

24/04/23

Submission re: ending live sheep export.

I am writing to convey my strong view that the phase-out of this cruel trade end as soon as possible. I am horrified that Australia is continuing to transport our animals who experience atrocities including fully conscious slaughter in other countries. We would never allow this to happen for domestic pets and it's not the behaviour of a civilised society to support this.

Australians want to know that this trade will end as soon as possible and that the phase out is legislated and is acted on in this term of parliament. This process significantly impacts Australia's reputation as a compassionate nation and we need to take a stand like New Zealand has to end this cruel trade as quickly as possible. By defending this trade it makes Australian's like me not willing to support the agricultural sector in any way.

I supported Labour in the last election because of this policy and I expect this change to be made during this term of parliament. I expect Labour to act with compassion and support the vulnerable as this is the premise and values Labour is based on. To not implement this phase out as quickly as possible would create an incongruence of values and actions.

Even when regulations are followed the experience of sheep is horrendous – being exposed to heat, stress and a painful terrifying conscious slaughter is unbearable to think of. Australian's can do better and Labour needs to make this happen.

It is time to act with integrity and compassion towards Australian animals. Australians love their own animals and understand the emotional depth, loyalty and compassion of our domesticated pets. Farm animals are sentient beings too that have feelings like ours and we simply cannot allow these things to be done to them for money.

With every day we wait for this ban we are responsible for intense suffering – please make it stop!

Kind regards,

Rebecca.