

The Committee Secretary  
House Communications Committee  
Parliament House  
Canberra 2600

PO Box 117  
Wangi Wangi 2267  
24<sup>th</sup> October, 2000

Dear Committee Secretary,

**Re: Inquiry into the Adequacy of Radio Services**

I am a daily listener to Radio National and value its programmes immensely.

As a resident of the Lower Hunter Valley, engaged in household food production and rural studies at Kurri Kurri TAFE, I appreciate the fact that I can hear local rural news, in addition to news about events and issues which are significant nationally and internationally. There are many matters important to me which I have heard about first on Radio National. Recent examples include developments in water policy and the local effects of dairy industry deregulation, with comments from local farmers themselves.

The ABC is the only independent source of news in our area. By providing a number of programmes, each with its own focus, the ABC allows the listener to take in a variety of viewpoints, to hear the pros and cons of various issues and thus to arrive at an informed opinion about them. Any attrition to Radio National's service will be a great loss to this area.

It is disturbing to hear that recent cuts to ABC funding could continue. The only way for the ABC to retain its independence and to continue to offer quality programmes is for the Government to ensure full funding.

Yours faithfully,

J. Grevillea

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