

Dear Mr Phillip Glyde, the Hon Warren Snowdon, Ms Sue Middleton, and Ms Heather Neil,

Thankyou for being a part of this consultation on the 'Phase out of live sheep export by sea', and for allowing myself and many other concerned Australians to have the opportunity to submit my say on this enormous animal welfare issue. This is a subject that is very important to me and something I have been following for many years. I would like to say for the record I am against all live export, regardless of the species and/or the mode of transport but this submission will only relate to the current consultation.

In the 2022 federal elections the Labor party made an election to Australian voters tat he would phase out live sheep export by sea, and they should honour that promise during their first term, whilst they are guaranteed to have power of government. Yet, they seem to be doing everything they can to delay changing the legislation, or vee setting a date. They are doing this despite the majority of Australian's making it clear that they want live export stopped. One national survey carried out in 2018 found 75% of respondents wanted live export banned entirely, including 70% of rural Australian respondents (RSPCA, 2018).

The Labor government needs to commit to a date to end live sheep export from Australian shores for good. Our neighbours in New Zealand made this change all the way back in 2007, with full live sea export ban being implemented for NZ this year. Why is Australia lagging so far behind the rest of the world when it comes to animal welfare regulations? Our country is one that is considered modern and civilized, yet our animal welfare score is considered "marginal" with standards and practices lower than many developing countries (VACI, 2020). This report is shameful and I am holding the government accountable.

There is much information evidencing the horrid on-board conditions for sheep at sea. These gentle land animals spend numerous terrifying weeks at sea, fighting to survive in squalor conditions, with the risk off illness, injury and death. When they do finally reach their destination, they are handed over to international slaughterhouses where Australia holds no control over animal welfare standards. We need look no further than the four-corners expose back in 2011 to see the horrific fate of Australian animals who are victims of the live export trade.

Our government made us a promise, yet talk has been on the table about routes to Saudi Araba reopening, a route that was shut down in 2012 after numerus reports of thousands of animals dying cruel deaths on this route. It is despicable that the government is now considering restarting this trade in innocent sentient lives when they have made an election promise to do the exact opposite. Live sheep export by sea needs to be stopped now, because every day that it continues, 1000's animals are suffer and die unnecessarily gruelling deaths.

This move away from live export is not one that has come quickly and those who still work within the industry have had years to develop strategies for alternative means of income that do not involve the exploitation of animals. I propose that the Albanese government stop all live sheep export now and invest time and money into helping those Australians currently employed by the industry to transition into cruelty free and sustainable industries. One industry that is on the rise is cell-based meat production. This modern technology can create meat from animal cells without the need for animal harvesting and slaughter. It is resource efficient and environmentally sustainable and is the way of the future. Supporting the development of factories to produce this product will not only offer jobs for Australian people but will help reduce our carbon footprint and help Australian meet our emissions goal net zero by 2050. The government should offer financial grants to people who are willing to encourage people to make this change. The financial incentive could be used by

successful applicants to undertake necessary education and training as well as to help pay for startup costs of their new businesses. The cell-based meat industry will undoubtedly continue to grow expediently, as the world fights for a sustainable future. Australia could be at the forefront of this industry, which would in turn, make the government huge financial returns for their investment.

I hope that this helps you understand why myself, and 75% of Australians are calling on PM Albanese and his government to fulfil his promise and set a date to a end to live sheep export within this parliamentary term.

Kind regards,

Sarah Ryan

<https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/>

<https://www.rspca.org.au/media-centre/news/2018/new-poll-finds-3-4-australians-want-live-export-end-greatest-concern-over>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-08-08/a-bloody-business---2011/2841918>