

To whom it may concern,

I wholeheartedly support the immediate phase-out of live sheep exports.

Having seen footage of the horrific conditions sheep and other voiceless creatures are forced to endure, I feel sick at the thought of this barbaric practice of live export continuing.

I regularly attend protests and have seen government after government ignore what the majority of Australians support – the phase-out of live sheep exports.

Therefore I'm beseeching you to please get the phase-out underway as soon as possible, while we have a chance to make an immeasurable difference to the welfare of millions of animals. Every delay means more sheep are being subjected to inexcusable suffering – from the daily stresses of sea transport to fully conscious slaughter in importing countries.

Australians like myself want **certainty** that this trade will end, and we have for years. I'm petrified that the phase-out won't even be legislated in this term of parliament, let alone commenced, and that the next government is going to do the familiar, spineless backflip that subjects beautiful, gentle animals to unimaginable torture.

While the tide is undeniably turning against live export around the world (see Brazil and New Zealand as the most recent examples), it hardly needs to be said that letting this trade continue on our watch can only be negatively impacting Australia's international reputation as a fair and compassionate nation and undermines public trust in Australia's agricultural sector.

**Taking immediate steps to phase it out is the only reasonable way forward.**

I supported Labor as a second preference behind the AJP in this last election because of Labor's live export policy. Please, don't let Labor's supporters down by turning this into an empty promise.

Sincerely,

Soo Balbi

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Soo Balbi.