From:

Sent: Thursday, 2 August 2001 10:16 AM

To: ecita.sen@aph.gov.au Subject: ABC Senate enquiry

As one who has relied on the ABC for many years, I welcome the opportunity to express my concern at its deterioration over the past 10 years.

It appears to me that successive Governments have gradually restricted its ability to transmit information to the public because of the belief that the ABC is biased when it questions their policies or lack of them. To counter the view that ABC staff are biased, I would like to see an opportunity for the public to ask questions through both the web and email. This would offset the accusation that the interviewer was biased. The questioners name would not be made public but would be available for reference if required.

Ratings should not even be considered. The ABC should be the venue where the public is kept informed and entertained in a more enlightened fashion. I simply fail to see what 20-30 year old repeats and programs such as ex files and other English programs contribute to public education or ratings and is a reflection on, dare I say it, management.

In my opinion applications should be invited from the public to make up members of the Board, and funding should be increased to at least what it was about 5 years ago.

yours sincerely

Arthur E.E.McEwan (electoral roll no