

Dear [Name],

As an Australian citizen, I am writing to express my vehement opposition to the live sheep export trade in Australia.

I am deeply disturbed by the appalling conditions that Australian sheep face when they are exported overseas. We, the Australian public, are becoming increasingly aware of the unacceptable levels of suffering these animals endure along their journey, which often involves heat exhaustion, inadequate ventilation, overcrowding, unsanitary conditions leading to disease, lack of food, and death. Images of sheep burned, suffocated, and deprived of food and water are sobering and horrifying, and impossible to forget. Such treatment of these vulnerable animals is unacceptable and inexcusable.

Yet, the industry has remained largely unregulated, with the cruelty inflicted on these animals in direct violation of the Australian Code for the Welfare of Animals (ACWA). This is in spite of the well-documented suffering of these sheep over years, and demonstrates that laws designed to protect the welfare of these animals can not be adequately enforced.

The ban on live exporting sheep has overwhelming public support as demonstrated in country-wide protests; petitions; extensive media attention; and polls showing public sentiment in favour of ending this exploitative industry. If the government wants to uphold Australian values, then a ban of the live exporting of sheep must be a priority.

Given the inhumane and horrific nature of this trade, I strongly urge you to take immediate action to ban the live export of sheep from Australia and set a clear end date during your Government's term.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Nicole Chapple