and show they have compassion, have ethical standards and your words stand strong and not as a lie. Have trust in you.

The live animal export trade is an industry in decline, with live sheep export numbers dropping from 6.2 million in 2001 to just 502,758 in 2022 – a reduction of 92%. Australia has the resources and expertise to lead the way in investing in developing and expanding alternative industries that prioritise the export of processed or chilled meat products. Such a shift will not only create new economic opportunities but also foster sustainable and responsible agricultural practices.

Time to act quickly by sticking to the promises stated and end live sheep exports by sea in Australia. Taking this bold step now, we can be an example to the world and lead the way in worldwide welfare initiatives towards treatment of animals, along with fostering a more sustainable and compassionate future. A true modern country!

I have expectations you will give due consideration to the concerns raised in this submission and act now for the benefit of animals, our nation, and our international standing.

There are other ways to do things; so why aren't we looking at these alternatives to make all happy!

Thank you,

[REDACTED]