From: < Wednesday 20 Jun

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:07 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Privatisation of the ABC

I am opposed to any plans to privatise the ABC. The ABC provides a service that is not subjected to profit margins and can therefore be independent of commercial interests. Privatised media outlets are increasingly subject to bias and sensational journalism which prevents the public from being encouraged to think for themselves and critically evaluate what is occurring in Australian and international affairs. Journalism in the commercial sector is increasingly reporting sensational and extreme divisions in society to promote sectional views. The ABC is an essential service that provide investigative journalism to bring to the public information on what is increasingly being hidden by the lack of accountability of government due to the increasing power of the executive. The public is already inundated with non - news - info - entertainment dressed up as news in the commercial sector therefore it is essential to retain the ABC and not commercialise the service.



From:

Subject: Keep the ABC Public

Privatising the ABC is only in the Liberals interest in that they can sway their ideas as well as their own interests. This is just another ploy you have to wonder if this Government is in touch with everyday Australians and the country? We need an independent broadcast station that is unbiased and communicates both sides of politics and news. We seen what happens when the news and politics are one sided. So please hands off the ABC and let this country have an Independent station and keep politicians, companies etc honest let people see the stories and make their own minds up rather then be told what they should know, do or think.



From:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:07 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Sent: To:

Subject: Leave ABC be

Privatising the ABC is a large lurch toward totalitarianism. Very few news outlets are free of commercial pressures. Very few can take risks. Hands off my democracy and the institutions which support it.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:06 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The quality of ABC programming is what keeps it loved and appreciated by a large number of Australians, regardless of political persuasion.

Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media.

Keep the ABC in public hands.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:06 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep your hands off my ABC..

I only watch the ABC and believe it to be unbiest, honest, journalism. I do not believe this can happen if we privatise it, plus at some point Advertising will be introduced. Which we do not want.!

WA 6018

From: Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:04 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Keep our ABC in Public Hands Subject: I wish to emphatically add my name to the thousands of voices calling out for the ABC to remain in public hands. I live in Northern NSW and listen to the ABC daily - it is where I get all my news and current affairs. I love the myriad of intelligent programs that the ABC presents - from 4 Corners, to Late Night Live, from Conversations to Life Matters. These programs and many more provide the soundtrack to my life. I am very concerned about the Liberal Party Council's vote to privatise the ABC - I am not - and never will be - a coalition voter and it sickens me to watch the coalition's attack on our ABC and other such institutions like the SBS. Our society will be far poorer if this were to go ahead, and the ABC will have at least one fewer listener.

I love that the ABC doesn't air ads every few minutes - something that all other commercial radio stations do - and I would definitely be 'turned off' by the commercialisation of the ABC.

The premise that the ABC and SBS need to be investigated due to fear that "they might have an advantage" over commercial outlets is farcial. Try telling that to the Murdoch press - it sickens me to watch / hear the right wing bias that spews out of that institution.

Our public broadcaster - wonderfully non-commercial and centre leaning - is a pillar of our society and must be left alone.

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE Leave our ABC in the hands of the publics - NOT in commercial hands.

Sincerely,	
	_
NSW 247	7 💌

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:04 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC is a government service as important as hospitals and schools

There is a requirement for governments to supply a minimum level of service to all the tax paying citizens of the community. This applies to medicine, transport, communications, schooling and many other important facets of a working economy.

In no way is media exempt from this, and in Australia the ABC is an extremely important media outlet that provides this service.

The media has an important role to communicate to the people on important issues within the society. The base level reporting should be balanced by evidence and impartial to political agendas. This can be ensured through standards that are imposed on a government funded organisation but would be lost through privatisation.

I, like many many others in Australia would pay a levy on my tax to ensure it is maintained. Do not take this service away. We are a democracy, not a fascist state of the Murdoch Empire.



From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:04 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in Public Hands

The ABC has been a big part of Democracy in Australia and now more than ever we need to keep our government accountable - answerable to the people. With the ABC having the interests of the country at its heart, we rely on the People's Broadcaster more than ever.

TAS 7054

From: <

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:04 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

My wife and I are retired teachers. Our ABC is our constant companion, from radio during the day, with excellent news, interviews, like Richard Fidler's "Conversations", analysis, and fascinating programs which teach us so much about the world. At night, we only watch the ABC tTv, which has intelligent programming, great, well balanced current affairs programs like "The Drum", "Insiders" and "Q&A", brilliant Australian drama content and , when we are watching with our grandkids in the daytime, programs like "Peppa Pig" and "Playschool", which bring big smiles to tiny faces. We trust the ABC- it provides a welcome relief from the mindless drivel and constant, mind numbing ads on commercial channels- which we have tried to watch, but can't stand. The extreme right have plenty of vehicles to express their opinions, on Sky etc. We need the ABC to remain independent, to be properly funded and to remain OUR ABC, which we love and will do all we can to trotect from the forces trying to destroy it.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:04 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

In an age where politicians are reality TV stars and the best news report you can get on channels other than the ABC or SBS could also be mistaken for a reality show, there's never been a more important time to have the ABC. We should be supporting it with more funding, not ripping it apart, losing jobs and possibly privatising it!

What a joke - but it comes as no surprise from a government that consistently proves it doesn't listen to the majority of its citizens.

I know so many people who've started their careers in the ABC - and it's given them the best building blocks any young media enthusiast could hope for.

Don't touch it! Support it!

VIC 3000

From:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:04 PM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Subject: Keep our ABC as OUR ABC

I am an avid consumer of news. I have found the ABC to be the best source. Its scope and balance is far better than the commercial networks who also regularly are compromised by a series of complex conflicts of interest - for example, they cannot report fairly on their advertisers and they confuse their own programs with actual news.

I am very concerned by the constant attacks on the ABC (and SBS) and the recent Liberal Party vote to privatise the ABC adds to this. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy. It should not be compromised by these political games.

Darlinghurst 2010

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

It's very important that the ABC remains a public body funded by the government. It provides a valuable service to the community without the biases of commercial broadcasters. The quality of its news and current affairs programs are second to none and would not be adequately covered by a commercial broadcaster. The ABC so often provides quality drama and programs that just would not see the light of the day with commercial broadcasters who are all about profit. The quality of offerings by the ABC are so high and it will be very detrimental to the broader community if these are lost.

Please ensure that the ABC is nurtured and allowed to flourish as Australia's quality public funded broadcaster for the broader benefit of all Australians now and I the future.

WA 6154

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

I look to the ABC for the balance and honesty that is NEVER evident on private TV or radio network. It is CRUCIAL to the maintenance of the Australian culture I value, love and support. We are Australia. Do not emulate the rubbish culture that is the USA. NEVER privatise the ABC

SA 5019

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:03 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: Keep the ABC independant of the market place.

Any privatization of the abc would be a gross theft of democratic and independent media in our country. Don't prostitute Auntie! She belongs to us all and is doing a good job.

QLD 4560

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:03 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Please don't erode our national broadcaster

The ABC must not be privatised, as I believe that the ABC is a critical element of Australia's national heritage. It also represents a vital means for cultural expression. Commercial media organisations are not equipt to produce the same high quality programs that speak without corporate interests. Who else produces such high quality media in our country that it also exports to the world. The ABC is to Australians, like the BBC is for the British, a cherished element of our proud national identity and any politician voting to privatise it is deeply upsetting. I also believe our other public broadcaster - SBS - deserves a lot more funding and support.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep The ABC in public hahds

The only way Australian citizens will ever get an honest and unbiased news service is by keeping the ABC in public ownership.

Private NEWS networks are always biased in favour of their financial backers.

Any government that privatises the ABC not last long in power.

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:03 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Four corners is the most amazing show I look forward to every Monday night. My kids love ABC me and I couldn't have survived or booked any dinner without ABC 2 in the early years. No ads good quality shoes and great journalism. Bring back Lateline!!! Please !!!!

From: <

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:03 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC

I have been listening to the ABC for 60 Years as a kid to now and am now an interested /involved retiree. From country NSW to the City the numbers on the dial may change and the way may now be throgh earphones or visual but the content and honesty of reporting, variety and diversity is my major source as my up to date news debate music remains rock solid. please keep it that way!

From: < Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 20

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:02 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep the ABC independent

Listening to ABC radio over the years has educated me, kept me informed about world events, about books, art, culture, people, science, technology, politics, the environment, business, music. It has enriched and enriches my world and is a cultural treasure that many other countries cannot boast. I can trust that there will be a broad range of opinion, and stimulating debate, that what is presented as far as is possible on fact and evidence. And good journalism and evidence based knowledge is valued at the ABC. It is a force for good and positive change. I have listened to programs like 'Life Matters' for years and learnt a huge amount. Four Corners, Q and A, the 7.30 report- I know that these are based on good journalism and good reporting, and because the ABC is independent, these programs are not vulnerable to outside pressure which they would be if it was commercialised. IT is horrifying to think of privatising the ABC. Instead, restore the funding to this national treasure.



Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:02 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry ABC to stay public!!! From: Sent: To:

Subject:

Mr Turnbull keep your hands off our ABC - it's the only intelligent broadcaster worth watching / listening to!!

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:02 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Adequate funding for a publicly owned and independent ABC

I am very concerned about the attacks on the ABC. I have live most of my 65 years in rural NSW and have listened to the ABC all my life. I value its independence, it's objectivity, accuracy and fairness in news and current affairs coverage and enjoy its entertainment programs on radio and TV. There is no comparison with commercial networks whose soul purpose is to make money for their shareholders. We need a public broadcaster funded generously through government but entirely independent of government which can continue to provide unbiased factual reporting to the Australian community.

From: Wednesday

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

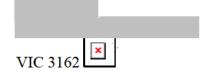
Subject: Do not allow the ABC to be privatised!

Please do not privatise the ABC!

Public broadcasting plays an incredibly important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media. It serves such an vital role and privatisation would destroy that without a doubt.

My children have grown up on the shows broadcast on ABC for kids and my youngest still watches many of her favourites including Peppa Pig, Ben & Holly, Grandpa in my Pocket and PJ Masks to name a few. So much better than the violent cartoons shown on commercial stations, and without all the horrible ads!

4 Corners is one of the only trustworthy news programs around. Privatisation will end that too. Please save our ABC! It would be a travesty for this government to allow the ABC to be privatised. Thank you in anticipation you will do what is right here.



From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC as a public broadcaster

In order for democracy to function properly, it is extremely important to have an independent public broadcaster to provide the voting public with balanced reporting and analysis of public policies. So that the public can make informed decisions when exercising their democratic rights.

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:02 PM
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
The ABC is a valuable public resource and it should stay that way! From: Sent:

To:

Subject:

please don't

VIC 3011

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

A public broadcaster like the ABC and SBS is an essential part of democracy and should not under any circumstances be privatised.

The ABC has provided to my family over many many years children's programmes, fabulous documentaries, and reliable accurate news programmes.

My concern is why on earth the coalition government has reduced its funding to the detriment of its programming is beyond belief and now wants to

'SELL IT OFF" (privatise it).

A Public Broadcaster such as the ABC can not be compared to a commercial broadcaster as it plays such an important role in our democracy.

The coalition needs to Wake up, a Public Broadcaster is an essential part of our democracy and moves by the coalition to sell it off will be opposed by the Australian people.



From:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:02 PM Sent: To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

The ABC Must Remain a Publicly Owned Asset Subject:

I live on the NSW Central Coast and my only trusted news source is the ABC, both radio and TV. I find commercial media untrustworthy and influenced buy their owners and advertisers.

The only advantage the ABC has is that they are public owned and free of the manipulation privately owned media fall victim to every day as they strive to make profits rather that deliver unbiased coverage of news events.

The ABC produce excellent current affairs, investigative journalism and special interest programs such as Four Corners, Australian Story, Q&A, Back Roads, Back in Time For Dinner, to name a few, plus great comedy such as Mad As Hell and Hard Chat, as well as brilliant drama such as Mystery Road.

The ABC is the only media I trust in a world where falsehood appears to reign at the expense of truth for profit and private gain. This is why the ABC MUST stay in public ownership.

Indeed, the very premise of any inquiry, to see if the ABC and SBS have an advantage over commercial outlets by virtue of being publicly funded, misses a crucial point. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media.

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The Australian citizens own the ABC, not the only

The ABC and the CSIRO are the two organisations I most trust. It is largely be ause they don't have to make money or serve a particular master, unlike for example Newscorp. The best investigative journalists work for the ABC and Fairfax. What would we do without Four Corners, Stan Grant, Leigh Sales, etc. etc. Then there are all the excellent dramas and series that find and develop Australian actors. I would happily pay twice what I am taxed for the ABC. I could also not do without ABC FM and RN, which I listen to most of every day. Hands off OUR ABC.

VIC 3039

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:01 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC in the hands of the public.

The ABC and SBS are assets which belong to the people of Australia.

The ABC has been in existence for almost a century and has served to educate and inform generations of people. It's radio broadcasts provide friendship and company to many isolated listeners. It's investigative reporting stands out against the mediocre, poorly researched offerings to be found in commercial broadcasts and online. Australians trust the ABC and rely on it to bring important issues to light. Many times the ABC illuminates issues our government(s) is ignoring or is unaware of, which then results in action being taken by the government. As a result the ABC is a de-facto arm of government and to lose it would leave ordinary citizens with even less voice then they have now. The notion that the ABC should be sold to a private operator is a stupid, dogmatic one born out of a weird obsession in the IPA with the superiority of the private sector. The IPA seems to have overlooked the fact that the private sector was largely responsible for the GFC and the Dot.com bubble.

At a time when Australia has never been richer you have to ask why our government thinks it can no longer afford to keep it.

Leave the ABC in the hands of the Australian people.

QLD 4109

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC must not be privatised!

