



PEOPLE FOR  
THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT  
OF ANIMALS

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**SUBMISSION TO THE  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REVIEW OF THE AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS  
FOR THE EXPORT OF LIVESTOCK**

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## **A. *About PETA Australia***

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) Australia is the local affiliate of PETA US, the world's largest animal rights organisation with more than 6.5 million members and supporters worldwide. PETA is dedicated to establishing and protecting the rights of all animals, and operates under the simple principle that animals are not ours to eat, wear, experiment on, use for entertainment or abuse in any way.

PETA Australia works through public education, cruelty investigations, research, lobbying, celebrity involvement, and protest campaigns to focus international attention on the exploitation and abuse of animals for their flesh, for their skins, as living test tubes in laboratories, and for "entertainment".

## **B. *PETA's comments on the review of ASEL***

The Technical Advisory Committee has called for feedback during this second stage of its review process.

PETA has had the opportunity to review the submission prepared by Animals Australia to this end dated 19 September 2018, and endorses the comments and recommendations made therein as regards steps that must be taken to alleviate at least a small part of the misery endured by live exported animals.

Beyond that PETA will not be providing feedback on options to massage the standards in place to insulate and prop up the live export industry. The subject Issues Paper notes that the objectives of the review focus on updating the ASEL to "address concerns that...[t]he standards do not deliver acceptable animal welfare outcomes...[and that t]he standards do not meet community expectations for the welfare of animals." The stream of revelations about animals deteriorating and dying in horrific conditions is constant, and meaningful welfare outcomes cannot be achieved while the trade continues. Community expectations are that the welfare of animals can only be addressed via an end to the live exporting of animals. Poll upon poll<sup>1</sup> has confirmed that an undeniable majority of the Australian public wishes to see an end to the trade. The Coalition stands alone in continuing to excuse the atrocities of this industry, and in doing so it is tone-deaf in its representation of the citizenry and lurks on the wrong side of history. We look forward to the day when such apologists look back upon their venality with shame.

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<sup>1</sup> See eg RSPCA Australia, 'New poll finds 3 in 4 Australians want live export to end, greatest concern over standards in rural and country areas', 27 April 2018, viewable at <https://www.rspca.org.au/media-centre/news/2018/new-poll-finds-3-4-australians-want-live-export-end-greatest-concern-over> (accessed 17 September 2018); see also Lonergan Research, WSPA Live Export Study Report (2012) 4-6, cited at Voiceless, 'Live Export', fn 50, viewable at [https://www.voiceless.org.au/hot-topics/live-export#footnote50\\_rjxzz3p](https://www.voiceless.org.au/hot-topics/live-export#footnote50_rjxzz3p) (accessed 17 September 2018); see also Sinclair et al, 'Australian Public Opinions Regarding the Live Export Trade before and after an Animal Welfare Media Exposé', *Animals* 2018, 8(7), 106, viewable at <http://www.mdpi.com/2076-2615/8/7/106/htm> (accessed 17 September 2018).