

From: Thomas Richman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 23 July 2001 2:30 PM
To: ecita.sen@aph.gov.au

Subject: ABC appointments

The Secretary,
Senate Environment, Communications, Info Tech & the Arts References Committee,
S157, Parliament House,
Canberra ACT 2600.

The present system of appointments to the ABC Board is clearly unsatisfactory, in that it allows any government, so-intentioned, to stack the board with its allies. It is hard for governments to resist this temptation! For the good of all Australians, our national broadcaster must be independent of government and commercial influence. What we need is a new system which ensures the board members are appointed on the basis of merit and commitment to independent and comprehensive national public broadcasting, not for their allegiance to the government of the day.

Yes, this is form letter, one of many I trust you'll receive to this point. It is, however, no less reflecting of my views.

Yours sincerely

Thomas Richman