

To whom it may concern

As an animal advocate and concerned member of the community, I strongly support an end to the live export industry. A phase out must be legislated and must commence this term in parliament. Every delay results in thousands more sheep being subjected to inexcusable suffering - from the daily stresses of sea transport to fully conscious slaughter in importing countries.

As a country that prides itself on maintaining a positive international reputation, we must follow the precedent that New Zealand has set and phase out the live export industry at the earliest possible opportunity. Whilst this appalling, inhumane industry continues to run here in Australia, we will continue to be seen as a cruel nation that lacks compassion. Defending this trade will also only undermine further public trust in Australia's agricultural sector.

Whilst millions of Australians are in support of an end to this trade, we also note the effect this would have on some farmers. We are therefore in support of farmers receiving government support to help with their transition.

At the end of the day, the live export trade is inherently cruel and unnecessary. Even when all regulations are followed, sheep still suffer heat stress at sea and painful slaughter overseas. Please note my support for an end to this trade at the earliest possible opportunity.

Yours sincerely,
Kirsty Scaife

A black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Kirsty Scaife.