

From: Clive Hodges [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 4 August 2001 2:13 PM
To: ecita.sen@aph.gov.au
Subject: ABC: Appointments to the Board

To: The Senate Inquiry into the development and implementation of options for methods of appointment to the Board of the ABC that would enhance public confidence in the independence and representativeness of the ABC as the national broadcaster

Senators

The present system of appointments to the ABC Board is clearly unsatisfactory in that it allows any government to stack the board with its allies. It is hard for any cabinet, whether Liberal/National or Labor, 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 system which ensures the board members are appointed on the basis of merit and commitment to independent national public broadcasting not for their allegiance to the party in power.

I emphasise the need is for Board members who believe in a **national** broadcaster. The ABC needs to move away from being Sydney/Melbourne centric.

Yours sincerely

Clive Hodges

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