The ABC is not the Governments's to sell! It belongs to us, the people of Australia. It's ours, not yours. It's publicly funded and that's how we like it. And in return we are kept informed by responsible and balanced news gatherers who we can trust for our news and current affairs. In times of emergency, we turn to our ABC to learn what's happening. At all other times, we're kept entertained, whether by documentary, drama, comedy or music. What a wonderful dividend we get in return for our public funding. Our politicians need to realise that they too are publicly funded... and more and more I ask myself, "...what are the Australian public getting in return for our funding of politicians?" Very little it would seem. So hand's off our ABC you pack of publicly funded bozo's and start showing some real leadership about things that really matter, instead of getting your knickers in a knot because one trusted media outlet has the audacity to question the policies of governments and oppositions. You don't have watch much commercial TV or listen to much commercial radio to know that no is well served by what they have to offer.



From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

The ABC must never be privatised in my opinion and should not have it's funding continually cut.

Our family has watched the ABC for decades now. It was our only channel when we lived in regional NSW and even though we have access to many commercial channels now we continue to watch the ABC as it is overwhelmingly our preferred station. It provides balanced coverage of every issue and delves more deeply into the many important stories and concerns of our time.

The ABC's Current Affairs, Science and Lifestyle programmes are second to none, especially Four Corners, Q and A, 7.30, Gruen, Catalyst, Australian Story and The Checkout and it has produced numerous dramas and comedies for decades which are of a very high standard and often ground breaking, influencing many offshoots on other stations.

I am concerned because of the recent Liberal Party vote at their National Conference and their constant attacks on the ABC's perceived bias.

We need a commercial free station now more than ever which isn't tainted by commercial interests. To me the ABC is irreplacable and should always be publicly funded.

TAS 7306

Subject: Keep our precious ABC in Public hands

How precious it was 40 years ago and sit on the floor with my little daughter and sing with her: "There's a bear in there.....

And to time and again watch loved characters who appeared not using the idiom of made up adult stories full of unreal language and pretence which is demeaning and neaningless to children who grow with simple respect and the provision of material that relates to their experience.

And now to be able to listen to a news report and serious interviews that attempt with enough insight, and honesty, and with deep concern for exposing more of the truth and reality of things that are happening in the world without operating from a premise that is careless and irresponsible with relation to the truth and more interested in promoting a personal or group view.



To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: My husband and I would hate to see the privatisation of our ABC.

We love the ABC in this household and always have.

We love that programs are not interrupted by mindless advertising.

We love the diversity of programming; the dramas, the current affairs, the rural programs and Gardening Australia with the wonderful garden gnome Kosta.

We love that programming does not appear aimed at the lowest common denominator in a bid to win ratings. Commercial television seems to think that the general public is full of morons. (I'm sure it isn't)Please keep our ABC as it is.

SA 5066

From: <

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC must not be privatised

The ABC is absolutely essential to my business and to my satisfaction level with living in Australia. I live in a regional area and my business is working with farmers. The ABC Breakfast Show and Country Hour, various programs on Radio National and news and weather reports and forecasts are part of my day and essential to my business.

I feel that the ABC is the only honest network that is not heavily influenced by big business and advertisers. One has only to look at the John Laws Cash for Comments scandal and one can see what happens when a radio station depends on advertisers for all its revenue. In this age of dis-connected materialism, the ABC remains as one last beacon of hope.

The ABC represents free speech to me and I will feel that Australia is becoming a police state, a dictatorship, a real banana republic if we lose our national broadcaster. In fact this attempt to shut down the ABC's ability to talk about subjects that the current government would rather were not spoken about in public, is the one event that has actually angered me to the point where I feel that I will NEVER EVER vote for the parties that are trying to bring this about, even though I have voted for them in the past. I feel very strongly about this and hope that the Senators who read these submissions do have some understanding of the value of free speech, a spectrum of views and attitudes, lively public debate on important issues, and the value of a varied and intellectually stimulating material for the media consumer to choose from.

TAS 7009

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:01 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry OUR ABC To:

Subject:

Privetization has failed so often, don't touch the ABC. It does so much for the community. I'm happy to pay for what it does as is. Hand off!

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:01 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep ABC in public hands To:

Subject:

QLD 4053

To:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:01 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep ABC in public hands - please do not 'sell' it toprivate hands! Subject:

We only watch ABC and SBS, no time for commercial adverts. A free and fair broadcasting.

WA 6014

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:00 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keeping our ABC in public hands.

It has become painfully evident over these past decades with the migration of common wealth, hard earned and bequeathed to the common people greater essential utilities that have been sequestered through political pragmatism into corporate and private ownership. The result, an impoverished population that is marginalised from fair share of profit taking and ever increasing taxes as inappropriate corporate greed is favoured for political ends not for the public good but for egendas outside of that realm. Surrendering one of the last of our public services into the hands of right wing Corporate propaganda moguls like Murdoch or Rinehart would be a travesty.

VIC 3939

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Leave the public broadcaster alone

The ABC is the major Australian media organisation providing balanced news coverage and keeping the political parties accountable. Any political party that that seeks to privatise the abc does so for their own gain and to avoid scrutiny and question. I would never vote for any party that supports this action. Keep it public and free.



From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise the ABC

The ABC has wonderful programmes and the only channel worth watching! Leave it as is- those voting against it should wake up to themselves and concentrate on trying to look after our country instead!

ACT 2605

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

A democracy depends on having a variety of agencies which defend the right of everyone to express opinions and receive a balance of information from many points of view. I have for many years trusted the national broadcaster to present unbiased, informative programs, both on the radio and on television. When a broadcaster depends on commercial interests to fund it, the situation is immediately altered and the broadcaster cannot present information that might damage the commercial interests of its funding interests. I listen to commercial broadcasters, of course, but I always understand that they will at some level be biased by the need to keep to programming that presents their advertisers in a positive light. It would be damaging and a dreadful mistake to privatise our national broadcaster. History would condemn Australia's leaders if they decided not to keep the ABC in public hands.

VIC 3079

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:00 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: We want a public broadcaster

The ABC has been one of the constants through my childhood, youth and adulthood. I don't even want to think about not being able to listen to ABC radio or view ABC television, public media which is owned by the people of Australia.

I have spent the majority of my life living in the bush where the ABC enabled me to keep up with the latest news and listen to the cricket.

The very thought that the Coalition Government seems to moving toward privatisation of the ABC concerns me greatly. I am really concerned that without an unbiased public broadcaster all of our media will be working for the highest bidder and the news reporting will always be questionable.

If this government needs to change the funding of our ABC it should be to restore and increase its funding so that we can continue to trust its ability to bring us independent journalism and good quality entertainment which supports our local and some overseas talent.

WA 6051

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:00 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Protect the ABC From: Sent: To:

Subject:

The Australian public do not want the abc to be privatised, this is not in the public's best interest, this action will have consequences at the next election.

From: < Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:00 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

why the ABC must stay in public hands.

Firstly it is not the government's property to sell and there is no mandate from the electorates to sell the ABC.

The Sydney Morning Herald remarked on the ABC's anniversary that: "Just try to imagine Australia without a national broadcaster. You can imagine an Australia, but not this Australia. The character of this Australia owes much to the ABC; no other institution reaches as many Australians, or touches so many so profoundly. The national broadcaster over the years has fashioned Australian life and has been a a deeply personal part of innumerable individual lives."

Mitchell Collier, the federal vice president of the Young Liberals, said there was no economic case to keep the ABC in public hands..

He said that "high sentimentality" was no reason to keep the public broadcaster in public hands and that taxpayers could save \$1 billion a year by offloading it.

However, we could save more money by not contributing taxpayers' money to private schools who cost more than the ABC and reach fewer people and do far less good (Non-government schools in NSW alone including independent and Catholic schools, received a total of \$3.3 billion from the federal government in 2017.smh 7 March 2018)

Why did the government give \$30 million to Foxtel?

Public broadcasters have a unique national responsibility to provide a public good to citizens, whereas commercial broadcasters' responsibility is to attract consumers and advertisers and maximise returns to shareholders. They are not always impartial.

In these days of ,'fake news' it is vital Australia, as a democracy, has a reliable unbiased news source with opportunities to listen to and be involved in discussion and debate of important issues.

Public broadcasters' benefits are difficult to measure, but our ABC is the heart of the country, reflecting our values, upholding the right of minorities to have a voice and encompassing the whole country including regional areas.

Its news, entertainment and education foster a shared sense of national coherence.

The ABC has also often been important sources of technological innovation in both platforms and content, and talent development, which over time has filtered off to benefit commercial stations.

The ABC offers children's programming free from commercial considerations. Public broadcasting has the best interests of children as its sole objective. This is one reason why parents and teachers trust public broadcasting, and why maintaining our public broadcasting system is so important.

The market provides, and in areas where the market cannot deliver or will not deliver, the ABC provides. They cover women's sport, sport where disabled athletes compete, regional sport without big corporate dollars or mass audiences. They deliver the best and most comprehensive sport on Australian radio and have recently launched Australia's best general sporting website.

On ABC local radio, you hear local voices broadcasting local news.

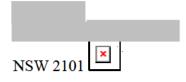
It is something commercial broadcasters increasingly cannot provide.

The ABC has a proud record (on a limited budget) of exposing wrongdoing in our major institutions with

terrific investigative journalism. Who else would do this job as effectively?

I feel that this is an attack on free speech, investigative journalism and our iconic cultural institution. It does not deserve to be slowly starved out of existence.

The Australian people deserve a commitment from the parliament, to keep the. ABC independent and fully funded.



From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 11:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

The ABC must not be privatised. The ABC is the only TV channels my family watch.

I have a 6yo child, and to have a whole channel: ABCKids that is age appropriate, and not full of advertisements for kids toys and fast food is priceless. Infact it contributes to my physical and emotional wellbeing as a busy parent. Thats a good outcome for society as a whole. A commercial TV station would never have programing as appropriate for kids like ABCKids does.

In an age where most news is sensationalized, advertorial, and/or chasing ratings (lowest common denominator anyone?) the current ABC is refreshingly forthright, diverse, has a great local/state/national/international balance and isn't half about sport.

Lastly there is amazingly diverse international offerings, and more importantly, Australian content made because of the ABC. It produces fantastic comedy, drama, true stories and docos. Its pivotal to the ever evolving identity of what 'Being Australian' means! Its even got its own nickname: Aunty, how Aussie is that?

The myriad of commercial TV stations cannot claim any of the same.

To me, the ABC channels are unlike any other TV channels, free to air or payTV. It fills an important hole in an otherwise gentrified and 'white bread' media landscape, where the bias is held by a few very powerful and rich people.

Of course the ABC has bias as well, but the bias is refreshingly different than all the others. Perhaps, the truth lays somewhere in the middle, again why it's important to have.

Strong arts, diverse media and Australian content: all these things are essential to a courageous, robust and fair democracy. In a world where the media landscape is changing unprecedentedly quickly due to technology, Aunty is an intergenerational national treasure. Please don't destroy the ABC. It should NEVER be privatised.

Sincerely,



Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:59 PM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

KEEP AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY SAFE, KEEP ABC IN PUBLIC OWNERSHIP Subject:

We greatly value the ABC because it upolds a vital part of Australia's Democracy - without Democracy society collapses. Our veterans fought and died to prevent that happening. Worryingly, it would mean a return to the kind of monopolies which history has long shown us were politically and socially dangerous. Privatization is an ideology, a sly self-interested way to finance political parties and enrich the private lives of an elite few at the expense of the public. We have seen how privatization of CBA brought shocking corruption and criminality to the banking sector.

There can be no comparison between the independent ABC and and commercial media - thus the premise used in the current inquiry into the ABC is deviously worded - it is misleading.

Like many we can therefore only feel repelled and cynical about the motives of the small number in the extreme right in the Coalition, driving this push to privatize; they undermine the rest.

The Turnbull govt is dragging itself down by making a deal with One Nation on this matter.

ABC must remain in public ownership.

From: <

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:59 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Leave the ABC alone..

I am a fervent believer that we need a public broadcaster that is able to raise subjects that may be distasteful to some but need to be aired. Who wants to see only the latest accidents and disasters. I certainly don't. I need to listen to rational debate on subjects that will impact on our country not party politics leaning ever more to the right. Programs like Q@A and Four Corners and the 7.30 report. We have already lost Lateline and like programs. All one gets on commercial radio and TV is jingoisms and ads ad nauseum.

VIC 3824

From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:59 PM

To:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject:

Restore ABC funding and NEVER consider privatising it!

I was born and brought up in the UK where the BBC was always my source for news and entertainment on radio. We did not have TV from choice.

I have lived in Darwin since 1 January 1971 and for radio, and later TV, the ABC has always been my first choice.

I dislike listening to or watching a program with constant interruptions for advertisements. But, much more importantly, I find the ABC provides a balanced view. That is to say, whichever government is in power, analysis is conducted without fear or favour.

I think that the Murdoch media are far too dominant in the commercial sphere and totally biassed towards the right wing of politics.

I think it is a great pity that media laws were changed so that we are now flooded with media which predominantly opposes ALP views and policies so that the ABC APPEARS to be biassed because it presents a broader - thus more balanced - viewpoint.

I am disgusted that tight wing politicians are so opposed to spending money on an organisation which provides, among other things, the best investigative journalism in Australia.

Any party which opposes supporting the ABC would never in a blue fit be supported by me! In fact, in my view, privatising the ABC would take us down the path to fascism!

NT 0820

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:59 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Don't privatise the ABC

The ABC must not be privatised. In a world where so much of our lives are manipulated and controlled by a powerful few, an independent broadcaster is an essential service.

I can't stand adverts. I HATE and greatly resent the noisey interruptions of programs to peddle goods and services I don't needed want. The ABC is the only channel now where advertising is kept to a minimum.

