

The phase-out must begin and end as soon as possible. Every delay means more sheep subjected to inexcusable suffering – from the daily stresses of sea transport to fully conscious slaughter in importing countries. There is always the danger that Labor may not be re-elected and if a coalition government should resurface, this would be a significant setback.

The type of support farmers receive while the transition happens is crucial to the success of this phase-out. Consider noting your support for this. There could be an opportunity to push for more plant-based agriculture.

This is a good opportunity to mention things like our international reputation, our ranking in terms of World Animal Protection's official rankings. Mention New Zealand's recent ban as an example of how a civilised country should behave toward animals and respect the views of the general public over a few vested interests.

Note that Australians want certainty that this trade will end. That the phase-out be legislated and commences in this term of parliament. And that it begins and ends as soon as possible.