

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2006

**Attention: Senate Committee inquiry**

Dear Ministers,

Re: ABC Board Members Appointment

I make this submission to the Senate Committee Inquiry with regards to the appointment of Board Members for the ABC.

I believe that the ABC, as our nation's premier broadcaster and primary source of Current Affairs and News for the majority of the educated population, requires the election of independent board members who will consider and defend the interests of our ABC regardless of the political leaning of the Government of the day.

Governments of all political leaning have come and gone in Australia, and the appointment to the Board of the ABC individuals who are not necessarily appointed with the best operational interests of the ABC in mind, sets a precedent easily exploited by current or future Governments of any political persuasion.

With this in mind my associates and I believe that it is vitally important that the ABC be given **substantial** input in to the appointment of members to its board now and into the future, inline with the ABC Charter so as to preserve the best interests of the ABC as well those that utilise its vast and valuable services.

If you have any queries in regards to the opinions contained within this submission, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

***Peter Hallam***