ABC radio and television must remain independent. They provide the only objective news, alternative view points and independent analysis in a sea of scripted dogmas. Keep the ABC funded to a level that allows the production of quality Australian drama and stimulating debate.

SA 5068

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:59 PM Sent: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: Keep My ABC

The ABC is an institution in this country. I am aged 60+ and have not tuned into commercial TV for decades. The ABC is one of the last remaining vestiges of decent and informative reporting and good journalism. It has brilliant dramas and series from both overseas and local productions (I'm thinking most recently, Harrow) and is commercial free. It is one of the few government enterprises that actually gives me excellent value for my taxes. To privatise the ABC would be committing a crime against the people of this country.

QLD 4558 ×

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC must be kept in public hands

The ABC is a public service and as such must be kept in public hands. The organisation produces the best quality news service not only for Australians but internationally. The ABC's productions are fabulous quality all achieved with a limited budget. AND THEY DONT HAVE ADVERTISEMENTS (other than to promote their own programs as they should).

Jagoda Bašić < Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:58 PM Sent:

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

In an ocean of biased, interest and profit at all cost driven media moguls, ABC is a flickering light . I'm happy to pay more tax and forgo any tax cut to save our only public broadcaster.

ABC is our national treasure and we should protect it not demolish it like an weatherboard shead.

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:58 PM Sent: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Belonging: Why the ABC should not be privatised Subject:

As an engaged and interested voter and citizen I rely on the ABC (and SBS) to provide intelligent, balanced, current reportage and analysis of Australian life. Australia is a small and very concentrated media world. The ABC is a necessary part of that mix to ensure that ALL Australian opinions are get a voice; to ensure that all Australians can see their importance to the nation; to recognise and value the immense diversity of our population and to encourage the continuing development of Australian arts and culture. It is clear from the ABC charter that the national broadcaster is there in the public interest. In particular I draw your attention to Para 1(c) of the Charter: 'to encourage and promote the musical, dramatic and other performing arts in Australia' and to the requirement in Para . 2 (a)(iii) to '(iii) the responsibility of the Corporation as the provider of an independent national broadcasting service to provide a balance between broadcasting programs of wide appeal and specialized broadcasting programs'.

Privatisation provides no accountability; no expectation of trustworthiness; no requirement to take account of the entirely of Australians whoever, and wherever, they may be. As the nation becomes ever-more diverse this is ever-more essential to maintain a vibrant democratic society. It is fundamental role that lies entirely outside the purview of commercial entities which are necessarily governed by a raft of other aims, objects and metrics. The national interest requires the public broadcaster today as never before.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

Privatisation of essential services has proven to have become simply commercially based and biased. Information, news, MUST NOT go this way as well and our precious ABC is the last of these essential services that our Government has not sold out from underneath us. KEEP THE ABC! Stop grubby greedy hands taking this from us and turning it into a propeganda based money spinning mechanism that will only serve to line the pockets of its owners and will go nowhere to providing us with Australian talent and unbiased educational platforms upon which we are able to learn without the influence of corrupt influence.

We love our ABC. Leave it alone by saving it from profiteering pilfering grunge that we, the people, have been subjected to by the privatisation of almost all our other 'home grown and owned' precious resources.

VIC 3806

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC our ABC!

An independent broadcaster is essential for the proper preservation of democracy. It is unthinkable that Australia would have no independent broadcaster. The ABC is an extraordinary institution. It is an integral part of our collective identities. On a positive note, I look forward to 4 Corners exposing just what it is that the far right are so afraid of becoming common knowledge.

VIC 3031

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Dont privatise the ABC.

I rely on the ABC for most of my news, current affairs and TV entertainment.

I listen to Radio National and watch the ABC. What else is there? The commercial television stations are full of cooking shows, "reality" TV and infomercials. Who else produces good insightful comedy such as Utopia, Pickering and Mad as Hell and frank discussion like Q & A?

The ABC is the only reliable place for quality journalism and good quality drama. We need more ABC, and SBS, not less to keep us connected and well informed.

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:58 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keep our ABC in public hands

A publically owned and unbiased public broadcaster is an essential component of a free democracy. A society needs a space to openly discuss ideas, policies, options, consequences, philosophies, the arts and the human condition. This cannot happen where power and profit is the motivator. Our government and government bodies, of all political affiliations, need to be held to account in the public arena. We need the ABC to continue to perform this service without interference or bias.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I am deeply concerned at the very notion that our country can do without a publicly funded independent broadcaster. Throughout my life the ABC has been my source of critical analysis news and culture. It has provided key references discussion and broad ranging persoectives on current issues/affairs. It has provided some amazing cultural arts programs that enriched - as all arts can do - our sense of who we are as a multifaceted society. It has through its independence been able to question and analyse the policies of our leaderships at local state and federal levels. It needs to be funded better and it needs to be unfettered. It is people with selfish agendas lacking in capacity to respect difference and the rights of others to try to change the ABC .

In many respects the ABC has been a champion of all that lies at the core of democracy. It is a sad thing to hear the liberal national coalition chatter on this subject.

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:57 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC

The ABC is not the government's to sell. Just because the government is in power for a few years does not mean that it has the right to sell off PUBLIC assets.

The ABC should remain in the hands of The Commonwealth of Australia, of us, the people of Australia, and not be sold off to private profit.



From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:57 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep our ABC in public hands please. To:

Subject:

The ABC has been a steady companion in my life from childhood to adulthood. Please keep it independent and avoid privatisation.

VIC 3056

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I am horrified at the thought of just another private television station with self serving interest being controlled by the need to make profit. Please leave us the creative and independent voice in the public hands

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC well funded and in public hands

A strong, well funded and independent public broadcaster is an essential cornerstone of a functioning democracy. The myth of left wing bias at the ABC has been disproven many times over. To continue to promote it shows a sadly short sighted and craven approach to healthy discourse and the ability for Australia's to access a balanced view of current issues. My vote will go to the party that defends and celebrates the independence and continued public funding of the ABC.

NSW 2620 X

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:56 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC saves lives. Save our ABC.

When the commercial tv and radio channels were busy making money from their sponsored programs Canberra burned. I flipped from channel to channel on both tv and radio to try and find out how far away the fire was and what i should do and the only channel that covered it was ABC 666. ABC saves lives. SAVE OUR ABC.

ACT 2913

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:56 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands, please!

As a teacher I know of the breadth of learning opportunities that the ABC delivers, both on air and online, for Australian students at all levels. Opportunities that exist because the ABC is a public, non-commercial broadcaster. The benefits are huge, yet are intangible, unquantifiable. Privatisation will remove this source of learning that develops children's minds. For the future of Australian society please keep the ABC public.

VIC 3550 × 1

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:56 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Retain public ownership of the ABC

The government media machine lacks credibility and has no hesitation to present a biased report, particularly reports that reflect the government in a poor light

SA 5045

From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:56 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: why broadcast advertising would ruin it.

Let me start with apologising for scrawling this to you unedited. I get tired easily and this submission is interrupted by regular trips to the bathroom that cancer demands.

We get up in the morning and the radio goes on, when we go to bed, it goes off, we have done this since 2007.

A family member, my niece was murdered, and we were all very close, she lived with us for a time when she was little.

so when i held her lifeless little frame, i knew my sanity was at stake, along with the sanity of my children, my youngest was 11 at the time.

we faced a murder trial and media attention, a fracturing outer family network and daily visits from major crime.

this is where you all came in, my daughters and i had to manage our incredible stress, and where our minds kept focusing, and then we realised we needed a distraction that we could afford, one that was light, gentle, and constant, a companion for the wee hours of time spent walking around every night unable to sleep, we were not huge classical music fans so it took us a while to try the radio.

so on went the radio, and we searched, and we all agreed that ABC CLASSIC FM was the softest place to

our panics were interrupted by soothing arias, violin concertos, and when we had to focus, the radio turned down, and when stress got too much, up went the volume, all of us using it to give us mini breaks from our horrendous reality. there were no adverts, so we could stay with the flow of music between news broadcasts hourly, and on weekends, we could really hold the space.

when we have to go out, we kept the music going in the car, the music became our refuge, our retreat. I believe, having used techniques of P.T.S.D management, that our wonderful public broadcaster, was one of the most important tools we had to maintain some sense of sanity.

while our family stumbled our way through years of trial, endless difficult administrative trauma, loss of income, family fragmentation and soon after, cancer,

I am left in no doubt, that being able to join some of this countries best operatic performances on the air waves, and town hall performances, swoon with the top 100 best, and the afternoons with Margaret throsby, all culminated in assisting us to retain some joy in the day, to re focus on beauty, to stay sane.

we genuinely could not have made it without our ABC,

so many that work to keep our abc going, so many to thank.

when the pressure gets too much, and there is no coffee money, let alone any for anything else, I can turn on my radio, and hold an uninterrupted space to realign myself, and be present, and breathe.

No one else would provide uninterrupted mental health programming like our ABC or should i call it classical joy.

we are forever indebted.



Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:56 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Sent:

To:

Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands~for the people

For sixty years the ABC has been a feature and holds the sound track to the days of my life. My family listened to the ABC on radio and then the tv daily and no other organization holds such a place in our history. It is so important that it remain the public brodcaster and that it get funded adequately to grow and prosper.

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:56 PM Sent: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Keep the ABC Public and not accountable to Big Business Politics Subject:

I am strongly against privatization of the ABC for the following reasons:

1. it is the only organisation that does in depth stories on public interest topics

2. it has drawn a lot of ire from both Labor Governments and Liberal-Minority Governments in the past, both parties accusing it of bias.

IF the ABC is adding to political discomfort to both sides of politics it is a very clear indication that it has the balance right and is minimally biased.

There is no other organisation that is independent of politics as their owners have made their allegiances clear.

We need a politically independent broadcaster not having to toe a corporate line and who can do in depth stories on public interest topics whether or not the temporary representatives of the voters like the stories being aired.

When I look at market driven broadcasters i dont see the depth in investigative journalism, I dont see non mainstream stories being considered in depth and i see too much bias in many of the stories, or a serious lack of balance overall in the topics covered.

From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:56 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: Hands off our abc

It's the only trusted source of news that we have! How about we privatise the pollies?

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:55 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

As a senior, the only tv and radio that I can tolerate is the ABC, which I have used for 70 years. It is not subject to the whims of its owners(us!) unlike the commercial stations, which represent the political and social views of their owners, whereas the ABC employs journalists from a wide spectrum of our society who are not "yes men" to their employers, as with the commercial media.

the fact that both labor and liberal parties are critical of the ABC when they are in government is a good indicator that the ABC is doing a good job of being critical and fair-minded on political, social and humanitarian issues.

The ABC, because it is publicly funded, can devote programming time to issues that require extended analysis, and are not subject to populist and commercial pressures to maintain an audience.

Attacks in recent days from one political party is surely the best indication that the ABC holds political leadership to account; when its policies are not gaining traction, they seek to blame the messenger rather than reconsider their approach. this is trumpery at its worst.

As public broadcasting comes up for its one hundred year anniversary in 2022, it is worth remembering the extraordinary gift to Australia that this has been. Apart from funding its annual budget, keep politicians clear of ABC management, or changes to a structure that has served Australia well.

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:55 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keep the ABC in public ownership

I grew up with the ABC as an Argonaut, and an avid ABC viewer when we finally acquired a TV set - after I had completed my Form 6 exams!

My two children were fans of the Bananas in Pyjamas and Playschool, they learned their alphabet from Sesame Street, and they continue to watch the ABC as their preferred news service and source of excellent Australian content as adults.

The Australian people overwhelming support the integrity of the ABC, the balanced nature of its news coverage, its vital national role in times of natural disasters and other crises, and the valuable nature of its investigative journalism.

It is imperative that this investigative role is carried out by a public organisation which is not subject to the financial pressure of sponsors which can withdraw funding if there is a danger of negative findings about their activities.

The ABC must be preserved as an independent broadcaster for all Australians - its service to rural Australia is never going to be performed by commercial interests, and its expression of Australian culture is an essential element of who we are as Australians.

Finally, I am confused about the claims of left-wing bias among presenters, and over-payment of staff. When presenters like Amanda Vandstone, various Institute of Public Affairs spokespeople, politicians from both sides of politics on Q&A, etc are seen/heard regularly on the ABC, and it is common knowledge that presenters on commercial media are paid many times the salaries of ABC personnel.



From: Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:55 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep Our ABC Owned By ALL Australians!

To:

Subject:

Will not watch any news/current affairs from a privatised, commercial ABC. I shudder at the thought! We'll become like the U.S.

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:54 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
The ABC must remain independent

The only reason the Liberal and other right-wing parties are talking privatisation of the ABC is because it is independent. This means that it will ask hard questions of both sides of politics. If the party has unfair or flawed policies it will be criticised. Don't sell out to the extreme right of our political landscape.

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: keep the ABC in public hands

Please keep the ABC as it is, in public hands! Australians need a place for various voices to be heard that is not controlled by some large corporation. We need a TV station and a radio station that belongs to Australians, has first class programs which are produced by Australians, and which are for Australians. We need such stations for democracy to continue in a healthy way. So, please, do NOT privatise the ABC!

SA 5052

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:54 PM

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Subject: Keep ABC in public hands!!

I'm so very disappointed and angered at the decision to privatise our ABC. ABC provides the best quality TV by far! for children as well as adults. My child grew up on ABC kids and to this day ABC is the only channel my family watches. The lack of ads is a breath of fresh air, and I wholeheartedly believe we must keep it in the public hands. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media. Please make sure we don't lose ABC to privatisation!!

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:54 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands!!!!

The ABC is an unbiased news outlet that's actually interested in news and fact, rather than the view hungry channels that serve a bundle of unnecessary information to people.

Growing up, I watched the ABC kids channel. And to this day the ABC is still my most watched channel.

Privatising it is just ridiculous and for money hungry people.

