

24/10/2000

Submission
Inquiry.

Secretary:.....	House of Representatives Standing Committee on Communications, Transport and the Arts
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT AND THE ARTS	Secretary: <i>Industry Panel Helms</i>

I am deeply concerned at the rapid concentration of rural commercial stations into the control of a small number of individuals/companies.

As an older citizen living in a relatively isolated situation I have become very aware of the vital importance of overnight talk-back radio.

The rich diversity of these networks is rapidly being eroded; and the previously high standards of professional presentation have also slipping. One presenter has become obtrusively offensive to anyone not interested in sleaze. The cash for comment jiasco needs to be underlining.

With respect to "digital" radio:-
The current broadcast band signals (circa 14MHz) will travel far and clear with 5kW behind them. I am not persuaded that the proposed changes will benefit rural folk. And the cost will be an item to be considered.

This submission would be tidier, crisper, fatter, were I not engaged in local personal flood control. (Another rural joy!)

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