

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 22 June 2018 12:01 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC out of private hands

Hi The ABC must never be privatised. It is a source of information, intelligence and is of national interest. Even more important for country listeners as a source of healthy journalism covering a wide genre of current information to assist with increasing our understanding and knowledge of so many issues that we humans face in today's world.

[REDACTED]

WA 6053 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

The ABC is a public treasure and the only way it should change is via a referendum. It is not the Liberal Party's to change! Will never vote Lib again.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3206




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:56 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please please please don't privatise the ABC

It would be a sad day for Australia indeed if the ABC were to be sold and privatised. The ABC has always been a beacon for high quality television and radio broadcast. If the government is concerned that the ABC is too good, then let's raise the standard of the other stations to meet the level of the ABC. Please don't ransack the channel that has long been such a positive and uplifting fixture in countless homes across our nation. We employ you.

[REDACTED]

TAS 7004 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media. It would be a dangerous path to allow the sale of our independent media body to the highest bidder.

I cannot believe that we would be so naive as a nation.

Can you imagine the BBC being privatised? Privatisation of our National broadcaster would rightly cause "our democracy" to be seen as a joke. But it is a very dangerous joke.

The 4th estate must be free from influence from private citizens, companies or other countries with economic power but not the Australian democracy as their guiding principle.

We should be spending money on resourcing the excellent ABC-not wasting it by an inquiry.


I watch excellent programs like 7.30 report, 4 Corners, Annabel Crabbe and Leigh Sales incisive questioning are such a contrast to the commercial channels interviews which are driven by sponsors. I love the great dramas like Mystery Road, Rake, Old School. Gardening Australia, Grand Designs -the ABC has fantastic programs.

It was so important to me that my children could watch quality programs like Playschool and afternoon series like Round the Twist without advertisements. The grounding for healthy eating is hijacked for so many children by the constant advertisement for fast foods and endless product promotion on commercial channels.

It is vital to keep Australia a vibrant democracy and the ABC plays a crucial role in having public media and information in public hands.

As a tax payer I demand that our money is spent wisely for the benefit of all Australians and for the betterment of our democracy.

[REDACTED]


VIC 3016 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I grew up watching kids shows on ABC, devoted to such classics as Babar, Round the Twist and Play School. In a world that is increasingly bowing to advertising dollars and the main stream, having a public broadcaster whose primary concern isn't the bottom line is amazing and should be protected.

[REDACTED]


VIC 3144 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC belongs to the people, not the politicians

As a longtime devotee of the ABC, I am very distressed to learn of the Liberal party's plans to privatise it. I have been watching the ABC since I was small, beginning with Playschool which taught a lonely only child about letters and numbers, through to my teenage years, when I soaked up Dr Who, inspector gadget, sweet and sour and of course, that lifesaver, Rage. My parents got their news from the ABC, the only reliable source of current affairs. I, in turn, introduced my children to the ABC. In fact, for their first few years, the ABC was the only channel I allowed them to watch. Even now, with a teenager and a 10 year old, if they're not watching Netflix, they watch ABC 3. My husband and I only watch the ABC and SBS. Monday night is our current affairs night. I am devoted to Australian story, for its inspirational detail of the lives of other Australians. My husband is a complete fan of the drum. We dearly miss Nightline. Please don't let them destroy the one source of unbiased information we have as Australians. Country people rely on the ABC. She's our auntie. Destroy her and you take away an invaluable piece of what is wonderful about Australia.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3193 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please Keep The ABC in Public Hands

This is very much a part of Australian History .
Would this Liberal Party council Agree to change the Australian Flag

[REDACTED]

WA 6210



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

I have been listening to ABC radio for 50+ yrs also watch a lot of programmes on ABC & SBS tv. Being a senior citizen, the commercial programmes are of NO Interest to me. I like intelligent viewing & listening, not rubbish, dished out by commercials. Malcom Turnbull has assured the public nothing will change. If this sell off goes ahead I will change the way I vote.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


QLD 4710 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:40 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in our hands not elsewhere!

We have enjoyed the programs from this station and it continues to show us the people the stories without bias to anyone. Can you the government show us the same un-bias thoughts to us when we the people ask questions about subjects we want to know, learn & understand about? I like the quote that was spoken all those years ago "keep the bastards honest" - we want to keep you honest by not going on your word!

[REDACTED]

TAS 7216 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

The ABC is the only media that I trust to provide me with a true picture re; the news and current affairs it must not be privatised

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2530



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:35 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC to stay in public hands

The ABC as a public voice covers such a variety of topics and interests to inform and entertain the wide spectrum of Australians and keep abreast of current trends and interests as well as including some controversial topics. It remains a wide and healthy source of entertainment as well as being educational. If it were to be commercialised it would be far more restricted and lose its uniqueness and flair. The ABC is a gem that many other countries would love to have. The ABC must not be privatised.

[REDACTED]

SA 5153



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:33 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands!

From pre-schoolers through to the elderly, the ABC offers a fantastic breadth of intelligent and entertaining content, both diverse and inclusive. The ABC supports quality local content as well as providing access to international broadcasting, in particular quality comedy and drama from the UK. I grew up with the ABC and so are my kids, and my parents are growing old with Aunty in the background. The concerns over biased reporting are overplayed.

Australia needs it. We don't need another privately-owned broadcaster.

Cheers,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6018 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:33 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: KEEP ABC as a public broadcaster

Dear Sir/Madam,

The news that the government is wanting to make steps to privatise ABC is disturbing news to my ears.

As a public broadcaster, independent of influence from advertising or political pressure, ABC is an important source of quality independent journalism and reporting. And programs like 4 Corners for example are for many Australians a trusted news source.


Allowing the existence of the ABC to be brought into question by the government makes me concerned that we are allowing a crucial pillar of democracy in Australia to be undermined.

The very premise of the inquiry launched by the government (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.

I appreciate your time in considering my submission.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

NSW 2121 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:24 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

Our ABC is the only TV and radio broadcaster to give us balanced and unbiased reporting on the most important Australian and world affairs. The ABC programming has already been damaged by the cuts inflicted by this government to their funding. These constant attacks on the ABC by the government are because this government can't stand truthful reporting, that sometimes shows them in a bad light. There are more than enough commercial TV channels and radio stations already and we don't need our ABC to be converted to another, leaving us without a broadcaster that's worth watching or listening to. The party that privatises our ABC will never get our vote again.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3810




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:25 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC should remain the Property of the Australian People and not a Foreign Media Company.

The ABC should remain the Property of the Australian People and not a Foreign Media Company. Our Governments, both left & right have sold off most of the Australian Peoples assets to private consortium. Eg: SEC Vic., MMBW Vic., G&F Vic., VR Vic., just to name a few! The service they provide is far poorer than the above named. The cost of there services is totally unacceptable for us as consumers. All the companies are interested is in profit and sending jobs of shore to the likes of India and Philippines for there call centers. Telstra is no better. Our Politician are selling of our country, and at the end of the day we shall have nothing left. Our Governments are selling of the family farm!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
SHAME ON YOU. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] You BLOODY POLITICIAN NED TO TAKE NOTICE OF THE PEOPLE YOU SUPPOSEDLY SERVE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I'm very sad to see where our Citizen are taking our Country too!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Signed, as a very disgruntled Australian Born Citizen.

[REDACTED]
VIC 3021 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:24 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: For God's sake... don't privatise the ABC!!!

To Whom it May Concern,

I am a teacher in Tasmania. Nearly all of my colleagues and I watch ABC on a daily basis. It is my absolute channel of choice and my husband and I are already greatly missing Lateline. It's not that I love everything I watch on the ABC... far from it! But the idea of privatising a public broadcasting system can only be seen as spiteful and politically motivated... and nothing good for the people has ever come from that! How you can focus on the 'advantage' they have over commercial channels is just beyond me. What matters is that Australia gets a public broadcasting channel that is not funded my commercial enterprises! It is becoming increasingly apparent that big business in general is not only so often corrupt but has no genuine concern for the people of this country. I WANT my tax dollars to go to the ABC, even if I don't agree with everything they say. I certainly don't choose to give so much of my weekly pay to military spending... but you made that choice for me! Now make the choice to continue spending MY money on something that counts to me and something that represents the democracy we are supposed to live in. I can honestly say I am going to be so angry if you go ahead with this crazy plan. Where is this country going Mr Turnbull??? It's becoming embarrassing to be Australian... seriously!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

TAS 7112



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:24 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands!!

Leave the ABC alone!! One of my strongest childhood memories is the music of the 7pm ABC news. It informed my family of the stories from around the world and continues to do so with such strong independence, it's the only news I trust! Whilst I may have never reached my childhood dreams of becoming a play school presenter, as a parent, there's a guilty pleasure in my daughter watching Play school, engrossed by the stories, songs and creations. So please, leave the ABC alone and allow it to continue informing and delighting our family and countless others for years to come.

