

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP Prime Minister Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

1 February 2024

Via e-mail: a.albanese.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Prime Minister:

I hope this letter finds you well. I'm writing from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) – PETA entities have more than 9 million members and supporters worldwide – to join the chorus of voices yet again condemning the continuation of the cruel live-export industry and again demand its closure.

Like all Australians, we are disgusted and ashamed by the stranding of thousands of animals in Perth, who after already enduring weeks on rough seas, are now trapped in a heatwave due to the myopic and uncompassionate decisions made by your cabinet. These living, feeling beings – like the millions of animals who have been shipped to their deaths before them – should never have been aboard *any* ship, let alone one bound for what was clearly already established to be a high conflict zone.

Had the government moved to do the right thing and banned all live export back in 1980 when 40,000 sheep died at sea – or after *any* of the numerous other tragedies that have occurred over the decades or the <u>many investigations into the cruelty animals endure aboard ships and at destination abattoirs</u> – more than 2.5 million sentient individuals would have been spared.

The time for excuses is over. Most Australians oppose live export, and as long as the government continues to support this industry and send animals to their protracted deaths aboard these lethal ships, situations like the one that unfolded over the past month will always arise – and Australia will continue to earn a global reputation for cruelty and poor decision-making.

Please take the lead on an immediate and complete shutdown of this industry.

Yours faithfully,

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Emily Rice Senior Communications Advisor to PETA Australia PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

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