

Dear Sirs

I regret the action of the action of the ABC Board in removing programmes and closing down of production units while extensively outsourcing programmes. Such action will eventually lead to the loss of independence and skills.

We have seen this in the loss of Australian Shipping, Radio Australia, Banking.

We need independent opinions other than will be supplied by various media barons. Admittedly the government is not able to match the finances by large private interests but we must maintain our skills in producing popular and culturally appropriate materials.

Away from the large cities often the ABC is the only station to be heard with warnings in times of disaster. This capability will be lost in the welter of commercialism.

The ABC is the station to produce intellectually stimulating programme in Art, Indigenous Affairs, Religion and philosophy and must be allowed to continue producing programmes of quality and distinction.

Noel Jeffery