[REDACTED]


VIC 3095 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:23 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is not for sale

I love the ABC. It has taught me so much. Art, Music, Politics, Respect and Pride. I remember many years Philip Adams touring the country when the Liberals tried to close down the ABC. The response was enormous. The citizens rose in fury at the arrogance of the politicians daring to try to close down our freedom of speech. Our pride in our nation. The ABC is our Flagship and is to be left alone and its funding restored

[REDACTED]

WA 6169 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:20 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

ABC Radio, iView and online are my valued, main source of news, current affairs and various programs on arts, science and more. This public asset gives a voice to individuals and communities nationally and internationally - this is invaluable to our sense of who we are as a nation, and for me to feel part of this nation by learning about each other thru the ABC.

The ABC is too valuable as a public broadcaster to be privatised.

[REDACTED]

WA 6158 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:18 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC should be well funded

I am 70 years old and tertiary educated. My husband and I have raised five children , all achieved tertiary education . The ABC has been and is a respected news information and entertainment source. It has been the training ground for many noted Australian actors.

No matter which party is in government the ABC offers a critique of the behavior and decisions of that party. The nightly news is not sensationalised but reported sincerely.

The ABC provides an independent voice not constrained by shareholder or owner interests. Catalyst, 4corners, 7.30 report, Foreign Correspondent to name but a few provide an interesting and informative viewing.

We have always paid our taxes and are happy and want the ABC to be well funded and to continue as a public broadcaster.

[REDACTED]

SA 5062 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:15 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I listen to the radio all day - particularly in my workshop where I spend much of my day being retired. I find the programmes always interesting.

I watch all news and current events on ABC TV. I find their presentation to be even handed.

I do not want the ABC to be privatised. I would like all funding returned to the ABC

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6285



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:15 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC must not be privatised

I am a retired person living in remote/regional Australia. My local ABC is a completely trusted source to me of information essential to my health, safety and wellbeing. With the increase in extreme weather events that we are experiencing, my local ABC reports on bushfires, floods, road closures that my community relies on. I cannot imagine why this competes with any commercial media outlet. It is an essential piece of community infrastructure that is appropriately funded from the public purse.

Perhaps, more fundamentally, this inquiry has been established to answer to wrong question. Trusted public broadcasting - ie the ABC/SBS - is fundamental to our democracy. The ABC's charter spells out the ABC's requirement to be fair and unbiased in its reporting and this is constantly monitored. It is not a question of whether or not commercial media outlets are disadvantaged because of the public funding of the ABC and SBS. Rather, a free, ethical and respected public broadcaster is a fundamental tenet ensuring our citizens are well informed, governments and businesses are held to account, and hence our democracy is enhanced. Commercial broadcasters can and do represent the biases that emanate from their commercial masters and large advertisers. This too is part of the mix, but must be balanced by a completely independent and publicly funded public broadcaster.

My view is that the ABC is not the governments to sell. It belongs to all of us. Having paid my taxes for the past 40 years I would feel completely betrayed if it were sold. There is also a considerable amount of evidence against the sale of public assets. Whether it be electricity, water or other essential infrastructure, the losers are always the citizens whose assets are sold, they have to pay more for what they once owned, and private companies who purchase their assets often send their profits offshore, paying little or no tax. The ABS and SBS must not be yet another example of Australian citizens losing out through this short-sighted and ideologically driven approach.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2546



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: We need our ABC in public hands forever

For more than 90 years the ABC has provided a vital public service to all Australians. It is the only broadcast media organisation that I use for my daily news and information. I find that the commercial stations have a very shallow investigation into issues and there is much advertising obvious and hidden for their commercial sponsors. The ABC's investigative journalism and current affairs forum online, on TV or radio go deep below the surface statements to explore the issue. They get me thinking, reflecting and basically better understanding the current affairs issues in Australia and overseas. I value this immensely. It feeds my mental health and my adult learning.

The ABC also caters to significant minority interests that the commercial channels are not interested in. For example, i often listen to folk and world music shows and broadcasts from festivals around Australia on ABC radio that helps make Australia that little bit smaller and more connected. My children love the educational programs on ABC Kids TV, good quality without ads.

Thus the ABC performs a vital public service which is essential for a healthy democratic society. Because it is owned by the public it is not beholden to powerful corporate interests. I believe that the ABC needs to be kept in public ownership and adequately (better) funded to ensure that it continues to provide this vital public service.

[REDACTED]

WA 6162 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:13 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: KEEP OUR ABC IN OUR HANDS! ABC MUST NEVER BE PRIVATISED

hi, i am sending this email because i fear that the Turnbull government as well as Pauline Hanson are trying to get our ABC privatised and weaken their journalists and not let us have our quality programming that we get with the ABC as well as their reliable and trustworthy news programs, more trustworthy than the mainstream channels such as channel 7, 9 & 10 which are controlled by the big guys and don't defy the Turnbull and call out the appalling stuff that this government tries to get away with it such as the \$60 billion tax break for big companies that definitely don't need this tax break as lots of them don't even pay their taxes in this country which is disgusting, because we, the everyday people do have to pay our taxes & this is a very critical reason we need a ABC, to keep us informed what this government is planning to hide so that we are alert and ready to fight them and not let them win.

The Turnbull government has lost all control and has abused their power by bullying the ABC and taking their \$80 million funding that they needed in order to keep their channel running with their high quality programming and this is so that the Turnbull government can control the ABC and punish them for not being on their side and being brave enough to go against this government, who continually lie to the Australian public, unlike the ABC who have more integrity and dignity than the Turnbull government. The Turnbull government fails to see that if there was a vote on who was more popular - them or the ABC - the ABC would win in a heartbeat because it is the one that we, the everyday people know and trust. It's critical that the Turnbull government, along with Pauline Hanson as well as Rupert Murdoch don't get their cold wish to privatise the ABC for their own agendas of shutting up the ABC and so they can have more power than they already think they have.

The slashing of the ABC'S \$80 million funding from the Turnbull government is an abuse of power, that should have never been allowed to go through & the fact that it did go through, is a joke in itself because the Turnbull government and Pauline Hanson aren't the judge, jury and executioners and they don't speak for us and for the ABC and what we need and what we definitely don't need is to privatise the ABC and let this cold heartless, without a soul government win.

We, everyday people don't want this government to take our ABC away from us, that is not their decision, no one gave them that right to do that.

The ABC is for the people and we, are for the ABC & stand with them to tell the Turnbull government & Pauline Hanson that they can't privatise our ABC, no matter how much they will try and want to - it will only make us stronger to fight them more on it and not let them win!

The Turnbull government is not for us, everyday people, they pretend they are and think that we actually believe that but they will always be the big guys, the bigger companies that abuse their power too and are trying to take away from us, everyday people, our pay checks and penalty rates.

The ABC exposes all of this with their excellent, high quality journalists/journalism so we need them more than ever, otherwise this government will keep trying to pull one over us every chance they get without us knowing it, which is scary to think about and to think we live in a country where this kind of government wants to take more of our rights and control what can be said and not said through media, through grassroots organisations and through us, everyday people, is sickening and isn't the Australia i know and really like because we have freedom of speech here and this government wants to limit us having that & that's terrifying to think about & this is what the government is doing to the ABC by privatising them - they're trying to get them to shut up or they will face the consequences if they don't.

So if this can happen to the ABC, what about for us, the everyday people? we won't be silenced by this idiotic, cold hearted Turnbull government and Pauline Hanson, we won't let them take our voices, our rights & the same for the ABC!

i & the everyday people stand with the ABC to tell the Turnbull government, Pauline Hanson & Rupert Murdoch that they will not privatise our ABC!!

The ABC will not be privatised!

We need our ABC, it is our home for when we want high quality programming, the Turnbull will not take

that away from us!

I, along with the everyday & ABC are strong together and united we stand to tell the Turnbull government, Pauline Hanson & Rupert Murdoch that they can forget trying to privatise the ABC!

Not on our watch!



VIC 3023 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:12 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: [REDACTED]

I am appalled at the idea that the ABC might be privatised.
I love the ABC - especially the radio. I think the TV quality has been affected by the cuts so don't watch it as much as I used to.

I carry my "tradies" radio around with me all day - in the kitchen, laundry and garden. It has a wonderful variety of programmes.

On TV I watch the news - the best available - a bit too much sport for me! - and the current events programmes. Four Corners is the most wonderful programme which would be the first thing axed if it was privatised.

I hope this idea is knocked on the head very quickly. I find the commentators to be very fair. What some people don't like is that the ABC doesn't always support their narrow point of view.

Please keep the ABC in public ownership - and return the funding.

[REDACTED]

WA 6285 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:11 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC privatisation

I strongly support a publicly funded and independent ABC.

The ABC plays an extremely important role as a national broadcaster, especially in times of emergencies and natural disasters.

People living in rural areas need the ABC as the commercial channels do not reach there as they base their coverage on profitability and ratings considerations, and the not the "public interest".