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:54 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep ABC in public hands To: Subject:

The country needs a non-commercial trustworthy source of information and culture - commercial enterprises cannot be trusted, as seen by the behaviour of the banks for example.

From: Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:54 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC Public

I am writing this submission in a bid to keep the ANC and sbs in public hands. Public hands means me and all the thiusamds of people who believe we need an independent and unbiased broadcaster in Australia. I am appalled that any Government would consider privatising the ABC.my children who are now grown up all watched play school and I have watched Four Corners for as long as I can remember. The ABC has championed Australian drama and documentaries. There is no comparison between the calibre of reporting on the ABC and SBS. It is one of the truly great things about Australia that we have been able to maintain a public broadcaster and as a member of that public I did not say it could be sold out. Shame on you.

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:54 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Sent:

To:

Subject: Keep ABC public.

The ABC belongs to the nation regardless of which party is in Government . It must not be privatised as it is an independent and objective voice on issues of national importance. Ms Guthrie summarised its importance admirably. Take notice!

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep Our ABC in Public Hands!

I love the ABC and it is important to me. It give diverse perspectives without the taint of advertising. It is particularly important in rural areas of Australia. I am concerned as I know that a lot of funding has been taken from the ABC. We spend less than we did in the 80s and it's not fair. It needs to stay in public hands as the very premise of the inquiry (to see if the ABC and SBS have an advantage over commercial outlets by virtue of being publicly funded) misses a crucial point. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

This inquiry was launched as part of a deal between the Turnbull Government and Pauline Hanson's One Nation Party.

Media experts believe it is "suitably arcane camouflage for an inquiry whose real purpose is to put pressure on the ABC over its news service" and is "likely to provide the Turnbull Government with ammunition should it wish to mount an attack on the ABC's scope of operations".

Michelle Guthrie has come out and said the ABC is worth one Billion Dollars to Australia, so that is One good reason NOT to sell the ABC.

I thought we lived in a democracy with free speech All the government wants to do is to close down anything to do with free speech.

We Love our ABC and is the only source of news we listen to as well as every other programe on the ABC. Shame on anyone who wants to get rid of it.

TAS 7030

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM Sent: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Hands off our Australian Broadcasting Commission Subject:

I am now 75 years old and since a small child I have listened watched & admired the ABC commercial free what's more, Should you dare to privatise what has always been an independent institution, you are sure to generate public warfare. Their journalists who you always accuse of being left wing should remain totally independent. I have always found the ABC to be impartial unlike the Murdoch rubbish media who would seem to be the coalition puppets. As for hard right idiots like Eric Abetz who supports this vote loosing intention, this bloke is a liability for you insofar as free speech and the the inability to accept fair criticism is concerned. To me and many are thinking others he is more unpopular as our unesteemed former liberal Prime minister, Howard, who sent out troops off to an invasion upon an innocent country with the subsequent life loss of hundreds of thousands innocent lives.

No, you are not as might think "born to rule", you are public servants, repeat public servants. Do not interfere with our ABC, please carry out your duties as the people expect you to.

Sincerely

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Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

To: Competi Subject: My ABC

To Whom It Should Concern,

I'm worried.

I have lived my life in Australia and been afforded the rights and privileges being Australian grants me.

So much of why I love Australia is because of far reaching ethos of fairness that is so recognisable to our culture it may as well be woven into our DNA.

A healthy society is one where every member is represented and their voice is heard.

Our national broadcaster, ABC, is such an ingrained part of Australian culture and is so cherished because it continues to reflect back to us the vital parts of our society that make us who we are and reinforce the very best parts of Australian culture.

To infer that ABC has some kind of unfair advantage over commercial stations seems the desperate tactics of a government in dire straits, over budget and in thrall to an ever threatening Murdochracy.

The citizens who pay the major bills of this spendthrift government don't want ABC sold. It is OURS. We pay the politicians to protect our rights and privileges and they prefer to squander them. We are not being heard.

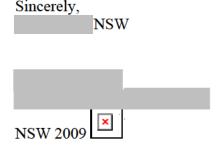
The attacks upon the ABC have been sustained in such a strategic way now that the corporate power players are swooping like vultures - but there is nothing wrong with the ABC. The government has been slowly stripping ABC of its funding, depleting its resources in an attempt to undermine it but even with less funding it's remains a robust station.

Questions are raised about a reason for a sale of our national broadcaster. Why is the government so intent on attacking and now selling it?

Truly, the only rational and logical answer is that it prefers a homogenised media that doesn't ask hard questions and holds the government of the day to account.

Please, we desperately need the culture and accountability that we all rely on with ABC. For many of us it's a lifeline; our only source of news; assisted early educational stimulus and a vital cultural window into the lives of our fellow Australians.

It must not be sold. It belongs to us.



From: <

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Hands off our ABC

The ABC belongs to the people of Australia, it's not yours to sell.

There are few things we can count on anymore when it comes to the media but the ABC is one. It's Australian and gives us Australian content, not all this American drivel. It's not beholden to foreign owners but to the people of Australia, that's how we prefer it. That will change if it's sold off, we will no longer have the great Australian content we do now. So keep your hands off the ABC.

VIC 3219

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: We must never allow the ABC to be sold off to private enterprise

I can't help but feel that the current Coalition Government cannot be trusted to allow free speech via the Media and that they feel threatened by the ABC. I believe that our ABC is one of the most trusted institutions with the delivery of our news and current affairs. It deeply disturbs me that there is a very active agenda from our current Government to shut down the ABC and silence intelligent and informative journalism. In my opinion it is already a great threat to our democracy and freedom of speech to have the Government making cuts to this great Australian Institution.

VIC 3122

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep our ABC in Public hands...

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to voice my grave concern about the Coalition's plan to Privatise the ABC.

This an outrageous attack on OUR ABC and what would this mean for our society.

The current premise of the inquiry ((to see if the ABC and SBS have an advantage over commercial outlets by virtue of being publicly funded) misses the most crucial point. Public Broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and under NO circumstances should be compared with commercial media.

Sincerely,

Sunshine Coast QLD

QLD 4556

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC - public and accountable to Australians

I urge the Australian government to not privatise the ABC. Keeping it public, keeps it valid, and it's media source and entertainment has to meet its own guidelines and are not impinged and influenced by the profit-focussed private sector, which culturally and ideologically is driven by other countries like the USA. To date I've felt confident that in allowing my children to watch ABC Kids, and ABC Me, they are receiving mainly informative, and appropriate entertainment. They learn through comedy, it's tasteful and a treat for the whole family. Examples are: Horrible histories, Dr Ouch, and more specific to Australia, Mustangs FC and Little Lunch. Peppa Pig was also a favourite when the kids were younger. For adults, I go to ABC as a credible resource for current affairs, examples, 7.30 Report, Q&A. I catch up on IView around drama & comedy series that are in touch with societal issues and with an Australuan cultural focus. Examples are The Slap and Mystery Road. ABC is a national treasure and as such should be preserved and resourced as we go into the future.

VIC 3095

From: Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

No to ABC privatisation Subject:

It's an outrageous idea. The ABC is the essence of Australia. It doesn't have to constantly consider audience numbers before deciding on whether to transmit a programme. It can provide unbiased viewpoints and not be subject to manipulation of shareholders and megalomaniac owners. It shows programmes we would never otherwise see. It gives us presenters who are picked for their ability and not their physical appearance. It provides regional programming that we will never get from commercial stations. It gives us a wealth of radio stations no other organisation has a hope or a desire to provide. AND, best of all there are no adverts. I don't want any more Masterchef, Love Island and the myriad of appalling offerings of Channels 7, 9 and 10. Without ABC radio I will stop listening to Australian radio because the other options are absolutely dreadful. Keep the ABC.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Be careful what you wish for

Australia is somewhat unique in our region for being relatively corruption free - bad luck the Banks and Financial advisors have let us down recently.

That measure of observed integrity is of great commercial value to us, it means Asian people feel that they can trust our education system to be fair and rigorous and our corporations to be reasonably accountable to shareholders and clients.

One of the guardians of this integrity is the Australian Broadcasting Corporation - which is able to hold Australian institutions banks, the church, even government authorities to account without fear or favour. Now if that makes the ABC unpopular, would you really have it any other way? Sell the ABC to Rupert Murdoch, get rid of Four Corners and 7.30 and watch the villains quietly turn their backs on corrupt practices.

Sell the ABC? At your peril, Australia!



Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Permanently Fund the ABC to be independent of fickle governments

The ABC was originally created to inform the public of Australia without interference from political or commercial interests. It is a very important institution to support our democracy. Attacks on the ABC are attacks on one of the pillars of the Australian democracy.

I am very concerned that partisan attacks on the ABC are a concerted push from extreme right wing interests in order to cripple the Australian democracy so that undemocratic international corporations can further influence the Australian political environment and take advantage to extract wealth from Australia. The other aspects of the ABC of offering non-commercial entertainment, informative programming, and sponsoring or creating original programming that wouldn't get support from a commercial broadcaster, is important to the cultural environment of Australia.

It should be pointed out that programs that start on the ABC are often bought by commercial broadcasters once they have proven their success, and if more was invested in the ABC to create original content, it could earn income from selling the content overseas, like the BBC does for the UK.

The ABC should be supported and its budget increased so they can do a better job. Commercialize the products of the ABC by selling the content to earn income for Australia. Do not privatise the ABC , that would destroy the thing that makes the ABC good.

The ABC and SBS don't really compete with commercial broadcasters, they serve a different audience and purpose and differentiate Australia from places like the USA.

QLD 4179

Sent: To: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:52 PM

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Please keep the ABC in public hands

Dear Madam or Sir,

The ABC is one of the great independent broadcasters of the world. Please do not sell it. The private profit motive would destroy its independence and immediately put it in the thrall of those who happen to be funding it.

The ABC is one of the few uniting national institutions which Australians gather round and is especially important in times of hardship such as natural or man made disasters. Our great grandparents, grandparents, parents and we have relied on the ABC for superb broadcasting for more than 80 years. More recently podcasting has become the norm for time poor thinking people. The ABC is the most reliable way to communicate with all Australians that we have. I grew up with the BBC and now believe that the ABC is even better than the BBC in many ways. To most of us Australians, selling the ABC would be akin to selling a beloved family member.

Please don't sell the ABC.

Yours faithfully

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:52 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC must stay independent

It is essential for our democracy that we have an independent and fearless media organisation, such as the ABC. The commercial media has often been shown strong political bias, resulting in unwanted propaganda and fake news. 1.1 billion dollars is a small prize to pay to have an independent media organisation like the ABC. Don't privatise or commercialise our ABC.

VIC 3054

Subject: Do not privatise our ABC

I am a swinging voter. But I will probably never again vote for a party that privatises the ABC. The ABC has a character that is quintessentially different to commercial radio and television. I listen to no other radio and watch almost no other TV. I am convinced that if the ABC is privatised we will lose something valuable which we will never get back

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:51 PM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Why a generously funded publicly funded ABC is important to me. Subject:

The ABC is one of the most important public institutions in Australia, an institution that traditional conservative voices cherish as much as progressives. It does the following things for me that no profit centred media organisation can do:

In 2006 in the middle of the Canberra fires, we and every one else tuned to our local abc radio station for updates, advice and a sense of security. We trusted them and they gave us what we needed.

I now live in a rural area and abc classic fm radio is the most wonderful, intelligent musical programming I could expect to receive, without advertising or agendas, knowing there could be no profit in it for them.

In a world of loud opinions and poor quality programming, where ads for Coles purport to be current affairs subjects and foot in the door yelling at con men and bad neighbours substitutes for enquiry and reasoned argument, I can't do without the drum, abc news and current affairs and exciting drama and comedy writing.

We all know that the big corporations are biased sometimes to extremist levels to the right, towards capitalism and plutocracy. Only on the ABC and the SBS can we expect to have the "other" given a fair hearing in television and radio.

I love and trust the abc. Of course it doesn't get everything right. At the moment it seems to be cowed. It should not aim to please the Government of the day. It shouldn't depend for its editorial and production decisions on the opinions of its founders. It needs to stay public and it needs to be generously, not meanly, funded.



Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:51 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Sent: To:

Subject: Keep our ABC in the hands of the public

I greatly enjoy the ABC in its present form. I listen regularly to CLassic FM, Radio National and ABC News. I enjoy its in depth conversations, great music and news. This is in no small measure because of its independance. Please leave it that way. Likewise, I appreciate the freedom from advertising. Please do not change this policy.

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:51 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Democracies need independent public broadcasting

I am appalled the Liberal Party has a voted to privatise the ABC. When a nation is beholden to private investors for news and entertainment, the concepts of public interest and independent national identity go down the gurgler.

An enquiry into whether the ABC and SBS have advantages over private media is inherently flawed. They could only be compared if all outlets have the same charter. Clearly the enquiry is politically motivated, with the aim of providing ammunition for cutbacks and and diminishing of scope.

Stop finding ways of squashing independent journalism, and get on with making Australians feel proud of our distinctive and fair-minded voice in the world.

To:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:51 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Leave our ABC alone

Subject:

To whom it may concern

Piss off the ABC. Leave it alone. If you're doing a job, do better. Don't blame those who report on your

Lift.

VIC 3182

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:51 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry My ABC

To:

Subject:

It is MY ABC, learned so much about Australia on arriving here 50 years ago.

TAS 7215

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:51 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

All other TV stations are Privately owned and the opinions voiced are somewhat coloured by the opinions of those who own and manage them. To me the ABC being publicly funded is not subject to the restrictions of opinion of the other privately owned stations and can give a possibly different view on subjects while at the same time still being a viable concern and not a drain on public money but makes a most worthwhile contribution to Australian broadcasting. It would be a travesty to privatise this and make it just the same as others as it plays an irreplaceable place in our society.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:50 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

The ABC has a long history of representing the broad spectrum of public opinion. Privatising it will destroy the independence of our public broadcaster.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

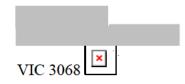
It is pure spite to privatise the ABC from conservatives who want to see variety in opinions stifled. And the funding actually costs taxpayers absolutely nothing. The fed government is monetary sovereign, which says it can fund anthing it wants simply by deficit spending. Which means the much wished for tax cuts can go ahead. There's plenty of fiscal space for both options to thrive.

