

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Additional Estimates Hearings February 2017
Communications Portfolio
Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Question No: 89

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Hansard Ref: Pages 81, 102, 28/02/2017

Topic: Evidence to Board

Senator McCarthy, Malarndirri asked:

Senator McCARTHY: You mentioned in your response that you had evidence presented to the board that led them to make the decision, so I am asking for the evidence that was provided to the board. Could this committee please receive those documents?

Ms Guthrie: I will have to take that on notice.

...

Senator McCARTHY: Just to clarify: with the request for the evidence from the board, on notice, could that also include your correspondence with Broadcast Australia and any decisions around Broadcast Australia with the ABC for the committee?

Answer:

1. As an independent statutory authority, and in order to encourage frank and effective discussions of Board matters, it is ABC policy to not release material regarding ABC Board deliberations.
2. The ABC's communication with Broadcast Australia was primarily via meetings, however the written request by the ABC confirming the cessation of the domestic and international shortwave services is attached.

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 30 January 2017 12:20 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Shortwave Shutdown Schedule

Hi [REDACTED],

Just confirming that BA will cease transmission of the Radio Australia and Outback Radio services tomorrow, 31 January 2017, as directed by the ABC at the following times:

Radio Australia in Shepparton: Field Services will switch off manually at 12pm local time, (12pm Sydney time)

Roe Creek, Tennant Creek and Katherine Outback Radio Services in NT: The NOC will switch off remotely at 12pm local time, (1:30pm Sydney time)

Regards,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 18 January 2017 4:37 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Shortwave Shutdown Schedule

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for advising us of your required timings. We will let you know if there are any issues, otherwise we will proceed as directed.

Regards,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
BROADCAST AUSTRALIA

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 18 January 2017 4:11 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Shortwave Shutdown Schedule

Dear [REDACTED],

As you know we are ceasing all shortwave transmissions, both Radio Australia and NT on the last day of this month, January 31.

We would request Radio Australia transmitters in Shepparton Victoria will switch off at 12 noon local time and the three (3) sites in the NT at 1.30pm Sydney time which will be 12 noon there, one and a half hours after Radio Australia ceases.

If you have any questions or would like the above times changed please let me know as soon as possible.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]
Mark Spurway
Head Transmission Network Services, ABC Communications Networks