The ABC is often accused of "left wing bias". This is overstated. While they do give a voice to non-conservative interests, this balances the commercial channels which are owned by a few wealthy individuals. Alternative points of view rarely get an airing on the commercial media (witness the likes of Alan Jones and Ray Hadley!).

Leave the ABC in public hands as our national broadcaster!

Sincerely

[REDACTED]
Port Macquarie NSW

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2444



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:08 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Mayo voter declares support for ABC!

It is unspeakable that the ABC be privatised. The ABC was established as an independent broadcaster, funded by taxpayers to provide a public service, so there is no economic case for the ABC to be privatised. I live in the electorate of Mayo, where a recent survey showed that 74% of respondents think funding to the ABC should be increased or stay the same. I agree with them. Other previous surveys show that the ABC is considered to be one of the most trusted news sources in Australia. I agree with that too. What will my life be like without independent and trusted news (although the content isn't as in-depth as it used to be - must be those previous funding cuts), Leigh Sales on the 7:30 Report, Four Corners, The Weekly, Mystery Road, Shaun Micallef's Mad as Hell (I need more of this), Wentworth, repeats of good English drama, Radio National, Philip Adams and many many more. \$1 billion of taxpayers money is extremely good value and funding must be increased (this is spare change compared to Australia's defence budget). Life would be just that bit more boring without Aunty. I would have to spend my free time being an activist for civil society!

[REDACTED]

SA 5244



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:07 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

The ABC represents the essence of what it is to be Australian. To suggest that we should privatise the very essence of Australia is treason to our heritage! Leave the ABC as it is, an independent voice for all Australians guaranteed by the people of Australia in the form of government support.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2880



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:07 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC public!

Privatising our public broadcasting corporation is just wrong. Leave us with one news source not influenced by media moguls interests! This is just wrong. Its like stealing assets from average Australian taxpayers and selling them to the rich and powerful. There will be nothing genuine and real left on TV and radio.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4215



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:06 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC is not yours to destroy or sell for party political and ideological reasons.

An independent Press and one that serves all people in our community is fundamental to the protection of our democratic systems, as well as providing a range of information services -eg to support isolated communities and make independent information available to them to ensure access , safety and quality support.

It is in no way to be compared with the ordinary commercial press and is already significantly underfunded by you.

It will never be appropriate in our democracy to diminish or destroy its role functions, or its independence. It a hallmark of quality of our democracy and a guardian of our freedoms.

Nor will we stand for neoliberal ideology to impose party political restrictions on its functioning , and curb its responsibilities to our community by imposing crippling financial constraints.

Hands off our ABC!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2256 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

Please do not privatise the ABC. It does provide a balanced, unbiased view and exceptional programming. Mr Morrison must remember that he does not fund the ABC, I do, along with all Australian tax payers. It is OUR ABC and must not be put in private hands.

[REDACTED]

TAS 7310



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Commercial ABC?!?!

Oh my goodness, please noooo!

The ABC is SO important to the quality and success of my family's life and how we contribute to our community and it's democratic process.

The ABC is critical peice of my information gathering framework. I'm astounded at how the ABC continues to develop and support extraordinarily relevant and innovative content and services as well as stay ahead of the curve in how they deliver those to the community. If anything, I suggest the ABC has the greater capacity to make money for our government through leveraging and remarketing their products to the world as ambassadors for Australian culture, creativity and innovation.

I understand that there are some who feel differently about the ABC, but privatisation is a very blunt, illogical and irrational instrument to address the specific concerns I understand them to have raised. I do feel it's important for opponents concerns be raised, understood and addressed however as far as I understand, there has been no concern raised that cannot be addressed in by reforms to the ABC is a far more effective method than privatisation.

Further, if the opponent doesn't like ABC, they are free to select and consume a different service, if their concern is not based on simple personal preference I feel sceptical that another motive exists, perhaps their own finically gain which seems relevant and under stable to me but inappropriate as justification.

In response to arguments that the ABC has an unfair market advantage - the commercials are operating in the same environment they launched their businesses to compete with the ABC. Why is it that they now feel its unfair?

if the ABC is successful competitor in the market, providing services the community chooses over commercial networks, that in itself is an argument for keeping and supporting the ABC - that is, the ABC produces excellent products and constantly re-invents itself in an effort to remain relevant and competitive to the whole of Australia on a lean budget, within tight guidelines.


Are the commercial networks going to air things like landline and Behind the news and 4 corners etc etc etc? And life matters and media watch and counterpoint and the Health report, and the science show, I can't see that happening!

If a wider spectrum views need to be met, then present the ABC staff with that challenge and see what they produce. And keeping asking for it tell they give it. Craft the ABC. But do not privatise the ABC.

We absolutely must keep our ABC because it's successful and relevant.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ACT 2602 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in Public hands

Dear Sir,

the ABC needs to stay in Public hands and not be privatised by the current government.

It is the ONLY news source that will unashamedly take on the big issues - Four Corners and other programs have been instrumental in leading to the establishment of a number of high level enquiries over the years. I suspect that that is why the government and its supporters are pushing for the ABC to be privatised. Its children's programs are the best in the country and continue to be so. My wife is an early childhood teacher and her assess emnt of these programs is always high! None of the commercial stations programs come close to the quality of these programs.

The ABC also produces some of the best drams and docudrama programs in the country - bar none.

This blatant attack on the ABC will be resisted and the Government WILL be punished at the next series of elections if this move is supported by Government members. AS a member of the voting public I will make damn certain that the government and government based members are targeted in any future elections should this move be successful. I have long been a swinging voter and have made certain that my votong reflected that - however, if this chnage goes ahead then I will swithch my vote from the lIberal / co-allition to the other parties that areclearly more interested in the future of Australia than the Lib/ Nats if this change goes ahead.

Publically funded media such as the ABC fulfill a vital role in our society and the cessation of this organisation will have dire consequences on the long term viability of Australia as a democratic society - look at the reasons as to why the ABC was originally set up. The current enquiry and the ongoing attacks on the ABC by both the CoAllition and the Labour Party are indicative of the fear that this organisation engenders within the political elite - due to its independence and capacity to bring the truth out into society!The ABC needs to protected and more fully funded to perform this important role into the future for the betterment of our society. The terms of reference for this enquiry are clearly based upon an irrelevant series of assumptions that are flawed. My only hope is that members of that enquiry will clearly see what this is all about. Because if the members of the enquiry don't see this then the general public most certainly will!

[REDACTED]

NSW 2800



[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

My children grew up on ABC ad-free, top quality children's tv and now my grandchildren are enjoying the same, with favourites like Bananas in Pyjamas and Peppa Pig. I rely on the ABC's unbiased and in-depth news, the 7:30 Report and 4 Corners as trusted news and current affairs sources...keeping me in touch with local, national and world news. Regional friends also rely on the ABC to keep them connected with quality news and current affairs.

I am deeply concerned about the Coalition's attack on the Australian people's ABC. 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. Whereas commercial media is influenced by the owners perspectives and interests and is answerable to shareholders and along with that, naturally comes bias or influence by those shareholders. Please keep our ABC in public hands to prevent bias and private interest.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2114 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 11:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Why change it, private media is biased & hosts programs that are brain numbing

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3179 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:59 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I dont want the ABC privatised. There is plenty of evidence about the sensorship and selectivity of filters in corporate interests when public media is privatised. Australians deserve and have the right to a neutral, national public broadcaster...the ABC is part of our heritage and national identity. Please use your influence to protect it and the ublic's interest.

[REDACTED]

SA 5291



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: A Democracy worth its name?

Dear Senators,

I was appalled to read that the Liberal party has called for the privatisation of our national broadcaster. Don't members understand the critical importance of the 4th estate (an independent media) to a democracy? Are we to be like dictatorships in other parts of the world that silence the voices of independent journalists, kill them even ! Is this what the Australian Liberal party wants our proud heritage to be reduced to? I urge senate members to think carefully about the value of the ABC in the daily lives of the citizens of this country, both for the arts, investigative journalism, and a source of information that is trusted by the vast majority of Australians.

Sincerely

Dr [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6160



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

We strongly disapprove of any effort to sell off our ABC. It is our only reliable source of NEWS.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3078



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

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

Already commercial media is too concentrated in a few hands, reducing diversity and adding to the 'echo chamber' of the current media landscape and its self-serving, profit driven interests!

More than ever we need impartial, objective reporting with integrity as provided by the ABC.

Our democracy and our citizens need the amazing investigative journalism provided by the ABC, as evidenced by many recent exposés of corruption and fraud.

We do not need more of the same 'info-mercial' , sensationalised 'news' served up by commercial media, driven by the interests of sponsors and power-brokers.

As a former resident in rural Australia, I know the vital role the ABC plays in the lives of rural Australians, keeping them connected and informed.