From:
Sent: Wednesday 20

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Leave our ABC alone

The ABC is my primary and daily source of news and information. It is the ONLY media that is subject to scrutiny for objectivity and accuracy. It is therefore the most trustworthy source of news and information and many Australians seem to agree with me. The dedication and energy of their staff is admirable as the ABC continues to function and fight back despite the searing cuts visited upon it. The ABC as a critical observer of our society has been extremely articulate and influential because the community trusts it. Four Corners has initiated debate on issues that have grabbed the community's attention and shocked us into action resulting in change and a shift towards a better society. A range of forums, in particular Q&A, has become the voice of our society. As such it has a vital role to place in our democracy. The ABC also makes an invaluable contribution to arts and culture, and although it has been emasculated to a large extent, the ABC fights on and still makes me proud to be an Australian.



The ABC is the most important tv station there is. They entertain us, they inform us, they have terrific children's programs and don't treat the audience as if they are sleep walking fools- like the commercial stations do. We do not want our media to be governed but the power of brain numbing ads. So hands off the only media which keeps us honest. Maybe you lollies are afraid of being kept honest!

VIC 3072

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:50 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Sent: To:

Subject: Hands off the most needed TV station.

I only watch the ABC. The rest apart from SBS are are not worth watching. Enough privatisation. Hasn't worked with eletricity, water, Telstra ENOUGH.

SA 5131

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:49 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keep the ABC in the public domain

The ABC has been my media outlet of choice for as long as I can remember. Despite claims that it is biassed I believe I can depend on getting a balanced coverage of news and current affairs without exaggeration and sensationalism of other outlets. It is very, very important that it remains in public hands.



From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:49 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keep the ABC in public hands

I do not want the ABC to be privatized, we have plenty of commercial stations giving the views of their owners. The ABC needs to have its own identity and be owned by the people, able to give the views of the people, eg Q&A. Look how biased our newspapers are in private hands.

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:49 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Don't sell the abc!

I live in a regional town and have relied on the abc for quality news, current affairs and entertainment for 50 years.

It is unthinkable that this precious resource for all Australians could be sold off to appease a narrow political interest. Once sold we would never get it back into public realm and our news would be at the whim of the entertainment industry seeking to make money from advertising.

A 'rural' offshoot abc saved to appease the national voters could never provide the depth, breadth and quality that Australians need.

Don't relegate us to the fake news future. Save our abc. Thank you.

VIC 3284

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:49 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry ABC should be public From: Sent: To:

Subject:

I have grown up with the ABC being public and it should remain so!!!

ACT 2612

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:49 PM Sent: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: Hands Off OUR ABC

I love the ABC!! I watch very little commercial TV due to its junk programs & constant advertising. Please leave the ABC untouched. I'm so sick of this liberal government & their right wing loons trying to control & manipulate to their advantage. The government is meant to represent the people not look after themselves - selfish & narrow minded is what the Liberal party are. You've lost my vote

From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:49 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: The ABC must remain an independent entity and never privatised.

Private industry is only interested in the profit motive. The ABC, to its great credit, carries many programs across radio and TV that often have a smaller audience. The ABC also carries many programs that would never be heard on commercial TV and radio, such as the Science Show, Landline, 4 Corners, nature programs like Off Track etc

Our ABC must always remain as an independent entity and must never be privatised.



Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC belongs to the people not the governemnt.

Dear Sirs

I watch the ABC news and question time. Also 4 corners. The public broadcaster is a big part of the success of our multicultural society. That is why the ABC must be answerable only to the people of Australia and not private shareholders or corporate advertisers.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privitise our ABC.

The ABC is the place I can turn to when I want calm and well researched information. It does not insult my intelligence and keeps Australia's own unique voice alive, without fear or favour.

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Truth not false facts Thank you

As a senior citizen who has watched T.V ever since its conception I am appalled that this government could even contemplate the notion of making ABC compete with the likes of Fox News, who are self proclaimed mouthpieces for any Right Wing agendas which affect their bottom line!

Hitler used the media to spread propaganda very efficiently and now we see a similar campaign introduced in the U.S and Australia.

I expect governments to spend public money on enriching our ABC and cease the bullying tactics which have attempted to muzzle our wonderful reporters as on four corners and 7.30 Report.If government expects to get good publicity then it needs to perform better and curb the false information that pours forth from Murdoch propaganda.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Guard and strengthen our ABC

Four generations of my family watch the ABC. We look to ABC for a considerable proportion of the information we consume and for our entertainment. I have been frustrated by the cost cutting and the political agenda behind criticism of an incredibly important pillar of Australian society - public broadcasters contribute to the 'glue' that binds democratic, pluralistic societies. To imagine Australia without an institution as trusted and venerable as the ABC is truely distressing. The shortsightedness of this latest political caper would be laughable if it wasn't so frightening. Please look at this issue long term - beyond the election cycle. You are in office to manage our democracy - not to weaken it. Don't let the ignorant control conservative politics.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I am concerned that the Coalition has voted to privatise the ABC.

If the ABC is privatised, then I would not be interested in watching commercial programs, such as boring, puerile, reality shows and there would not be any interesting and educative documentaries or intelligent, informative political programs, such as 'Q&A'. I wouldn't be able to trust the media reporting the news etc. Public broadcasting is important and plays an important role in our democracy.

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: ABC IS GREAT FOR ASTRONOMY INFORMATION

As an astronomer i have used the ABC over 4 decades to inform the public of events happening in the sky.things like eclipses, aurorae, space station transits and planetary configurations that australians find interesting. Commercial radio does not want to know about stuff that doesnt make a profit. The ABC is used by everyone to keep up to date on real issues.

I have listened to ABC news for 6 decades. I need the ABC.

From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep the ABC out of private To: Subject:

A true democracy has freedom of press which cannot be "bought" or coerced in any way!

VIC 3072

From: < Sent: Wednesday, 20 J

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC must remain in public hands!

The ABC simply cannot be privatised. There is no commercial model that can support honest and truthful news coverage and investigative journalism, as commercial interests will always be at tension with honesty and integrity. An informed public is the bedrock of democracy. To privatise the ABC would be to sentence the end of our nations democratic institutions.

VIC 3013

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

As the premperor and only independent broadcasterror in thisome country the ABC must be protected. To do otherwise would suggest that the government is frightened of independent scrutiny.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in the public arena

Independent and autonomy is essential in our slippery slope society. The ABC must not be privatised.

WA 6017

Subject: The abc must remain a public institution

The abc is one of the very few sources of news without a corporate conflict of interest. It is the vital resource this country trusts to stem the continued erosion of democracy and the seemingly inexorable descent into a corporationacy.

From: <

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:48 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: The ABC must stay public

There are countless ways the ABC must stay in public hands.

For me, it has been to educate, to think about broader topics. It has also at times been my lifeline as a form of support to hear about topics that have taken my thinking to a higher level of thinking.

In the days of fake news, we must ensure quality of information. One only needs to listen for 1 minute to commercial stations to know it is infomercials with an agenda.

People eventually recognise this and count on more objective information.

I will do whatever it takes to keep the abc in public hands.

I feel extremely strongly about this. Do NOT meddle with the abc. It's worth every cent.

SA 5022

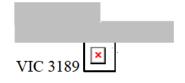
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:47 PM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Subject: Our beloved ABC

One of my favourite programs is "Insiders" on ABC with Barrie Cassidy. I always try to keep 9-10am on a Sunday morning clear so can watch. I was am watch it. I was amazed to hear that Politician Mitch Fifield had been critical of the professionalism of Laura Tingle and Barry Cassidy. We need presenters like Barrie Cassidy to ask the pertinent questions during interviews with politicians. For instance with Kelly O'Dwyer, who two days after being interviewed did a public backflip over the timing of the banking commission. Laura Tingle I find is one of the most impartial analysts and commentators you could gij

you could



Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:47 PM Sent: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

I support the ABC as a publicly funded institution! Subject:

I am appalled at the proposal by some members of the conservative parties to privatise MY ABC. Australian should be so proud of what OUR ABC has achieved over so many years. Politicians obviously find it uncomfortable when they are put under close scrutiny. Instead of shooting the messenger why don't politicians take a good hard look at the political processes in our country? It is increasingly factionalised, authoritarian and out of touch with the issues which face us all such as the degradation of our environment, climate change, social disparity and the constant push to disenfranchise the Australian population. One of the few organisation which has the resources and platform to bring these issues to the for is MY ABC.

I've listened to commercial radio, watched commercial TV and I'm appalled at the bias, self serving and patently dishonest view that is presented.

Many visitors from overseas, where there is no publicly funded, independent broadcaster, comment on what a great service it is and how lucky we are to be so well served with such an informative and objective source of information

This is definitely an issue I will give all my energy and resources to making sure any government which wishes to degrade or commercialise the ABC is voted out of Government.

Yours

From: <

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:47 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep ABC Public

A strong well funded public broadcaster is absolutely essential to maintain the arts it should produce and broadcast new works by Australian writers and use Australian actors and crew. It should provide unbiased news and current affairs free from political and commercial biases. Commercial operators have a responsibility to their shareholders and advertisers and therefore may ignore the needs of remote Australia simply because it's not profitable. Public broadcaster must not be judged on ratings.

SA 5126

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:47 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I strongly protest against the idea of the ABC being privatised. This is the one channel with consistently good quality programs, independent and balanced views...and I'm not plagued by constant advertising apart from letting me know more good programs coming up. I fear that commercial interests will drive very one-sided agendas and we'll lose the one broadcaster that meets the interests of all Australians whatever their political persuasion, belief system, values, biases and particular interests. It is the one broadcaster that can freely investigate in the public interest, expose what needs to be exposed and enable our democratic system to work as it should. Please resist the pressure from those who wish to privatise. We'll lose something very precious to many of us, and important to this nation's future.



Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:47 PM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

Keeping the ABC as a national broadcaster Subject:

As a resident of a country town, Castlemaine, Victoria, I find the programming of the ABC essential listening and viewing for keeping myself and my family in touch with current affairs, news, analysis, the arts and other cultural matters, helping to compensate for our geographic distance from the culture of the great cities of the world. When I lived in an equivalent country town in the USA for two years I realised how important the national broadcaster is in Australia. On the American local radio stations "The Market" (quoting Senator Abetz) could only provide the most superficial, brief and inadequate news output. For the rest it was mainly cheap pop music.

If the Enquiry hopes to find if public broadcasting has some advantage over commercial outlets, it misses the point that it plays a vital and irreplaceable role in our democracy and can't be compared with commercial media.



From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:47 PM

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Keep our ABC in public hands Subject:

Dear Mr Turnbull and colleagues,

Having a public broadcaster is very important in enabling the broad Australian voice to be heard. It plays a different role to commercial broadcasters and has shown its value in enabling a vast array of issues to be explored and presented to the Australian community. The quality of productions are much more substantial and provide greater depth. Is the government fearful of being challenged by the ABC? Surely it is important in a democracy that a broad perspective is presented for us to make judgements. Surely programs such as 4 Corners have been vital in researching and bringing to public (and government awareness) issues such as NT youth detention and live exporting disasters.

PLEASE ensure that the ABC funding is maintained.



From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:47 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep ABC in public hands To: Subject:

Keep ABC in public hands!!

WA 6148

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:46 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep ABC public

The ABC is the most important broadcaster in Australia, and must remain in public hands.

TripleJ is the radio

station I've been tuned to for over 20 years, I was raised with ABC's kids programming and I turn raised my daughter with it - the only channel without commercials rotting kids brains, the only channel that has a quality standard, and one of the first channels to bring in innovations like catch up TV so we could watch the most appropriate programs at the time that was right for us.

The ABC leads the pack in innovation & picking quality untested programming, where commercial channels are dinosaurs waiting for the ABC to do it first before they are forced to up their game. The ABC & SBS are the only channels that attempt to present news & current affairs without sensationalism or heavy handed bias. Commercial stations on the other hand are full of "shock jocks" who pride themselves on being offensive, and don't care for facts or truth or considering other perspectives. Commercial stations think their only job is to make money, to entertain (in order to make money), and to do their owners bidding - further concentrating power in the hands of a few.

The ABC knows it is for a higher purpose. It educates, it sets a high bar for journalistic integrity and reporting, it recognises the need to give voice to otherwise maginalised groups and present a range of viewpoints with respect and fairness, and it speaks to and for the majority of Australians.

The only criticism I have is that under sustained politicised attacks, and huge funding cuts, the ABC has been hacked into a shadow of it's former self. It should be restored to its former glory. It should be provided with more independence so it cannot be politicised by political parties or politicians. It is a public broadcaster for the people of Australia.

The ABC benefits not only the ABC viewing audience but also commercial audiences: the ABC has been a training ground for much of the industry - commercial broadcasters often wait until people have already skilled up and gained experience at the ABC before poaching the talent. Commercial broadcasters often let the ABC take the risk of developing or purchasing new shows, before poaching only the most successful shows after they've been tried and tested. Commercial stations watch the ABC's tech experiments before copying the best ideas. As such the ABC spurs on innovation, creativity, and higher standards across the whole industry. To undermine the ABC is to undermine the whole Australian broadcasting industry.

Australians know the value of the ABC as a public broadcaster: we trust it more than our politicians. To degrade it is to degrade our democracy.

