



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

10 February 2021

Dear Prime Minister,

I'm writing today on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) Australia and, moreover, on behalf of common sense. Proposals from Ministers Littleproud and McCormack to exclude agriculture from future long-term climate targets make as much sense as it would to exclude returned travellers when collating COVID-19 case numbers, simply because interested parties might not like the number they add to the total.

We urge you, as the leader of a nation of some 6.5 million people aged 30 and under – who, unlike McCormack, certainly *are* worried about what happens in the next 30 years – to include *all* polluters in estimates and commit to transitioning the economy away from offending industries and towards clean ones that don't sacrifice the environment for financial gain.

By all accounts, our nation's target of reducing emissions to 26% to 28% below 2005 levels by 2030 is modest, yet already, we're struggling to meet it. Ignoring the elephant – or rather, cow – in the room may favourably skew our reported emissions, but it won't change the real and dangerous volume of methane farmed animals emit. The *International Journal of Climate Change* reports that animal agriculture is the largest contributor to greenhouse gases in Australia and that the livestock sector contributes some 50% of all emissions.

Globally, in fact, emissions from agriculture alone would be enough to put the Paris goals out of reach – even if all the other major sources of emissions were eliminated. **The science is clear: the quickest and easiest way to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions is to stop the breeding, keeping, and killing of farmed animals.**

To exclude one of the worst climate offenders, one that causes tremendous suffering and poses a risk to human health, is more than just disingenuous – it's dangerous. Now is not the the time for the nation's leaders to allow those who've admitted to being unconcerned with the future call the shots on how it will unfold. As we reach a precipice, we need leaders who will plot a path for Australia that sees us lead on clean, green fuel – and food sources.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,

Emily Rice
PETA Australia

PEOPLE FOR
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