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The Secretary
Senate ECIT&A References Committee
S157 Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

CC> Senator Alston

Dear ECIT&A Committee

In 1996 I made a submission to the Mansfield Inquiry in respect of the ABC and its future. I wrote that ‘the ABC is in my blood’. My sentiments remain the same: the ABC is a vital source of wide-ranging information, I value the impartiality and eclecticism of its provision of information and entertainment. Without an independent ABC my children and I would feel exceedingly bereft.

Please ensure that the ABC is:
generously and triennially funded;
governed by an independent, experienced and impartial Board;
not threatened or compromised by commercial interest.

Our national intelligence is dependent on and expressed by an excellent, well-funded and impartial national broadcaster that bravely presents the issues of the day in all forms of media. The ABC is the flagship of the best of our national spirit – let us sail with it, confidently into the 21st century.

Yours faithfully

Anna Sande