PLEASE do NOT privatise our ABC!!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


QLD 4550 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:56 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

It's currently the most neutral and balanced, and privatisation will jepodise this. Additionally it allows my child advertisement free viewing which is non biased, compared to strategically marketing advertised on other channels. We lease don't privatise.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3179 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:54 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Submission to the Public Enquiry into the ABC

Submission to the Public Enquiry into the Australian Broadcasting Corporation

As an Australian citizen I would like to submit my view that the ABC is a vitally important institution to the cultural and democratic well being of this country.

As a young child in the 1950s I listened with my father to a wide range of classical music that could only be heard on ABC radio, music that formed a large part of my musical education. To my knowledge ABC Classic FM radio is still the only broadcaster of such a wide range of classical music both traditional and contemporary. From talking to friends, colleagues and acquaintances, from online comments to ABC radio I realise that thousands of Australians have had similar musical experiences and view the ABC Classic FM as their radio station for great music.

Again as a young child, ABC news services, current affairs programs, news commentaries and documentaries on radio and television formed the basis of my civic, social and political education, an education that has continued throughout my life and underpins my informed participation in the civic and democratic life of my community, my state and my nation. These programs provided the same education for my son who now looks to the ABC news services and current affairs programs to do the same for his children.

When my son was a child the ABC's children's programs on television provided him with an important and unforgettable pre-school and after school educational experience and now continue to provide one for his children.

All these invaluable community services that ABC radio and television have provided to generations of Australians came to us in the knowledge that the ABC was a public broadcaster, a government funded service financed by our taxes, and so free from commercial advertising and profit making constraints.

I am now in my seventies and am as ardent a fan as ever of ABC radio and television. I can't understand why our government needs to make an enquiry into this invaluable national institution which continues, in the face of ever diminishing resources, to provide high quality information and entertainment. I cannot imagine life in this country without a public broadcaster of the calibre of the ABC. Any changes to its charter that seek to diminish or restrict, or commercialise its operations, would in my opinion be a tragedy for the cultural, social and democratic wellbeing of Australian society, of our nation.

[REDACTED]


SA 5034



[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:54 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands



[Redacted]
[Redacted]
QLD 4061 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:54 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC public owned

The media is already concentrated in the hands of ;a handfull of private companies. We need the ABC to remain a public media presence. We need independent more independent media. The ABC promotes local news and content. It helps produce local media and content. I check ABC news everyday. There so many great ABC programs such as lateline, media watch, lateline, four corners, gruen transfer. Every democracy needs public broadcasting to keep the commercail channels and the government honest

[REDACTED]

WA 6281



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Reject privatisation of the ABC


Submission to Inquiry into the competitive neutrality of the national broadcasters.

I WANT the so much greater depth of news coverage provided by the ABC. I WANT to know that it is accountable for a balanced coverage of political and other controversial matters - commercial broadcasting has no such accountability. I may prefer the Sydney Morning Herald or the Daily Telegraph but they are still beholden to an owner who can (and does) control editorial policy whenever he (or she) so chooses. I do NOT want advertisements interrupting my flow of thought as I listen or watch. I do not want my horizons narrowed by what sells to a mass market. Whether it's sports, politics, the arts, business and economics, lifestyle, religion, philosophy or ethics, I GAIN so much from the ABC and the commercial offerings are mostly more shallow. I also appreciate the historic and current impact of the ABC in encouraging a sense of national unity and private responsibility for the national good and for national policy. I believe the ABC should retain and expand the diversity of its offerings. I believe it should not be stripped of areas of coverage which are considered to compete with private enterprise. Some people have complained that the ABC does not cater to their needs. There should be something there for everyone. So the big sports should remain and also the minor sports. Programs geared to minority groups and a variety of immigrant languages should remain. Children's programming should remain. If we believe that a major chunk of our society is poorly represented on the ABC, let's find articulate and well-informed representatives of those groups or opinions. If necessary provide extra funding to train people to be more effective broadcasting advocates . Privatisation of the ABC, including privatisation by stealth, will only demonstrate to me that the party that does it refuses to be seriously examined and held accountable. In the absence of the ABC, I will consider that party permanently unworthy of my vote.

Does the ABC demonstrate adequate levels of balance? I believe so. Balance is very difficult to achieve; but I have consistently heard critical questioning applied to any and all sides of politics; I have heard ideas on philosophy, religion, ethics and science that I agree with and others that I don't. I hear things that force me to adjust and re-adjust my own perceptions. Nobody does it as well as the ABC, despite the pitiful budget that Government supports it with. Give it more money, but don't privatise it. Do not allow it to be a tool of the government of the day and do not give undue weight to the objections of commercial operators.

- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2650 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: KEEP OUR ABC IN PUBLIC HANDS ALWAYS!

I have watched the ABC as a child since the early 1970s. It is our station. Free from the propaganda the commercial stations regurgitate. Ha ds off our ABC. We WILL fight and vote you out if you dare attempt your low acts.

[REDACTED]


QLD 4876 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: I love my ABC unprivatised!

I am 61years old and semi retired. All my life I have listened to and watched the ABC. In fact it is the ONLY tv and radio station that I watch and listen to. All through my life I can mark it by the shows I have watched on telly. Countdown, TDT, playschool. It is the only channel I allowed my children to watch. I love the ABC developed tv dramas and other shows. Spics and specs, Rake, mystery road. These are intelligent, Australianand most importantly advertising-free programs. The political reporting is independent and strong. 4 Corners has uncovered major issues that have resulted in Royal commissions. The ABC must not be privatised. It has been an essential contributor to the cultural, political and economic life of this country.
I will not vote for any party that wants to change the character of MY ABC.

[REDACTED]

ACT 2905 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:49 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Hands off the ABC

I am writing in order to express my dismay, and ire, at the proposed to privatise the ABC, the people's station, the one we grow into, and appreciate more with each year of our lives. The one station that allows truth to prevail, that holds the dishonest to account, it will be a sad and sorry day for Australians if the code of conduct which prevails at the ABC becomes the slurry mess of lies, greed, and propaganda of the media moguls to maintain control of disinformation . Shame on those proposing this privatisation, raise the revenue in another way, and leave our station, the one we pay for, and are happy to do so, alone.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2292 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is a national treasure and must be preserved

We always rely on the ABC news and current affairs for accuracy, on-the-ground reporting and outstanding analysis. The Drum, Four Corners, Insiders, 7.30 and Q&A are the most important television programs we watch. Of course we don't always agree with some of the issues or the speakers, but we will fight the government all the way if it attempts to dismantle this vital service. Our grandchildren love watching PlaySchool and Bananas in Pyjamas and the other programs on the kid's channel.

Democracy is under threat when our national public broadcaster is threatened with cuts or with privatisation. You politicians may be uncomfortable with some of the coverage your policies and personalities get on the ABC, but that, my friends, is democracy.
Do not touch the ABC - it is not yours to play with. It belongs to all Australians.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2620 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep out ABC in public hands


We love our ABC!

It needs to be kept in public hands. Too many channels are already influenced by corporations and lack integrity. The ABC is essential to fair representation and media coverage in Australia.

Not to mention the amazing children's programs. Play School is still the best thing on TV for kids.

The ABC can be trusted because it does not have to answer to private interests. Please keep it this way! Do not sell off our ABC.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

VIC 3195 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:47 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Obviously the liberals are scared of the truth coming out.
They are scared of public opinion (charities crackdown) and they are scared of the ABC for reporting everything that Murdoch doesn't want us to hear.
Good basis for a system of government?
I think not.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5049 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

The ABC has been a wonderful provider of well researched news, enlightening documentaries and commentaries on all manner of topics under the sun. Please keep this organisation in public hands!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3085 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:44 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is a national icon beloved of Australian people of all ages. Overseas visitors are envious of the quality of programmes and reporting which is achieved by the ABC. As a national public broadcasting channel uninfluenced by private vested interests, the ABC is a linchpin of our democracy particularly in this age of 'fake' news.

[REDACTED]


SA 5061



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC

I believe the ABC belongs to the people, not to the Government of the day. To privatise the ABC would be a travesty, and damage irrevocably the freedom and opportunity to be exposed to both sides of any debate. As a busy person, I value the ABC to educate objectively. It is basic to democracy, and would be a hugely regressive step for Australia. In addition, in this day of dubious and conflicting influences, children's programs are safe and comforting, and have been for over 40 years in my experience. It would be idiocy to think this would remain the same in the event of privatisation.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2304 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands to serve all Australians

Competitive Neutrality and the ABC

The ABC and SBS are institutions devised by a wise government to provide informed understanding of issues and events which the population can use to make decisions.

Changes in the orientation of Governments, political parties and the private owners of media occur constantly. How can we tell the fake news from real news? Australia's prosperity, identity and ability to integrate people from all ethnic backgrounds is entirely dependent on the rule of law. The rule of law is dependent on evidence based decision making. Where either of these processes breaks down, there is likely to be upheaval.

