Senate Select Committee on Superannuation and Financial Services

Main Inquiry Reference (b)

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Submittor:

Professor Peter Drysdale

Professor of Economics & Executive

Director

Australia-Japan Research Centre

Asia Pacific School of Economics &

Management

CANBERRA ACT 0200

2 - (02) 6249 3780

a - (02) 6249 0767





THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY



AUSTRALIA-JAPAN RESEARCH CENTRE

TELEPHONE: +61 2 6249 3780

Asia Facific School of Economics and Management

FACSIMILE: +61 2 6249 0767

CANBERRA ACT 0200 AUSTRALIA URL: http://ajrcnet.anu.edu.au EMAIL: ajrc@anu.edu.au

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Ms Sue Morton Secretary Select Committee on Superannuation and Financial Services Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Morton

Senate Committee Inquiry into the Opportunities and Constraints for the Provisions of Global Financial Services

Thank you for your letter of 8 August about my evidence to the Select Committee on Superannuation and Financial Services.

The proofs which you forwarded are uncorrected but I take it that you received my corrections on 7 August and that they will be incorporated in due course.

There are several aspects of telecommunications policy that affect our competitiveness in the financial services area. What I had in mind on the day was the set of policies which artificially separate datacasting from TV broadcasting. This handicaps the integration of sophisticated digital broadcasting and datacasting services which is essential if we are to be at the forefront of competitive financial and other service provision. It puts lead in our saddle and serves nobody's interests except established TV broadcasters.

Please convey my thanks to Senator Watson for his interest in our testimony and for his thoughtfulness in drawing it to the attention of the relevant Ministers.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

(Peter Drysdale)

Professor of Economics and

Executive Director