



Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

9 September 2011

To the members of the Senate Inquiry into proposed cuts to ABC programming

Re: Submission to the Senate Inquiry into recent ABC programming decisions

ScreenWest is the Western Australian Government screen funding and development agency, committed to working in partnership with the screen industry to develop, support and promote film, television and digital media production in Western Australia.

ScreenWest has worked closely with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) for many years. The collaboration between the agencies is a very effective partnership that creates significant opportunities for the WA independent screen production sector. To date, the relationship has maximised opportunities for Western Australian creatives to deliver high quality stories and projects to a national audience.

In recent years, ScreenWest and the ABC have entered into a number of joint funding initiatives to provide funding to independent television productions in Western Australia. These agreements have seen great results economically and culturally.

By way of example, they have enabled the production and broadcast of projects such as feature film *Bran Nue Dae*, the world's first Aboriginal musical comedy; Indigenous drama-documentary *Jandamarra's War*; the Emmy nominated documentary *Surviving Mumbai*; documentaries *Skippy: Australia's First Superstar*, *Addicted to Money* and *A Royal Romance*; and children's sitcom *Mal.com* which will screen on ABC3 in the near future.

Further outsourcing of ABC drama and factual production will have positive benefits for Western Australian screen production companies and practitioners as it offers the potential of new partnership opportunities, increased production in the State and flow through revenue effects.

Yours sincerely

Nadine Redmond
A/CHIEF EXECUTIVE