The ABC and SBS both operate news and information services which provide the who, what, when and where of events and provide some analysis based on prevailing evidence of the time, that is, the facts as agreed by most specialists in any give field. These facts or evidence may upset people who have an ideology to pursue. That is the role of any neutral institution whether publicly or privately funded.

Private media operators need to make a profit to ensure their continued operations and may choose not to cover issues or explore the depth of issues. Private media is subject to the editorial whims and ideologies of the owners. Private media is unable to offend sponsors, for fear of losing funding.

That is why ABC and SBS should be fearless institutions and honest brokers of evidence and issues and solutions. Governments should be mature enough to understand that criticism is part of the process of politics. Kill it and we will have a dictatorship. There must be a more accessible interrogator of the law than the court system. For most of us that is the ABC and SBS. Additionally they provide experimental forms of entertainment reflecting and defining Australian culture.

Private media have a different end result to the public broadcaster. Private media is beholden to both the owner of the medium and the sponsors who pay for the operation of the medium. That is, private media is constrained to provide content that is acceptable to sponsors and owners. Private media is also free to conduct witch hunts and to ignore serious stories of corruption which might offend a sponsor. The end result for private media is that it is the captive of its owners and funders.

The different outcome required for ABC and SBS to inform the widest cross section possible of all Australians from bush to city skyscrapers. This costs money and the commitment of government to provide neutrality.

Media in transition:

The current price pressures on so many existing main media mast heads means that change is rapidly destroying much of its capability. The different platforms by which people receive news puts a huge impost on any organisation to reach so many people in so many different locations, whose media consumption is from so many platforms and sources. For instance, people who don't watch 'The News' but will watch a political satire.

Competitive Neutrality

I believe that the ABC and SBS are competitively neutral. They are funded to a certain level by public funding. They provide jobs, pay fees, and provide news and a wide range of entertainment.

Up until recently, media moguls had deep pockets and could outbid the ABC and SBS on any desirable sport or entertainment product. The ABC and SBS have a solid following but do not reach 'blockbuster' status on many programs. That is, they are little threat to the ratings of network TV. Further, I do not like the current crop of commercial TV productions. I simply cannot stand the adversarial reality TV shows which is all they currently produce. Clearly, the number of people moving to streaming rather than commercial media to avoid Ads which pay for the programs and so create a financial spiral into bankruptcy. That commercial media is in disarray due to changing world financial realities and shifts in technology is no excuse whatsoever to destroy a still functional and relevant model of news, analysis, information and entertainment delivery that meets its charter for independent, evidence based analysis and culturally relevant programming.

That the critics of ABC and SBS are operating platforms which are not attracting even the small audience the public broadcaster commands is a problem of their programming. People do not want to hear/see/consume their content nor do sponsors want to fund their content. They cannot then look at the public broadcaster and call 'foul'. Keep ABS and SBS true to their original purpose of informing on evidence based analysis and enhancing our common culture, albeit with some pockets across all regions, ethnicities, socio economic enclaves and age groupings. Unless we have a common voice reaching all the diverse groups of Australia, we will have difficulty binding the citizens of our nation with a common understanding of issues which require solutions.

That explains why ABC and SBS have the need for their various platforms in radio, internet, bandwidth for TV stations, etc. Private enterprise would abandon some regionals or some groupings. The ABC and SBS have a charter to reach as many Australians as possible and that requires funding.

I cannot imagine commercial media would be happy to have the ABC and SBS fully funded by advertising revenue. I understand there is not enough revenue to support the existing free to air TV and newspapers. Which domino will fall next, and, would privatising the ABC and SBS deliver anything to the public good? A privatised ABC and SBS could become rabid lefties to balance the rabid righties or the poles may reverse over time. Is it not in the national interest to maintain a strong, independent ABC and SBS whose charter included information and analysis based on evidence? Surely, a neutral editorial charter is better than an ideological one?

I have had subscription TV since 1996. The cost cutting and decimation of programming over the last 20 years makes it a waste of my money. The Skynews service used to work at neutrality but has become the captive now of the ultra right wing which does not exercise its editorial discretion to measure commentary against accepted evidence. It's about entertainment not news. If this is the model, then it is deeply, deeply flawed.

Clearly, public funding of the ABC and SBS may appear to be an unnatural advantage over private media but it is a worthwhile long term investment by government. It requires a robust, adult government to fund a media platform with a charter of independence. ABC and SBS deliver news, culture, drama, children's shows, documentaries, some local some imported, and news analysis measured against evidence. Perhaps at a time of flux in the commercial media, preserving the ABC and SBS news with strong independent charter will best meet the needs of Australia.

I urge the committee to also consider the cost benefit of the public broadcaster when considering the competitive neutrality of private media organisations with a different editorial imperative.


We love our ABC and SBS. We love the programs, the news, the analysis, the many platforms and stations operated by the public broadcaster because it delivers to Australians in a creative and responsible way. If it also makes governments uncomfortable, so be it.

If anything, the public broadcaster should be strengthened with more funding.

[REDACTED]
(Details below are not for publication but rather to verify identity.)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3338 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise our ABC!

The ABC must not be privatised because there is a risk that the outstanding investigative journalism will be compromised. It is the only tv station that does not have advertising, and the programming has a lot of Australian content.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2480 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:40 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC as it has been established for many decades

The ABC must not be privatised - any business government owned that is privatised fails or disappears into 'the ether'. Leave our ABC for Australians.

[REDACTED]

WA 6401




From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Save our ABC

Submission regarding the Liberal Party Council's vote supporting the sale of our public broadcaster the ABC.

I live in the country just outside a regional centre in NSW and have done so for the past 40 years. I could not imagine life without the country's only independent broadcasting ABC.
The ABC is required by law to inform, educate and entertain all Australians, with a balance of viewpoints. Over the years it has done that totally for me, through radio, (love Radio National and Classic FM) TV and now with online services. My children had the pleasure of ABC children's TV programmes when they were growing up and now enjoy the adult programmes.
The majority of commercial broadcasters do not seem to be required to present a balance of viewpoints. (Does Alan Jones' programme seek balance? What about Andrew Bolt? Mark Latham? Peta Credlin? Those shallow ditzy morning programmes? Are there any without a Coalition right-wing perspective?) Lots of people like those commercial media. They have lots of choice.
Let's leave some balance in the system and allow those who find the commercial media short-sighted, narrow-minded, boring and odious, have some choice and keep their beloved ABC.
The ABC is able to present a wide range of issues, topics and human interest stories.
Our society is healthier when we are well informed and entertained.
What would it be like if we did not have the wonderful investigative journalism of Four Corners? Balanced ABC News programmes? What would Saturday's be like without Robin Williams' brilliant and informative Science Show? and driving home listening to Richard Fidler's sensitive, searching interviews? In the morning the balanced and informative Fran Kelly? Mystery Road - what will happen next?
The list goes on...
Commercial media can't or won't provide that quality of balanced education and entertainment.

What is the matter with those Liberal party people!

[REDACTED]
Eltham NSW 2480

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2480 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Protect OUR ABC

Even with drastic cuts to funding OUR ABC continues to produce independent reliable content such as 7.30, Q & A and entertaining, informative programs. It would be a tragedy if it were privatised,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2250 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:38 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC-keep in public hands

Dear Sir/Madam

I love the ABC both radio and TV.

Born in rural NSW and living some of my life in regional and rural areas, I have relied on the ABC for news, current affairs and entertainment. During the 2003 bushfires in Canberra the ABC was the emergency information contact which gave us updates and warnings.

I spend a lot of time driving long distances across the country and regularly can only get ABC radio in rural areas.

To privatize this Australian icon will destroy it. Advertising is very insidious and is found everywhere on the commercial TV stations including their news shows which regularly have "news" items like specials at Woolworths.

Many rorts, dangers and corruption have been exposed by ABC reporters and current affair shows.

Health issues such as asbestosis caused by the James Hardie industry was exposed to the general public in 1977 by an ABC reporter.

2012 the ABC exposed Newcastle priest pedophiles. This culminated in the Royal Commission which has just finished.

In 2016 ABC viewers saw the horror of child abuse in juvenile detention centres in Northern Territory.

I could name many many more. If the ABC was privatized this would all stop as the advertisers would have influence and the ABC would not be independent.

Businesses buying time in the media are very invasive

in how the whole radio/TV station would be run.

Please leave the ABC as an independent in station and fund it properly.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2580 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:36 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Submission supporting the ABC remaining in public hands

My name is [REDACTED] and I am 72. I love the ABC and have done since I was a little girl when I listened to Kindergarten Of The Air (the wireless version of Playschool) and The Argonauts. Now I love listening to ABC classical music, talk and discussions, and watching excellent current affairs shows such as Four Corners and Q& A and good quality drama series and films from Australia and overseas. Sadly not all programs are excellent; repeat series, poor quality imports and game shows act as fillers because of the brutal cuts to funding over the years.

