

Phase out of Live Export by Sea

Thank you for the opportunity to have a say on when and how the export of live Sheep by sea should end.

The commitment to the end of this unbelievably cruel and unnecessary trade by the Labour Government strongly influenced how I voted so I think it imperative that the election promise is actioned asap, not in the next government term.

The phase out must begin and end as soon as possible. A delay means thousands of sentient animals suffer immeasurably during the voyages just to be slaughtered in countries who's welfare standards we have no control of. These animals are our responsibility and if they have to be killed, it should be done in Australia.

If Labour do not return to Government after this term, then it is an empty promise. How many decades has this been debated? The time is NOW, to be phased out within 1 year.

I absolutely agree to farmers receiving support during and after this transition. However that can start now, the sheep going on next years' boats have not been born yet so planning can begin. Farmers can be supported with education and funds to move into more plant based and less animal based food production systems. This is the progressive way forward and the future of a sustainable and kind world. Having been a farmer myself I know these things take time, in the meantime existing slaughter facilities can increase in capacity with Government and industry support. This can be rolled out quickly, will support new jobs and makes so much more sense to slaughter at home and add value for the Australian economy where we have some control over the process. I am against any animal slaughter as it is unnecessary and never "humane", however am also a realist knowing that killing animals for food will continue for the time being.

Phasing out live export of Sheep by sea will improve our poor international reputation and open up more markets. We need to be in line with other civilised countries such as New Zealand who listen to the majority of the public and show more compassion towards animals.

I, along with the majority of Australians, want this cruel industry stopped and I want certainty that the Government will live up to it's election promise and the phase out will be legislated and commenced in THIS term of Parliament.

It must end as soon as possible.