Regards,



From: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:46 PM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Attacks on the ABC - No Privatisation

Subject:

I wish to address the inquiry on the matter of privatisation of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC). I'm appauled at suggestions that private media would be able to provide unbiased information and opinions on serious matters of national, regional and community public interest.

I live in regional area and rely on public broadcasting, particularly in times of natural disaster and serious incidents. My family have continued to use A number of ABC platforms across radio, TV and online that are high quality, well informed and not influenced by private interests.

Nowhere do I see a positive case for privatisation of national assets. Eg banks, energy, transport, communication services. Privatisation is not the answer. Stop bashing the ABC for partisan political purposes. The ABC is a critical service for all Australians without ads, influence or lowest common denominator entertainment. There are many other channels to choose from if you 2ant to watch or listen to crap. Please don't do this to the ABC.

We will really be a bunch of dumbed down ignoramus if this happens! Australians will be much poorer if the ABC is privatised. Don't touch the ABC!

OLD 4570

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: No to privatising the ABC

The ABC is a trusted public broadcaster, we need a trusted broadcaster to ensure a deeper democracy.

From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:46 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

The ABC belongs to everyone, and is not yours to SELL. Subject:

The ABC is an iconic institution in the lives of many generations of Australians. It is uniquely Australian and belongs to, first and foremost, the people. It is a voice and a medium that is free of all the collusion, monopoly and bias of privatised broadcasters. Stop selling everything in this country that was built FOR the people, stop selling out the heart and soul of what makes Australia unique.

I grew up in the 1960s. On a farm, from Group Settlement onwards, my great grandparents, my grandparents and my parents, listened to and were connected by the ABC and when we as kids got our first TV set, it was the ABC that set the tone for our childhood viewing.

You cannot "buy or sell" something that has such history to the people of this country, and nor should you. No one should have a monopoly over our broadcasters and certainly a country like ours deserves to have a free voice in the radio and television arena. This is not a dictatorship.

Please leave the ABC alone, to do what it has always done, connecting all the corners of this country and the people in between.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is the only trusted, in depth, investigative news we have. It also tells our stories in an unbiased and unaffected way. Privatisation would kill all of this with agenda and advertising. Just can't happen!

VIC 3910

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

It is important that we have source of news, ideas, information and entertainment that is free from biases that can be introduced through commercial pressures. Please do not privatise ths ABC.

VIC 3284

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep the ABC in Public Hands

I rely on the ABC for news and current affairs coverage and opinion/comment. It is the only TV news I trust, knowing it is publicly funded and does not have political agendas of its own. I also always want to support Australian content, and deplore the fact that the ABC has increasingly found it hard to provide this. Programs like Media Watch provide the only critique of the media on TV. I also think it is vital that childrens' television remain ad free. - the ABC provides this. I will not waste hours of my life watching advertisements, and never watch commercial television. If the ABC is privatised I will not watch it.

ACT 2611

From: <

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: ABC not for profit.

Most Aussies treasure their ABC for the factual, investigative journalism, balanced news reporting, wide ranging music, great comedy and unbiased reporting of political events.

WA 6280

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC should remain government owned and funded

The ABC is one of only a few sources of actually critical and investigate journalism left in Australia. Privatising it would mean shows like 4 Corners and 7:30 Report degenerate into trash TV like ACA and Today Tonight.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:45 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands!

As a dramatist I have written for, and continue to write for, both ABC TV and Radio. I know from both sides of the dial and screen how important it is to have a public broadcaster. It plays a critical and central role in our sense of identity, in our culture. It beggars belief that the Coalition has even raised the spectre of selling it off. An enquiry into whether SBS and ABC have an 'advantage' over commercial outlets through being publicly funded completely misses the point: public broadcasting is a crucial part of any democracy.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC not in private ownership

As a democratic nation it is imperative that we maintain freedom of the press. We need to have the media such as the ABC remain a public broadcaster and news provider. It's opinions need to free and unfettered by private sector aims. Do not privatise the ABC

From:
Sent: Wednesday 20 June 20

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:44 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep the ABC in our hands

The Abc provides me and my family with intelligent shows . I don't like reality shows and I like the fact that the people who work for the ABC do not see themselves as celebrities. They produce good quality Australian shows , from drama to comedy shows . I don't know what I would do without the ABC . I love that there is no advertising. I can watch the programmes with my grandchildren and know that they are going to be age appropriate. Keep the ABC funded and stop freezing the money

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:43 PM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Subject: Against privatising the ABC

Dear enquiry

We are making this submission to put on the record our strong desire to see nothing done to interfere with the public ownership and independence of the ABC. For decades we have relied on the ABC as our trusted source for news, current affairs, children's programs, entertainment, and much else. We do not want it compromised by outside interests, ideological or other.

Yours sincerely

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

The ABC is one of the few remaining trusted institutions in this country, maybe the world.

Throughout our lives, it has provided truthful and unbiased coverage of events and, through skilled journalism, exposed countless rorts, cover-ups and matters of public interest.

The ABC is responsible for providing Australians with decades of excellent dramas, children's shows and cultural events.

It is one of the joys and privileges of living in this country.

Please do not defund our privatise this magnificent institution.

IT us an essential ingredient in our successful, multicultural democracy.

Yours faithfully,

NSW 2640

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC has always been the touchstone in our house, the place to go for reliable information from an organisation committed to seeking balance in its reportage. This latest assault on the organisation seems to be yet more evidence of an ongoing attack on our right to know. Quite simply, our family trusts the ABC and, to be honest, increasingly there is very little we trust. And we're not alone. There are many people like us, talking. They may not all end up making submissions but they also despair of the way in which we are being abandoned by government in favour of corporate interests. The ABC and SBS are not commercial players. The whole point in establishing them was to provide a counterpoint to commercially-driven interests. Stop corporatizing Australia. More and more of us are sick of it.

NSW 2074

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

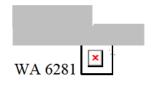
We need media that isn't full of fear mongering, bullshit and advertising. JJJ is the only station I listen to for this reason, and it would be a horrific shame if we lost it.

TAS 7250

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please keep our ABC in public hands

Hello. I am an avid watcher of ABC and truly believe it needs to remain the public broadcaster. Privatisation will lead to the organisation becoming another in the existing banal broadcasting realm, both Free-to-air and PayTV. ABC and its sister organisation SBS, were never established to be profit-making enterprises, but to retain the integrity of our multicultural background and offer an intelligent, alternative and honest voice to the Australian. The fact that so many programmes launched by the public broadcaster have been groundbreaking, have lasted the test of time, and have been the launching pad for an incredible number of talented Australian performers and presenters is testimony to its worth as part of this country's democratic voice. It will be a very sad day if we no longer have this incredible, valuable public broadcaster. Thank you for your time

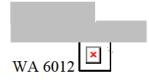


Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Make the ABC an Indestructable Pillar of our Culture and Values-Rrporting to

Parliamentary Committee!

The ABC should be championed and enshrined in our culture, funded by a Senate Standing Committee with funding guaranteed with inviolable means of maintenance of real purchasing power-even made part of our Constitution-preventing authoritarian government from thwarting the will of the people with no capacity of government to dubvrrt the democratic will of the people.



From:
Sent: Wednesday 20 lune 20

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Hands off the ABC

I have lived for some 80 years and been a listener and watcher of the ABC for many years. I have heard the arguments that the news reports are biased spread by each of the major parties, depending which is in government, during most of that listening time. It is my belief, based on my reading and experience, that the majority of media presenters during that time have done their very best to present with objectivity. Sometimes one could detect minor evidence of bias, and I have seen that both ways.

These more recent attacks, especially those led by Eric Abetz and Pauline Hanson are particularly vicious and virulent and spring from what I consider ito be a need for personal revenge for imagined slights. The AbC offers programs that allow people to consider issues and to seek further information when wanted. It is such a valuable resource to the many who use it and the debates and discussions serve to educate and inform. I do realise that having no publicly funded news source would suit many who would like to be able to control media information. We need to look at the Trump ascendancy to identify what sort of society we will become if we have another biased inquiry. Enough enquiries, we have had too many. I would prefer an enquiry about the value of so many politicians and allowances.

SA 5062

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

Australia is paying a heavy price for the privatisation of State and Commonwealth Banks, Telecommunications, Power and Energy, public transport. Do not, DO NOT, place the public broadcaster into private hands or the last bastion of balanced reporting and quality journalism will disappear from this country. This is most important in this day of media barons and other blatant opinion shapers doling out propaganda and fake news. Extremists from the hard right or the hard left must be resisted.

VIC 3799

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep ABC out of private hands

Please do not privatise the ABC! We depend on having a non-commercial, independent broadcaster to be able to reach all members of the Australian community and serve EVERYONE's interests - not just the shareholders and CEOs of wealthy corporations. I REFUSE to vote for any politician who supports privatisation of the ABC. The ABC is there for all of us - not just for the convenience of the Liberal Party! The ABC is part of our cultural fabric and the programmes that it produces reflect Australian cultural values and interests. If it is privatised we will lose one of our national icons. ABC programming brings the bush to the city and the city to the bush. Its programmes cover the kinds of topics that commercial broadcasters are not interested in and can not make "\$\$\$" out of. We need a broadcaster that produces programming for the audience's sake, diversified, multicultural, local and audiences with special interests like science. I can not believe that the Liberal Party would throw that away and allow it to become another broadcaster interested in showing 10 min segments of advertisements interrupting re-runs of boring foreign sitcoms. The ABC is the AUSTRALIAN Broadcasting Corporation. Please dont sell out the heart of its charter - AUSTRALIA!!

NSW 2126

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:42 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Sent:

To: Keep your hands off the ABC Subject:

Although I agree that there are shows that are biased eg QandA, I strongly believe that the ABC MUST never be privatised. The liberal party will be decimated if it goes ahead. \$1 billion for Adani? Grrrrr

From: < Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Our ABC must remain in public hands

When Australians want reliable news, well researched documentaries and high quality Australian entertainment we turn to the ABC. I live in a regional area of NSW and the ABC is the major source of all these things here, allowing us to be in the loop with a vast range of subjects. As a senior citizen I am grateful to programs like the Health Report to give me unbiased reports on new medical research and practice and many other areas of concern to people of all ages and stages. It also provides up to the minute accurate reporting and reassurance at times of natural disaster, and extreme weather events. So I was horrified at the recent vote of the Liberal Party to privatise it, following up the Coalition's regular attacks on the ABC and relentlessly cuts to its funding. Where would we be without the services we rely on? Commercial channels are hopelessly inadequate and not equipped with either the will or the ability to carry out the remit of a public broadcaster in a democratic society. I believe that the basis of this questionable inquiry that the Coalition and One Nation have set up to compare the ABC and SBS with commercial stations relies on a false comparison. Every democratic country worth its salt needs a well resourced public broadcaster to inform and educate citizens on every branch of our lives, without fear or favour and without the pressures of sponsors and the need to make profits for media owners. Do not consign us to the fate of a banana republic with wealthy media owners in charge of what we are allowed to know.

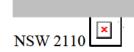
NSW 2481

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the taxpayer's ABC in their hands. non- Aussie Murdock

Mrs Jackie Kelly, the former Howard LNP Minister, said on "The Drum" on the ABC, on 18.06.2018, that "privatisation is a core Liberal Party (LNP) philosophy, except where there is a monopoly" (sale of Mascot Airport to Mcquarie Bank?) and she backed calls from the Liberals conference to privatise the ABC.So there you have it .Howards "core "promises and philosophy, out in the open again.

American national Rupert Murdock and the LNP would like to see the ABC evapourate. Joe Hockey (LNP Treasurer and arguably Australia's worst Treasurer) has already emasculated the ABC funding in his and Abbott's 2014, horror budget, contrary to the Abbott 's LNP emphatic promises prior to the election, which were just lies to mislead and decieve the Australian voters. However, many taxpayers who are the owners of the ABC, want it maintained and they will change their political vote to achieve the ABC survival. Australia needs a strong , independant and factual ABC, as a check on politican's behaviour, neo-liberalism, LNP lies, secretecy, false and misleading political conduct and rorts.



From: < Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:42 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: ABC- our National Treasure

The current furore over the privatisation of the ABC completely clouds the nature of this most cherished public asset. It is not in competition with commercial media- plainly, being ad-free should strengthen the case for maintaining the ABC so as not to compete with commercial networks if this is so important to the Coalition. The real agenda behind the talk of privatisation is plainly political, coming from a Government uncomfortable with the level of scrutiny and rigour in the vital work the ABC performs as the benchmark of Australian journalism. The commercial networks are not comparable in either their scope or depth of analysis, preferring infotainment as their model, often airing thinly-disguised promotions of their own commercial interests as "news" and rarely straying beyond careful demarcations of their proprietors personal ideological views.

The ABC provides so much more than just news gathering - it coheres the Nation , being the only truly national network , and being free-to-air , embodies the much- vaunted egalitarianism our politicians of all persuasions love to talk about . Radio National in particular provides a diverse, stimulating range of programming that expands our cultural horizons and exemplifies the best of what only radio can - reach the widest audience possible without patronisation or commercial clamour . It is an adornment to the intellectual life of the Nation that should be treasured, not demeaned ,diminished, or sold off to the highest bidder in a wholly- misplaced quest for budget savings in an era of epIc profligacy- dare we mention submarines, joint-strike force fighters, the NBN , subsidies to the fossil fuel industry, anti-windpower commissions - the list is too extensive to continue , point being , economy is rarely exercised when ideology calls the tune . Hands off the ABC -it's not yours to sell!