I admire the professionalism of the ABC crew who have nobly soldiered on providing the highest quality services to the community without fear or favour, despite the ongoing cuts, loss of staff and onslaughts of criticism. Would that our politicians could behave in such an exemplary manner in the face of attacks and insults by those who oppose them. If our politicians could carry themselves with the dignity of ABC presenters the public would respect and trust them more.

The ABC is an institution that all Australians can look up to and trust. It is inclusive, informative and highly educational. It seeks to represent all views and maintain high ethical standards. No commercial broadcaster could provide this level of dedication. I am truly surprised that the Liberal Party, is known for its conservative nature and presumably prides itself in having highly educated members, should undermine the ABC and the high quality services it provides. One example of excellent programming was the deeply moving Anzac Day program on Classic FM presented by Martin Buzacott a combination of beautiful music and descriptions of events by war Veterans, some deceased. It helped me understand more what members of the armed forces endured and what the war was about. That program would have required hours (I suspect many unpaid) of dedicated research.

Mairi Nicholson's music and opera programs are another example of the commitment and dedication of the presenters, similarly Tony Jones and Leigh Sales on ABC television. There are many more I could name, a team of good people who remain disciplined, professional and respectful and seem to retain a sense of pride and a sense of humour despite everything. The ABC is respected Nationally and Internationally by experts from all walks of life, who give their time to be interviewed our National Network. Who can forget Paul McCartney being interviewed by Leigh Sales? No commercial network could provide programs of such consistent quality.

Privatising the ABC would destroy a National treasure. Such an act would never be forgotten or forgiven. The enormity of the loss would become more apparent over time, but once it is gone it cannot be restored. I personally would lose a great deal. Although I have managed to be quite well educated, circumstances have left me with a very modest income in my retirement. The ABC provides me with opportunities to explore a range of interests and is a source of ongoing lifelong learning which will become more important for me I grow older. To privatise the ABC would be to destroy a large part of our cultural heritage. Instead, the ABC should be supported, nurtured and protected as should all our national treasures and heritage listings.

Respectfully submitted

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3095



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:32 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC - not for sale

The ABC belongs to the people of Australia. It's potential sale to a private corporation compromises the integrity of democracy in our country. The Liberal Party Council are out of touch and doing their cause no favours by threaten to dismantle this treasure.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3444




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:32 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC public

Australia needs a strong, competent, independent and critically (in the proper sense of the word) investigative media that makes information available to the whole country. An independent ABC is a vital part of that. Once privatised it will eventually end up as the lap dogs of one or other political party, an abomination that can be previewed by the dog whistle reporting of the likes of the Murdoch press. It must never be allowed to happen. Enough has already been lost to vengeful staff and budget cuts by a government that cannot abide criticism or having its peccadilloes pointed out.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2234 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:28 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

We need honest, bold & robust information. Support a true democracy & keep ABC for the people. No to privatisation & loss of freedom of information.

[REDACTED]

TAS 7250



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:28 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands and well-funded

I am strongly protesting any loss or reduction of the ABC which has brought impartiality, quality investigative journalism and substantial analytical news to the public with integrity and uninfluenced, until the government started to interfere so much. In its heyday, before all the cuts, it also enabled creative and innovative drama, comedy, satire and educational, quality children's television that would not have seen the light of day on commercial, Americanised channels. Leave our ABC alone and support it with money from our taxes!

[REDACTED]

NSW 2077 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:26 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC Independent and Public Funded

I wish to make clear as 75 years Australian, the only thing that keeps this country worth living in is the Independent ABC. I suggest put the same standards of commercial media and they would be closed down. Yes I do not like some stuff, but they are way ahead of most commercial sycophantic junk, like their endless low brow cheap American imports. This country needs and all countries need a fiercely independent media. Having seen personally how the political, bureaucratic and business classes jump when good journalism exposes wrongs, we should convert commercial media into diversified ownership to be more like the ABC - independent.

How about an ABC news paper with ABC standards of reporting and with sections handed to political parties to put their own view and reporting and we cal all then see issues and arguments side by side in the one paper. Whatever leave the ABC alone.

[REDACTED]

PS It has been evident to me there has been a softening-up going on for a good while - first the ABC TV has increasing (endless) ads for their programs that must cost a bomb and then so many presenters now refer to going to that sycophantic "break" so used on commercial TV where a friendly 'break' is an intro to be put through pretty awful 'real' advertising. Yes leave the ABC alone and stop trying to make ABC TV it look like a tabloid commercial TC station so we give up and see no difference given we have to watch their too frequent 'breaks'.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4655




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:25 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC is a national treasure and the most trusted news site in the country! I do not trust the news on commercial channels. The shows are of excellent quality and no commercials, which is a bonus. Most of the shows I watch are on the ABC! (Sometimes SBS too) Rarely do I watch a commercial channel. The children's programs are outstanding and award winning. 4 Corners is an excellently researched, more broadly based news and current affairs show, with stories that are very interesting and topical. Public broadcasting plays an important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and shouldn't be compared with commercial media. Hands off our ABC!!!!!!

[REDACTED]

VIC 3816 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:23 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: I love my ABC

Honorable Members of the House

The ABC has been a cornerstone of Australia's media landscape for many years. It has the trust of the Australian public to delivery news which we can rely upon. The ABC covers all the corners of this wonderful country and the possibility of allowing it to be taken over by any commercial organisation is unthinkable. no other media organisation insists on equal time for both sides of politics, except perhaps the Fairfax media, which would not have sufficient funds to take over the ABC. ABC does not allow any presenters to give their personal opinions when delivering news, something which cannot be claimed by many in the mainstream media.

We constantly hear cries from those on the right side of politics that the ABC is a left leaning organisation. When you are from the far right, anything from the centre view is going to be left of where you are, but that doesn't mean that the ABC presents only a left wing agenda. Surely the opportunity to have both sides of an argument presented to the Australian public is something to be valued greatly. Why do we never hear those from the right wing complain about bias in right wing media? Why would they not want to hear both sides of any debate so that they can be fully informed?

Please allow the ABC to continue to be owed by the Australia Public. It is far too valuable for any other form of ownership.

Regards

[REDACTED]
ACT 2912

[REDACTED]
ACT 2913



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:22 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keep the ABC in public hands

This cannot be allowed to happen

[REDACTED]

VIC 3218 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC belongs to the people.

The ABC stands tall and steady in a frenzied world of corrupted media and cheque book journalism. The ABC is sacrosanct and is the epitome of the things that make Australia great. Honesty, integrity a sense of fairness and humour. To hear of a political party (of any denomination) that would have the arrogance, the audacity to think that they have a right to rob this country of its finest bastion of democracy, makes my skin crawl. I would rather donate a kidney than lose the ABC to privatisation.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2580 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

A democratic society must have voice in the media free of commercial pressure and with high moral values. In commercial hands profit becomes the main priority which will lower standards. Areas such as education and cultural discussions rather than just entertainment are very important and are best provided by an independent public media service. The current commercial channels do not provide this and the mindless constant advertising which would then invade the ABC would lower the standards of TV to such an extent that large numbers of people would turn off and be deprived of intelligent viewing.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


WA 6070 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:21 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC public

I value having the ABC TV, radio, website etc to provide quality broadcasting. I don't place much value on the commercial channels we have available, and feel that the ABC is some of the only decent media we have here in Australia. I understand that the hard right, including some members of the Liberal Party and One Nation etc want to privatise it, and are calling for an inquiry, because they cannot stand receiving any scrutiny or criticism, but that is necessary in a democracy. I would be horrified if our ABC was to be under even more pressure, considering all the cuts it has had recently. Please protect the ABC. We need more funding for it.

[REDACTED]

SA 5173 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:19 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

The ABC is my most trusted radio & tv source of unbiased news and entertainment.
It is not driven by commercial interests nor lobbyists.
We are seeing honest scrutiny of government, and which ever party is in power, we the people need to have
a national broadcaster to keep the government on it's toes.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2121 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:18 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

I only listen to ABC radio as it is the best of all radio stations by 'a million miles'. The majority of my TV watching is the ABC as it has best shows compared to the commercial stations. ABC radio and TV have an incredible number of very informative, educational and interesting programs and shows. It caters for all age groups with excellent programs for all ages. It keeps me up to date with what's happening at home and abroad and I trust implicitly the information I learn from the ABC. The ABC has the best journalists with the highest integrity of any journalists in Australia. The people who work for the ABC have the reputation of having very high integrity. It's shameful having politicians berate it because they don't like what they hear so they are trying to shut them down. In my opinion it's an abuse of power which can become a very slippery slope. Good journalism is imperative in a democratic society. The ABC plays an incredible important role in our Australian democracy. Politicians who want to get rid of the ABC smacks of someone who doesn't want to be held accountable - it's a dangerous and slippery slope. It's appalling that the ABC has become a political football by the politicians. In my opinion the the politicians should have no power or influence whether to sell the ABC or to reduce its funding. It's as plain as the nose on your face that the reason the suggestion to sell the ABC and to continually reduce its funding is politically motivated. The ABC is for the Australian people NOT for the Australian politicians!! I value our ABC immensely. Any political party that diminishes its funding or tries to sell it will not be getting a vote from at the next election!

