



The Hon Scott Morrison MP  
Prime Minister  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

PEOPLE FOR  
THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT  
OF ANIMALS

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Dear Prime Minister:

I hope this message finds you well. Please find enclosed with this letter a gift from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA): a cow fart.

The inspiration behind this gift? Your 2017 decision to take a lump of coal into Question Time as a symbol of the government's commitment to coal – despite a mountain of evidence that it contributes to the rapid and dangerous heating of the Earth. **We figured, since you love sharing destructive, archaic stuff in Parliament, you'd appreciate a new show-and-tell item that's *also* wreaking considerable havoc on the planet: a jar of methane.**

Cows and sheep release huge volumes of methane – a greenhouse gas up to *80 times more potent* than carbon dioxide at trapping heat in the atmosphere. Each year, a single cow will belch almost 100 kilograms of methane – and Australia is home to over 25 million of them. That's not to mention our nation's 72 million sheep, the average one of whom emits approximately 13 kilograms of methane per year.

Conversations about the climate catastrophe that ignore animal agriculture are absurd. A 2021 study from the University of Illinois found that global greenhouse gas emissions from animal-derived foods are twice those of plant-based foods. Raising and killing animals and growing crops to feed them is responsible for 57% of all emissions caused by food production, and University of Tasmania Professor of Environmental Sustainability Barry Brook estimates that raising animals for human consumption is responsible for half of Australia's short-term greenhouse gas emissions – that's *more* than the coal industry.

Affiliates:

- PETA US
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (UK)

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If you're disgusted by our gift, we invite you to visit one of Australia's factory farms, abattoirs, or live-export vessels. The conditions young animals endure, often standing ankle-deep in their own excrement before they are flayed, their throats are slit, and their bodies are hacked apart, is what's truly disgusting.

We urge you not to be afraid of this jar but to take its message seriously: animal agriculture is killing us, billions of sensitive animals, and the planet we share. **We can certainly live without meat, but if we don't restructure our food system urgently to help mitigate the climate catastrophe, we won't be able to endure the heat.**

Yours faithfully,

Emily Rice  
PETA