NSW 2535

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise OUR ABC

We live in a rural area and rely on the ABC for news, entertainment and intelligent, informative programmes which expand knowledge and broaden our ways of thinking. It is a constant presence in our lives and has been for years. It is wrong to compare the ABC to the commercial stations. Commercial stations are there to make money. The ABC belongs to the people of Australia, is able to voice public opinion in a balanced way without the constraint of some private owners agenda. The government is afraid of the public and is trying its best to stifle debate and the dissemination of information by crippling and now trying to sell OUR broadcaster. The ABC is the broadcaster we can trust to deliver excellent and non partisan news and discussion about subjects commercial stations gloss over. We trust the ABC more than we trust the government. By attacking the existence of the ABC the government is attacking our democracy. Shame on them.



Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:42 PM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

My preference for TV viewing is the ABC. Over the years my children when young and now my grandchildren love the children's programs on the ABC. Eg Play School, Peppa Pig

I enjoy ABC news as it has the stories that I am interested in hearing about grom rural Austrslia and the world. I do not enjoy commercial news at all. The ABC has many wonderful shows like Four Cornets and the Drom as well gardening shows.

I am not able to find programs I consider worth watching on any commercial station.

Keep the ABC in public hands so we can be informed and educated about events and issues of importance to Australia.



From:

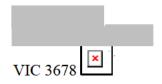
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The importance of the ABC

I am a Veterinarian who has lived and worked in country Victoria for many years. I am reliant on media to represent my views to the wider country and also to provide me with the events occuring in the wider world. I also need this to be free from bias and without political agenda.

The ABC in its current form fulfills these needs. I turn to it for my news and current affairs (programs such as the 7:30 report) and for light entertainment (QI).

With privatisation I expect there to be a turn to sensationalist stories and advertising coming so thick as to remove any benefit.

The ABC as it is is an organisation to be proud of. Recent funding cuts seem intent on damaging its reputation to further an immoral hard right agenda from certain political parties. I dearly desire for there to be no privatisation and instead for vital funding to be restored.



From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:42 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Do not privatize the abc

The ABC is one of the very few news sources that I can trust and i Rely on it for my daily news. It must stay in public hands.

VIC 3070

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:42 PM Sent:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To: Subject: No privatisation of the ABC

The quality of journalism on private media such as channel 7 etc and major papers does not serve the Australian interest. As a tax payer I strongly wish for the ABC to remain Australian and the best way to achieve this is as a public funded entity. Generations have benefited from the media provided by the ABC. The ABC serves the public in a way that other media outlets can not. Children, and the elderly, migrants all benefit from the ABC.

Keep the ABC public. Increase funding and support the community not vested private interests.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:41 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in our hands!

The ABC is the people of Australia voice of balance with in today's media out let unlike other biased media outlets .

QLD 4021

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:41 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keep the ABC in public hands.

We do NOT want the ABC in private hands to be exploited for purely commercial purposes.

NSW 2106

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:41 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Leave OUR ABC alone.

It is very concerning that there is a push by vested interests, ie politicians and their biased media corporate mates to destroy the ABC. The ABC ensures the accountability of politicians and beaurucrats by questioning policies and their motivations through fearless journalism and investigations. This is proven time and time again for example by reports by The Four Corners program and many others. It gives us, the people, the electorate a powerful platform to be informed and to have a voice. This is essential for our democracy. The ABC has given me as an individual the insight of how politicians and corporations and institutions operate. It has empowered me to question their illegal or immoral practices. It has made me more knowledgeable as a voter, as a consumer and community member. No one has the right to blind us, to mute us, to deceive us. The only ones that fear it are the those who have something to hide or want to silence those that have opposing views. Democracy is in a perilous state with ideology and tribalism dividing us further apart. A free impartial media organisation is more critical now than ever. The ABC performs that function effectively. As a taxpayer and a voter I demand the ABC be left alone!

VIC 3934

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:41 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in the public

To our elected representatives, mine is a simple plea. Five and a half decades ago I was raised on the ABC. My parents banned all commercial television. To this good fortune I attribute my healthy curiosity for our world ... a respect for all humanity. A desire to place ethics ahead of consumption. The ABC is certainly not the only source of moral courage, but it IS and MUST be kept as a high standard of investigative and non-aligned journalism in these times of deplorable social media.

Do NOT drop Australian standards any further. Thank you.

VIC 3954

From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:41 PM

To: Subject: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Do NOT privatise the ABC!

To whom it may concern,

I have enjoyed many years of ABC viewing, from News and a current affairs programs to shows like 'you can't ask that' and 'Q and A', programs that I see no comprable equivalent on any commercial stations. I find news programs on Australian commercial stations pretty much unwatchable, so as a result ABC news is the only televised news program I would ever watch.

The idea that the ABC could be privatised and lose its independence and ability to present programs to its current charter I find terrifying. If any change should be made, the funding for the ABC should be allocated by an independent body, and not held hostage whenever something is reported that the current political party does not agree with.

I call for more independence voices, not less.

Sincerely,

ACT 2902

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:40 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is an Australian institution and must remain in public hands.

QLD 4160

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:40 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Sent:

To:

Subject: ABC

The ABC, by its own charter, is an independent media outlet for all Australians. The taxpayers pay for that service and it is highly valued amongst the community. Play with that at your peril.

From: Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:40 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!!!

I am deeply passionate about the ABC and have been my whole life. As a child living in Adelaide, my parents were also passionate about the ABC, so from generation to generation the value of the ABC lives on!!!

The ABC is the only TV channel I am interested in watching - it is a thinking persons channel with a diversity of programs to choose from. The ABC also caters for diverse audiences across multiple formats and includes a range of subjects/programs, no matter how confronting and/or light hearted and educational they are and can be.

The professionalism and intellectual capacity of people such as Leigh Sales, Sarah Ferguson, Annabelle Crabb - the list goes on and on and on - and the courage to bring to the Australian audience, news and issues that we all need to be aware of and know about - its more transparent and open with the Australian public than any of the commercial mediums.

Programs on the radio - 774 etc - are once again fantastic to listen to and the presenters are likewise professional and have immense intellectual capacity.

Where would regional and rural communities be without the ABC!!!

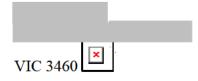
The ABC's coverage in times of natural disasters is vital to these communities and to every single one of us.

I'm really, really, really angry that politicians are interferring in something that is mandatory and essential for the people of Australia - our own public broadcaster. The Coalition & right wing politicians/parties are seeking to erode anyone or anything they don't like and/or disagree with and minimise any challenge to them or their policies etc etc - that's if people actually know about them, which is another reason why the ABC is vital.

I'm totally disgusted with the politics and politicians in Australia now - they have no sense of what is important to the people of Australia, no vision for this wonderful country - it's just all about them and them controlling the people - I call it the dumbing down of people - the more people are dumbed down, the more controlled they can be.

There's no way I'll be voting for the Turnbull government and its cronies!

Australia needs and must have the ABC - every wonderful part of it - and the ABC is critical for all our sakes - now and forever!!!!!!!!!



If privatisation of the ABC could even remotely mean that the programmes would resort to the format of the other channels e.g. Internminable sports and reality shows then I would HATE to see the ABC privatised. At the present moment the ABC followed by SBS are the only channels worth watching most of the time. As it is I rarely watch the other channels and dread the thought that in the future I might just have to sit staring at a blank screen! As an aged pensioner the TV is my main source of entertainment. Please do not allow our ABC to become privatised. I certainly would NOT vote for a political party responsible for privatisation of one of the only two channels worth watching!



Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:40 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Hands off the ABC! From: Sent:

To:

Subject:

corporate cronies!

VIC 3066 ×

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:40 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC must remain publicly owned. I don't care whether the ABC or SBS operates to the detriment of its commercial competitors. The only issue for me is that alone among Australia's free to air broadcasters the ABC and SBS offer high quality programs. In particular, they offer quality news and current affairs. On the other hand, it is almost impossible to obtain any quality analysis from the commercial electronic media. They offer a relentless diet of intellectual junk such as reality TV and tabloid current affairs suffused with relentless commercialism. Anyone who doesn't like to think is exceptionally well catered for by the commercial media.

Anyone who does like to think depends on the ABC and SBS. I want these organisations left as they are. I depend on them and passionately support them. I regard them as far and away our most important cultural institutions. I trust them. I do not trust the commercial media.

I am outraged by the constant attacks on the ABC by coalition politicians and obviously self-interested elements in the commercial media.



Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:40 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Sale of the ABC by the IPA owned COALition

To whom it may concern,

I am a 63 year old male. I grew up listening to the ABC radio and then when television was introduced, my parents and my brothers tuned into the ABC channel 2 in Brisbane.

We are a conservative family and always appreciated the unbiased news presented by the ABC. We could never understand why the Liberal Party claimed that the ABC was biased towards the Left.

We were often appalled by the exposure of dreadfully bad management of the economy exposed by 4Corners and more often by the ABC News.

It causes us great pain to read the allegations by politicians of bias by the ABC against the Liberal and National Party, when in fact the news has appeared to be factual and accurate, perhaps this is why the conservative parties are so determined to destroy this iconic institution.

Australia is a country where about 85% of the population occupy one standard deviation from the political center, and the conservative party members who wish to give a massive benefit to Rupert Murdoch an American business tycoon who publishes lies on Fox News by basically giving him OUR ABC.

Realistically the conservatives will do whatever the IPA requires them to do and if this is throwing ownership of the ABC to Murdoch, then so be it.

If this happens, I know that around 85% of Australians will vote Labor now and for many years to come. I also know that my grandchildren will be very unhappy their favorite children's programs will be disturbed by Rupert Murdoch's insatiable need for advertising revenue.

If the Coalition sells the ABC, then the Labor party will hopefully build a new National Broadcaster to continue the nation building work that only a citizens broadcast organisation can provide.

Sincerely

Cairns

OLD 4870

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:40 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: An independent ABC

Dear Sir/Madam

I write to send a clear message to all politicians that the ABC be precluded from political muzzling by political persuasions of any sort. The ABC is an institution that to me is more important than any political party- such would I fight for it's independence. I lived in a regional area in Victoria for 15 years and in that time I realised what an important body it was because of it's capacity to broadcast to isolated areas with otherwise impossible to get news... and to maintain a connection with country people. Frankly, I'm tiring of political entities and politicians ripping into it! The 4 Corners program is clearly the best program that there is on television and I resent the possibility that such programs will get belted around by funding cuts and personnel sackings.

When we have a coalition that says they represent Country people, I cannot understand why this organisation gets such a hard ride by those politicians. I want a diverse and commercial free TV station and I wont get that from anywhere else apart from the ABC.. and sometime SBS...

The ABC needs to stay in public hands because commercial interests will smash it into another entity that will deliver a miniscule of the content that the ABC is able to deliver now and in the past. The ABC should be adequately funded by the public and void of any cuts by successive Governments. This Public broadcaster as well as SBS play a critical and irreplaceable role in our democracy and should not at any time be compared with commercial media.

I ask that this organisation remain fully funded, that the funds cut by the Coalition -in the vicinity of \$400 million- be restored and that future Governments be stopped from implementing such interference by establishing an ongoing permanent formula for funding that cannot be altered by Governments of ANY persuasion. STOP the political interference in this organisations ability to publically broadcast in the way that the majority of Australian people want it to operate.



Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:39 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Sent:

To:

Subject: We need an independent and non commercial ABC

Regardless of which party holds government the abc can be relied upon to carry out the responsibilities of the fourth estate and hold them to account without fear or favour. This is, something that no other organisation in Australia does.

SA 5153

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:38 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: The ABC belongs to the people. NOT a few politicians who don't get their way.

We need a national broadcaster to even the opinions. And give us the best music. There can be no comparison between a commercial broadcaster with extreme views and vested interests and the ABC

TAS 7184

From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:38 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Keep ABC public

To:

Subject:

Stop the further demolition of democracy and keep the ABC public.

WA 6714

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:38 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Our ABC is making Australia great.

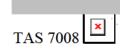
From aged five when I started listening to the ABC Children's Session and joined the Argonauts Club I have identified with the ABC as an educator, mind expander and an artistic showcase for all the best Australia has to share with the nation and by extension, the world.

I believe the ABC provides equal, if

not better programming, than the BBC and CBC. It is open to new directions and platforms and is free from the inevitable pressures that come with commercial backing.

As a news source we are kept in touch with city, regional and overseas news and voices for which private broadcasters do not have a responsibility.

Funding cuts have restricted some services, such as overseas reporters and regional staff but Aunty has managed to do core business as well as keeping up with modern technology. It needs support as being absolutely vital to the Australian national fabric rather than having constant threats to its integrity.



From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:38 PM

To:

Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject:

Australia needs the ABC to stay in public hands

The ABC is the only source of news and current affairs not tainted by commercial interests, nor interrupted by consumerist bullshit marketing. Leave it alone - in fact, no, do better than that and FUND IT so it can even more thoroughly do its job of providing trustworthy information to the Australian public.

Those who seek to sell it fear an educated public for they know they cannot peddle their self-interested, shortsighted policies while the ABC is there to call it out.

Long live a proud and fearlessly independent ABC

Yours truly,

VIC 3181

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:38 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

To whom it may concern, I read with absolute concern that the Liberal Party is considering privatizing the ABC. This is of great concern to me, as the ABC has informative information about current affairs, fabulous doc'os, and contrary to what is being promoted. ..fair commentary be it Liberal or Labor. I look forward to the nightly news broadcast, I certainly don't watch commercial stuff, to receive a full explanation if the daily events. Hence I will be watching with interest as these attacks are made on the ABC. It is the most informative television we have at our disposal. The Labor party promises to keep the ABC in Public Hands, that will be where I will place my vote in an election. Yours sincerely,



From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:38 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keep our ABC in public handd

I am 77 years old and love the ABC. I have benefitted greatly all my life from this worthy institution. You will destroy a great voice of the people should you succeed in privstising this great institution. Austrslia does not need to be deprived of forthright and stimulsting reporting. It has highlighted msnu of the worst aspects of power abuse and cruelty . It is a beacon for democracy. Please support not oppose this great Australian communicator

NT 0812

From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:38 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Australia needs ABC

I love our ABC!