[REDACTED]

ACT 2603



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:18 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in Public hands!!

The ABC is the only broadcast that our family have trusted over the past 30 years. When our children were going up we trusted the ABC programs for our children to watch particularly as the children's shows were of quality educational calibre. My children loved Play School, Fireman Sam and Thomas the Tank Engine to name just a few. Now as they are older we love watching shows together as a family like Four Corners, Gruen, Australian Story, Compass, the News and One Plus One. But these are only a few shows that we love. We love the ABC because they provide unbiased, thought provoking, creative shows that we can depend on for honest, unbiased information from trusted sources. It's obvious that the Government do not want the public to be informed and to be aware of current global information. The Government would prefer for society to behave like robots, not question anything and not to think for themselves. Leave our ABC alone!!

[REDACTED]

WA 6062 

[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:17 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: No privatising of the ABC

Dear Senator

Britain has a charter for their BBC ensuring that it remains politically neutral whilst offering a variety of opinions untainted by the influences of business or advertisers. The first step to creating a dictatorship is the destruction of free speech. I live in regional NSW where the ABC is the main source of news, political comment, information and entertainment without advertisements. The ABC provides vital analysis on many subjects. It is the provider of essential disaster information in times of bush fires and other tragedies. If we had to rely on commercial vested interests at times like these many more people would be placed in danger. I am concerned that funding has already been cut and the threats made to privatise this essential public service. The quality of programs has already been compromised by these cuts. I am urging you to maintain the ABC as a free to air public broadcaster as an essential vehicle for free speech, commentary and analysis of our so called democracy.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2640 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:16 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC public

The ABC manages to hold up a high standard in investigative journalism. This will be compromised in any privately owned setting which controls content in the interest of ratings and advertising. The ABC might uncover uncomfortable truth at times but we need to uphold a mirror to our society not to get complacent. Programs like 4 Corners are vital.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2350



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

We watch and depend upon the ABC for all our news and current affairs. We get sound and unbiased information which we trust. It is essential for the ABC to remain in public hands. We are very concerned that the Coalition M.P.'s want to sell it off. We value so many of the programs and it is an essential part of our Australian culture. Please keep the ABC for the benefit of future generations!

Sincerely [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3941 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:12 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Public hands for ABC

The ABC must not be privatised, for the benefit of myself and my family. We rely on the trusted public programming.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3226




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:11 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC public

Please listen to the people of Australia, keep ABC public. We already have way too many privatised media, ABC is Australia's voice.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]


NSW 2233 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:10 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

We are radio listeners because, in 50 years of marriage, we have never owned a television. It is something we get along very well without but we cannot do without Radio National. It keeps us informed on everything with interesting and intelligent programs. Commercial radio is also something we avoid - It is like hitting your head against a brick wall - and if the ABC gets privatised our radio will cease to be used. We also listen to ABC FM, the classical music station, which is a god send when driving in traffic. The soothing notes of classical music are known to counteract road rage!
We are sure it will be political suicide to privatise the ABC. Do it at your peril.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

WA 6153 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:09 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't sell off the ABC

The trouble with the coalition is they can't keep their extreme right wing, mouth breather, rabble under control. If they loose the next election it'll be because of their lack of discipline. They have some appalling rubbish in parliamentary seats in Canberra.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6076



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:08 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

The ABC is a source of information for people right around Australia, whether they're in a city or in remote areas. A commercialised version would be forced to cut costs, and access to remote areas would likely be first to go as it is expensive and the "market" is small. As it is, the ABC can continue to give service to everyone simply because it is publicly funded.

The privatisation craze has been given a trial and found wanting: the electrical power supply grid, the Commonwealth Bank, and Telstra all have grave problems since they left public ownership because they are not suitable enterprises to apply free market principles to. Public funds exist to be spent in the interests of taxpayers and to maintain equity across the country - it was only the neo-liberal model that pushed for privatisation regardless of the consequences. Anything that made money had to be transferred to the private sector as an article of faith.

In the case of the ABC, a critical aspect of a working democracy is a source of information that is reliable, accountable, and not pushing the interests of remote proprietors. The "undue advantage" argument comes directly from Rupert Murdoch, and his interests are not those of the majority of Australians.

Finally, the increasing detachment of politics from reality makes the ABC an irritant to those in power, who see it as a check on their power because it is able to express inconvenient truths about the major parties, particularly those on the Right. To me it's clear they want to see it hobbled by putting it in the hands of people like Murdoch. Commercialising the ABC would change Australia for the worse.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ACT 2605 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:06 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in Public hands

The ABC has been an essential part of the life of just about every Australian. It is a loved and valued institution, and an essential part of our Australian democracy. As such, it would be totally inappropriate for it to be in private hands. Private ownership would inevitably lead to the owners influencing content, as has happened with newspapers. Take The Australian, for instance. Supposedly the editorial content is independent of the ownership structure, but by some mysterious process the paper echoes the views of Rupert Murdoch. In fact Murdoch keeps The Australian despite the losses it makes precisely because he can use it as a political mouthpiece. If the ABC were in private hands, the same outcome would be inevitable - it would sooner or later become a political vehicle for the owners. In this day of "fake news" etc., the ABC is trusted by more people than any other news source. The ABC isn't a business - it is an essential part of Australian society. It has been there for Australia for almost 90 years. As the saying goes, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". Those who want the ABC privatised just want it to become a cash cow. They don't like the fact that it is more successful than any of the commercial stations. They want to drag it down and destroy its objectivity so they can remove competition to the commercial advertisers they support. They want to tear it down because they cannot bear the fact that they can't control it. The ABC is a jewel. It must not be destroyed. That said, it is unfortunately the fact that compared to where it once was, the ABC has lost stature. It has been cut, cut, and cut again. When David Hill was Managing Director of the ABC, it famously cost Australians eight cents a day each. Now, some 30 years later, it costs Australians a mere four cents a day. In that time, the real value of a cent has halved. In other words, funding to the ABC in real terms has been cut to a quarter of what it once was. Not only must the ABC not be privatised, it must be valued and funded properly as it once was. The ABC must be kept in the hands of the people.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cronulla
NSW 2230

Mobile: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2230 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: OUR ABC - it MUST remain in public hands for so many reasons

The ABC is definitely, by far, our family's most trusted and reliable news source. Whenever there is a major event we go straight to the ABC for accurate and up to date reporting minus the hype and drama found on the commercial channels. It is the go to channel for up to the minute information during extreme bush fire & weather events - particularly for the communities most affected. I also find that programs such as Four Corners, 7.30, Foreign Correspondent, Australian Story, Back Roads, ABC Breakfast, Gruen, Media Watch, Insiders, Behind the News, Mad as Hell, Landline and many more are extremely popular & informative. Often they are uniquely Australian which should be cherished. Then there is robust & healthy debate on shows like the Drum, Q&A etc that is stimulating and thought provoking. The ABC has displayed the most outstanding Australian Mini Series as well - Mystery Road, Glitch & more.

I am truly tired of the constant cuts to the ABC by the Coalition Government. We have lost highly valuable shows such as Stateline & Lateline which have held many companies, individuals and politicians of all persuasions to account. This is vital for our democracy.

I strongly believe the ABC offers highly valuable and intelligent viewing that we do not often find on the commercial channels. Our children have benefited greatly from this by understanding how our democracy works and being aware of the news and current events happening throughout Australia, & with SBS, around the world.


Public broadcasting plays a crucial role in my family's lives and is the lifeblood of our thriving democracy. It needs to be considered sacred to the nation and must not be vulnerable to attacks from insecure politicians with an axe to grind.

Please protect our ABC & SBS for the sake of all Australians who care about accurate investigative journalism & reporting along with entertaining Australian drama & comedy.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2229 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:03 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC TV n public hands

Dear people of the commission

Please keep ABC TV in public hands as it is important to have a people's TV channel that enables people to express their opinions and ideas without interference from an owner of the TV station or other agent. It is an important platform for presenting issues that the community is concerned about with out being censored or edited by an owner. It is important to have a free and open opportunity for all Australians to be able to participate in various ways regardless of their political views, religion, ethnic background, sex, age, social disadvantaged or advantaged. It is important to have a forum to be able discuss critically such issues as government or other political group policies without being censored. The day that we loose this free open public forum is the beginning of the end of our democracy. The government or corporations or religion or other may not like criticism but that is the strength of a democracy. Australia as a strong democracy needs such a public tv station to reflect its freedoms and culture.

