

ANIMALS TASMANIA SUBMISSION ON PHASE OUT OF LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS BY SEA

31 May 2023

Animals Tasmania provide the following as comments on the proposed “*Phase out of live sheep exports by sea*”. We note from the outset that we want an immediate end to the live export of sheep by sea. The horrific suffering and abuse of these sentient animals needs to stop now!

We see no need for a phase out period as the industry has been on notice for many years. The public thinks the industry is abhorrent, and we agree. The public has been demanding an end to live export for more than two decades. Caring people have been rightly dismayed that no action has been taken yet and they want an immediate end to the needless suffering of sheep who are subjected to live export by sea.

The “how” of the “phase out” is quite simple. Tell the live exporters, who know full well that the general public is not on their side, that the live export of sheep will end. They can work out for themselves how they deal with that news. As stated, they have been on notice. The Labor government made it known during the election campaign that this was coming. The industry has been forewarned and they should need no further warning given by way of a phase out period.

The “when” is also very simple. Immediately. As already stated the industry has known full well that their days of live sheep export were seriously numbered. The public rightly demands an immediate end. Activists also rightly demand an immediate end to live sheep export.

The second “how” is also quite straightforward. Industry participants will be impacted as they are riding on the back of sheep suffering. We are not interested in discussing how exploiters will be impacted, except to acknowledge they will be.

The question of “support” should be to ask whether there really needs to be any support for an industry that profits from exploiting others. Again this is not for us to discuss as we feel the only support that should be offered is help to leave the industry altogether and enter into an industry that does not profit from exploitation.

The “opportunities” as we see them are as above, the opportunity to leave an industry built on abuse and suffering and move to one that makes money without exploitation.

Of course we are disappointed that the “phase out” is limited to sheep transported by sea. We would like to see an end to all live export, including cattle, goats, alpacas, and buffalos.