

Submission

It was in 2003 that we were made aware of the suffering of animals caught up in the Live Export industry. Dozens more investigations revealed the cruelty experienced by these Australian animals is widespread, both on the ships and upon reaching their destination. Even when regulations are adhered to on the ships, animals still suffer heat stress and then painful un-stunned slaughter overseas.

I am extremely pleased that the Albanese government plans to phase out live sheep exports by sea. It can't come soon enough. Every delay extends inexcusable suffering.

I understand the phase out will impact associated industries; exporters, farmers and other businesses across the supply chain. Australia is an innovative country and there are many opportunities to expand domestic processing and increase sheep meat exports whilst supporting farmers throughout a transition period.

There has been much exploration of the Australian public's view of the Live Export trade which overwhelmingly supports its phasing out. This needs to be legislated and should commence in the current parliament term.

Let's follow New Zealand's lead and become a nation that no longer has the blight of Live Exports hanging over our heads. Let's be proud to have the greatness of our nation and its moral progress be judged by the way its animals are treated."

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Beth Hummerston