I've been listening to ABC radio all my life....my parents were tuned in exclusively to ABC radio 24/7 - yes really! Familiar and trusted voices broadcast through the portable radio provided comfort and reliable information in the home through 65 years of marriage.

Now, I listen to and watch ABC for evidence-based news and documentaries. My kids grew up with playschool and I continue enjoy quality dramas on telly.

Most of all, ABC radio national keeps me company with enthralling and stimulating discussions, interviews and reports during my 2 hour long daily commute.

ABC must be kept non commercial, objective and wholly accountable.

Australia needs our ABC.



From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:38 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

I was appalled to learn yesterday that the Liberal Party's official policy is now to privatise the ABC.

The ABC is our trusted national broadcaster. By definition this means that it should be free of the commercial influence which inevitably accompanies privatisation.

As a retired person the ABC is a significant part of my daily life. I rely on its radio news and current affairs programs to provide me with quality journalism covering Australian and overseas issues. I rely on the local ABC station to keep me up to speed with what is happening in the arts and entertainment in Sydney, and to inform me of developments during unusual events (bushfires, rail delays etc).

There is absolutely no private broadcaster which can provide the range of quality programming, free of advertising, that the ABC provides.

It is OUR ABC and must not be privatised. This issue will be a major determinant of how I vote in the next federal election.

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:37 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
ABC Should stay public.

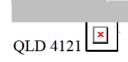
I'm in my seventies, an ex-seviceman. The people at my Senor citizen group and my RSL Sub branch are appalled at the thought the ABC will lose it's independence and go commercial. It is the centre of our life. The shows, the current affairs, the shows our grandchildren watch & the footy on 702 make it so special. And I trust its independence, accuracy and fairness.

From:

Our ABC has been one of the best broadcasters in the world. Why would anyone with any intelligence or imagination want it privatised. Personally I wouldn't want to live in a country without such quality media outlet. I've spent time in USA in states where PBS is limited and all that is available is a barrage of mind numbing shrill commercials and ideologues. Australia deserves better than that. Can't understand that a government that harbours the National Party could think that Country and Regional people would welcome privatisation . It's a nonsense of an idea. Better funding is what should be debated not the insanity of privatisation.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:36 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: HANDS OFF AUNTY !!!

The ABC may be accused of having a "leftist bias" some of which I may agree with and some of which I may not, but it is the heart and soul of an Australia that sits in front of it to watch a NON-COMMERCIALISED AND NON-CORPORATISED version of the Australia and indeed, the world around them. The ABC is at the very least INDEPENDANT from these corporate interests. If this upsets, the Malcolm Turnbulls, the Tony Abbots, the Gina Reinhardts, the Rupert Murdochs and News Corps of this country and the world, then I couldn't be happier with that outcome. There are plenty of commercial interests from which to obtain that viewpoint in this country but only one ABC. As Communications Minister, Turnbull and his cronies already attempted to sell the bandwidth allocated to community tv to commercial advertising channels! So to Turnbull, Fifield, the IPA et al...if you ARE secretly considering privatisation of a TRUSTED and much loved Australian institution in the future...one message; HANDS OFF AUNTY!!!



From: <
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:36 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Give more funds to the ABC. The only democratic institution in Australai

This country will be the most boring in the world if there are only commercial broadcasters because they only broadcast lightweight dross. That so called liberals want to adopt the tactics of the former communist block by having media which only represent their views, which the commercial media does is very ironic. The ABC and SBS are educational, fair(and actually too right leaning sometimes) and the only institution in this country without a hidden agenda. I used to consider myslf a swingin voter, but touch the ABC and I will do everything in my power to get rid of the corrupt Federal and NSW liberal Governments. Yhe ABC does a very good job with meagre resources compared to the BBC and is the only source of unbiased news in this country. Apart from news and politics, it provides many educational services, which none of the commercial channels do. If the ABC is privatised this country will be inhabited by third world drongos who will never be able to compete with developed nations, so our economy will go down the tube. How sad that the extreme right in the Liberal party wants to dumb this nation down so that we truly become even more than the banana republic we are already.



From:

Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Without the ABC we have not Radio or TV that covers the whole of Australia. The ABC is the voice of moderation it covers Right and Left views, not only Left views that the Right are always banging on about, and why should we be surrounded by just Right winged media, We are a country that has choice, they keep saying that we all pay for the ABC with our taxes, in reality we also all pay for commercial media will the products we buy, because that is how they survive . Privatisation will end up the same as the power suppliers, excessive costs etc, why hand over all the good parts of the ABC to Murdoch, Good children's TV will also disappear, Let everybody have a say not just the Liberal Party, say NO to privatisation

VIC 3340

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:35 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is not for sale

I have always watched ABC TV and listened to ABC radio for as long as I can remember. The news bulletin, news analysis, investigative programs such as Four Corners have been an essential source of honest non biassed information. I cannot understand why this government is even discussing the sale of the ABC to commercial interests. As a citizens in a democratic society we have a right to a public broadcaster. Privatising the ABC will mean the end to quality programs and further monopolies of the likes of the Murdoch empire. Content will be trivial and news will be presented with bias. All watched with a multitude of advertisements. The end to Television I currently enjoy.

TAS 7005

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:35 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: No to Letting ABC into Private Hands

The ABC to us is the only medium we can really believe. Other media outlets are influenced by advertisers and the owners of the big media corporations. We watch ABC 95% of our viewing time, with the exception of a local news segment. ABC Radio also plays a big part of our local news information. Without the impartiality of ABC we simply could not watch TV. We hate the advertisement breaks as well. Sunday morning at 9 am Insiders is my favourite as it gives a balanced summary of the week behind and highlights the important issues. 4 Corners really brings out the issues and Foreign correspondent also an honest summary of what's happening overseas - often not covered by "sensationalism" of commercial channels. There can be no comparison between commercial stations and ABC. It is not comparing apples with apples. I am greatly concerned at the attacks on our democracy by the Hard Right - not only here, but across the world. Without the ABC, democracy would be under threat.

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:35 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keep the ABC in public hands

We are amazed and horrified that anyone thinks that the ABC should be privatised. It isn't yours to sell for a start. Its a taxpayer funded organisation. You rest the middle person.

From: Sent:

Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:35 PM Competitive Neutrality Inquiry To:

ABC must remain in Public Hands for the Common Good Subject:

It is probably heretical in this day and age to talk of the Common Good. It seems it's everyone for themselves apart from the fact that's not how society works.

I listen to ABC radio, watch ABC TV News and Drama and listen to ABC podcasts (apart from the occasional others) and the reason I do that is because I like quality and honesty and I know that is what I am going to get by listening to and watching the range of programs on the ABC. For a democracy to function well it needs an independent broadcaster which isn't driven by profit but rather by providing us with a window to our local, regional and international world but from our perspective. The broadcaster tells us like it is from Margaret River to Myanmar. We need this independent broadcaster to be well funded so that when we watch television we have the opportunity to enjoy watching our multicultural society story told in a variety of ways by a diverse range of people from many backgrounds. We are challenged not sent to sleep. We need this independent broadcaster to be well funded so that it can employ foreign correspondents to provide us with in-depth analysis so that we can make sense of the world from our perspective.

Programs such as Saturday Extra, Background Briefing, The Science Show, The Health Report, The Minefield are world-class, second to none and can only be produced by our national broadcaster. Even the BBC cannot match the quality of ABC programs.

How in the world anyone can function without the ABC is beyond me. They are missing out on so much knowledge and wisdom which is maybe why we are having this vacuous debate in the first place!



From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:35 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Please don't privatise our ABC

I'm shocked that firstly so much ABC funding is being slashed and that now the government wants to sell to a private company. All I watch is ABC and SBS as this is true not fake news and it's so sad as once Malcolm was an avid lover of ABC and I'm sure he's not a commercial tv watcher after many appearances in past on Q&A before he changed to the far right. He's a highly educated man and he's selling his soul these days to stay in lower. Very disappointing

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:35 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keep the public broadcaster

The ABCs services to rural and remote areas will not be maintained by a commercial provider. Also balanced investigative journalism is unlikely to be maintained. I am a strong supporter of continuing public ownership of the ABC.

NT 0820

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:35 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: save our independent ABC

Our ABC is a vital part of independent news. Reducing its funding or trying to control it'd independence would be a disaster. Classical FM. Radio is the best programmer of its kind in the world. Please do not commercialize it.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:35 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I am alarmed at suggestions that the ABC should be privatised. Whilst publically owned, the ABC is a trusted source of balanced information. Some of its outlets have programs that may not be commercially viable but reflect and add to Australian culture. I fear that if the ABC was privatised, it would lose its objectivity and ability to run some of the less-popular programs.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:34 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

I am writing to express my concern and horror at the thought that the ABC could be considered for privatisation. I know that there have been denials by government ministers, but the liberal party have also promised no cuts to the ABC during election campaigning, yet have back-flipped on that promise. The ABC needs to stay in public hands – it provides an invaluable public service and has done for almost 86 years. Its news reporting and current affairs programs such as 4 Corners and The 7:30 Report provide excellent and in-depth reporting which the commercial stations do not even begin to approach. The only other service in the English-speaking world that I am aware of that meets and/or exceeds this standard and depth of reporting is the BBC.

What is the reason that this enquiry has been launched? Does the current government and Pauline Hanson have a problem with the ABC holding them to account? If they believe what they are doing is right and in the public's best interests, surely they are bright enough to enunciate their points when interviewed on the ABC? We the public will be won over by arguments that make sense.

There is a perception amongst some that the ABC has a "left-wing bias"; I have watched many a program where ABC journalists have gone equally hard on those from the left, and I have cheered them on. Budget cuts have already led to the demise of key programs like Lateline which provided immensely important commentary on both local and international politics. We should be looking to reinstate programs like Lateline, not further decimate the ABC.

Additionally the ABC also provides services and content relevant to various demographics not well served by the commercial stations, e.g. youth, regional areas – for some in regional areas the ABC is their only source of news. Privatising the ABC will in all likelihood take this important source away from those who need it – the profit motive will drive this.

An attack on our ABC is an attack on our democracy.

Please do not allow this enquiry to be used as a springboard for privatising the ABC.



From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:34 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry

Subject: Save Aunty

To whom it may concern

I have lived in this country for nearly 30 years, and over that time I have accessed the ABC in some form or another nearly every day.

Usually it is its news and current affairs programs on TV and radio that I listen to. I have consistently found the ABC to be more reliable than the government in terms of facticity, and certainly more engaging and informative than any of the private broadcasters. I trust the ABC to deliver timely, relevant content which is in the public interest. I cannot say the same of any private broadcaster. When I watch the ABC, I know I'm not going to be subjected to casual racism, sexism and homophobia by presenters. I cannot say the same of any private broadcaster.

The ABC is something Australians should be genuinely proud of. When I explain to my foreign students that it is publicly funded but has editorial independence and it is free to criticize the government, they often respond with disbelief. I tell them to watch – it is a great example of how important media integrity is to democracy and demonstrates a fundamental difference which they can readily compare to their own countries' propagandist government mouthpieces.

Many of my all-time favourite dramas have been ABC productions. These shows have enriched my understanding and appreciation of Australian culture beyond words. My children grew up watching ABC children's programs; the ABC contributed to their education as well as my own. It has served as an essential guide and been a loved companion. There is nothing I look forward to more than settling down with a cup of tea and a quiet night in with the ABC.

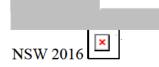
As an irreplaceable pillar of contemporary democracy, our ABC needs protecting, not dismantling. Unlike any other media, it offers quality, ad-free, free to air content. You don't have to subscribe, set up an account or sign in. If Pauline Hanson doesn't like it she can watch something else. Why should her personal vendetta deprive millions of Australians of something they cherish?

The long term safety and protection of the ABC should be guaranteed. It should not be at the whim of MPs who represent tiny minorities.

Australia's public broadcasters are the only ones worth watching, the only ones that deliver decent regional content and the only ones who assume their audience is intelligent.

Please don't take that away.

Best regards



From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:34 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keep our ABC in public hands

I trust the ABC to give unbiased fearless reporting of news and current affairs and intensely dislike the ads you get on commercial tv. I trust the ABC. Don't privatise it.

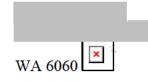
From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:34 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:

The most honest news ,current affairs and documentaries on TV! SBS also!

VIC 3072

From:
Sent:
Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:34 PM
To:
Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject:
Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC is more than just another media organisation. It is part of our cultural fabric that defines Australia. I am more than happy that they are supported by us, through government funding. The ABC, despite its deficiencies largely as a result of the Coalition's huge funding cuts, is an essential ingredient in the life of Australia and perhaps our most important public institution. The ABC does not "crowd out" private competitors because it does not compete for advertising dollars.



From:

Sent: Wednesday, 20 June 2018 10:34 PM

To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Dear Liberal Party Council,

I cannot imagine life without Radio National. I would have no idea what is going on in politics today if it was not for the ABC because I work long hours. The amazing ability Radio National has of getting the most current political figures, involved in the latest news, to be there or online for interview everyday at breakfast time is unsurpassed. I start early in my work with children in need and have a very small window of time in the morning to find out what is happening, the ABC presents unbiased, erudite interviews that are informative, thought-provoking and interesting.

The regular programs with discussions and talk back epitomize polite, respectful and informative dialogue at all times, even when the interviewee is rude, unreasonable and even contradictory. Please keep the ABC safe from bias in public hands,

Sincerely,



I grew up watching only the ABC. Quality Australian television that didn't push advertisements on me every 10 minutes. As an adult I only watch the ABC - if it is privatised I will throw my tv out. The ABC is beautiful and special and belongs to me and my fellow Australians. I will be devistated if it is stolen us.

NT 0810