With best intentions for Australia.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2283




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: [REDACTED]

I have no philosophical qualms with privatisation. It sometimes works for industries and delivers efficiencies and consumer benefits but sometimes it does not and there can be strong economic cases made either way. Ultimately however I do believe, like many Australians, that not everything that can be counted matters and not everything that matters can be counted. The value of a robust public broadcaster goes beyond economic efficiencies or political expediency, it's about ensuring that access to information to better inform the public is not dependent on where someone lives or how much they earn. Markets and private imperatives are often imperfect at distributing information, seeking out the most profitable or most popular content at the expense of quality. As Graeme Turner at the University of Queensland points out, "Our public broadcasters address a national public – not just a market, or a targeted demographic, or a network. Through its inclusion of the broad range of interests required for a legitimate conversation with this public, it helps to normalise the encounter with different points of view upon which a functional liberal society depends. "

[REDACTED]

VIC 3204 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC must not be privatised. It is an Australian icon. If our only public broadcaster goes under then Australia is no longer the country I thought it was. I grew up watching and listening to the ABC -add free and I would like it to stay that way. Hands off you corporate villains!

[REDACTED]

TAS 7053



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatising the ABC ?

Privatisation of the ABC would be a travesty and here are a few reason why:

- 1) The ABC continually demonstrates true independence and excellence in reporting.
- 2) Commercial competitors all too often demonstrate their independence is driven only by profits, or worse, the personal will of the wealthy owners.
- 3) Even at \$1 billion p.a. the ABC is cheap. That's only about \$40 per year for each Australian. That's less than 1 months subscription to Foxtel.
- 4) The quality of documentary programs on the Commercial operators are often woeful
- 5) Documentaries on the ABC are almost always excellent, truthful and educational
- 6 The ABC makes Australia a much better country

Please do not privatise the ABC ... it's truly a "national treasure".

thank you

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5097 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

What is wrong with you people? What possible good for the country would come of privatising our ABC? Thank God for the ABC! I'm quite happy to make this political - buggar up the ABC & I certainly won't be voting for You! The Liberal Party Council has got this seriously WRONG.

[REDACTED]

WA 6239 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 10:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

There is no way the ABC should ever be privatised. Private media is all about profit and attracting advertisers by promoting programs that are sensational and titillating. Quality and informative broadcasting is essential for a well informed and educated democracy. The bread and circus approach is all about maintaining ignorance in the population so that vested interests can exploit people and the environment without being answerable to anyone. Programs such as Four Corners and many of the Radio National programs are very informative allowing public debate of many important social issues. They are essential to a healthy democracy.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2454 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Save the ABC from commercialisation

Dear Sir/madame,

Some of my early memories are of the ABC television and radio stations. Being from a rural farm in the north we only had 2 channels. The ABC has always represented a balance to the commercial channels and has been there for people on the land and in remote areas.

It is inconceivable that any government would dare to bend to the will of far right extremists who are demanding that there are severe cutbacks, inquiries and calls for its privatisation.

The democratic system of this country needs the media of this nation to represent diverse views and perspectives. As there is already a very concentrated ownership of the media in Australia with conservative editorial directives there needs to remain a publicly owned ABC that is able to offer the diversity of opinions that an educated and modern audiences demands, both in rural and urban areas. Save our ABC from disaster.

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Redlynch QLD 4870

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
QLD 4870



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatisation not the way for our ABC

Commercial television and radio provides limited value or real entertainment with the exception of sports, as long as you can tune out the constant betting advertising. The national broadcasting agencies appear to be the only ones close to reality, interesting content and a connection to community.

Our taxes should continue to include paying for social enrichment and give voice for truth. Without the ABC we are only left with fake news, skewed reality and greed driven content.

Privatisation will be the end to everything good and exceptional, and only provide a reason to switch off. Politics rule so much of our lives. Consultation is a sham. Voting appears to have little value. Leave the community with this choice, please.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2508 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

I am very concerned about the attacks on our public broadcaster - our ABC. It provides the best quality viewing available on free to air television in Australia, with top quality current affairs programs such as Four Corners and Australian Story, excellent local drama, such as Harrow, Mystery Road, Jack Irish, Janet King and many more. It also has the best comedy shows, again using local talent. Without the ABC we will only have cheap American sitcoms and dramas to choose from. I don't understand why this government is so keen to destroy our local television industry. To allow the likes of Pauline Hanson to dictate what we watch on TV is appalling! It is time the Liberal Party started to stand up for some true liberal values instead of allowing narrow minded bigots to dictate policy.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4051 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:52 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

The ABC is the most respected broadcaster of news, cultural and scientific events in Australia. It has won that position by the hard work of dedicated ABC workers over the many decades it has existed. As such, it is part of our national heritage and shouldn't be subject to the whims of extremist elements in the Government.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2776



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:51 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

I rely on the ABC as an indispensable source of trusted news and current affairs reporting. There is also significant quality investigative reporting on programmes such as 'Four Corners'. I highly enjoy the ABC's excellent programmes on the arts, music, and culture including those on ABC Classic FM and Radio National. The following excellent programmes are indispensable to me keeping informed and abreast of current affairs: 'The Health Report', 'The Science Show', 'The Law Report', 'The Religion and Ethics Report', 'Late Night Live', Radio National AM and PM, and 'Download this Show'. Furthermore, on the SBS, I find 'World News Australia' unrivaled for its coverage of international affairs.

In our democracy, we should welcome the public broadcaster – the ABC – to report without fear or favour, and to rigorously hold the government of the day to account. This should be irrespective of whichever political party holds power at the time. The commercial media pale in comparison to the ABC both in terms of quality and depth of news and current affairs reporting as well as their lack of cultural coverage in this country.

The ABC, as a publicly funded broadcaster, provides excellent programmes and broadcasts them to parts of Australia – such as rural and regional areas – that commercial media cannot do. The ABC provides a vital training ground for many, including: journalists, programmers, and producers. The ABC also provides an environment for innovation, experimentation, and risk-taking in the creation of new types of programmes that the commercial operators do not offer.

The ABC frequently makes important programmes discussing issues relating to Indigenous people. In the commercial media, Indigenous issues are rarely discussed, let alone with the depth and seriousness they require.

Selling the ABC is unthinkable and should never ever happen. If this were to occur, however, I fear for the well-being of our democracy. This is because commercial media in Australia are concentrated in the hands of too few owners and their interests are too narrow. There would be too few voices in the media if we did not have the ABC.

I would argue that the ABC is a vital part of our democracy and a vital part of the cultural landscape of Australia. It could be said that the ABC, as one of Australia's great institutions for over eighty years, has provided vital cultural and democratic 'glue' helping to hold our geographically spread out nation together.

The very premise of the competitive neutrality enquiry into the ABC and SBS misses a crucial point: It is invalid to compare public broadcasting with commercial media because public broadcasting plays a vitally important and irreplaceable role in our democracy and in the cultural life of our nation.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3127 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Please do not privatise our ABC! I really value the diversity of subjects and genre, both of radio and TV. Radio particularly so, and I never listen to commercial stations. And nothing compares to the wonderful children's programmes on the ABC. Privatising it would be a mistake. We need the neutrality of this public institution.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2304 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:50 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

The ABC offers unbiased and in depth news reports and pretty entertaining TV shows. To get rid of this is another death knell for democracy in Australia by corrupt politicians sucking on the teat of corporate donors.

[REDACTED]


ACT 2612 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:49 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

Please do not privatise our wonderful ABC. I listen to 621 and 774 and watch Channels 2 & 22,, but WILL NOT watch or listen. to stations or channels with ads. Please do not leave me without anything stimulating to watch. WE NEED THE ABC.

[REDACTED]


VIC 3130 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:49 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatising the ABC is not the way

It is important that the ABC remain a viable, independent organisation providing quality journalism and entertainment for the benefit of all Australian taxpayers. The proposal to privatise the ABC will rob it of its independence and result in a dumbing down of its service offering. Commercial interests will bury stories deemed counter-productive to the its new customers, that is its advertisers. The amount of rubbish programming already on the main commercial networks demonstrates this likely outcome.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3184 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:47 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC public

The ABC should remain a public entity so that it fulfill its role in our contemporary democracy, and be a voice for Australians, without being tied to commercial interests. It is the only TV station I trust and regularly watch. It produces and shows local content, whether it is the ABC News, Landline, Gardening Australia or Mad As Hell. The ABC should not be commercialised.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2773



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:47 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

Dear Sir/Madam,

I could not dream of a life without independent media - the trusted ABC. Who do we turn to when there is an emergency? Not the commercial channels - only the ABC provides up to date valuable information for communities.

The Coalition continues to attack the AbC in spite of its fair and balanced reporting - our democracy depends on unbiased media. Which is just what the ABC provides.

The ABC is the only broadcaster that matters - both television and radio are essential.

There are a plethora of private news channels offering garbage information and fake news - the ABC (and SBS) are the only media we can trust in a world dominated by self interest.

It is essential that the ABC remains a public broadcaster, and has its funding increased, not cut.

We

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

VIC 3070




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:47 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not commercialise or defund the ABC

There are four reasons I don't want the ABC to be privatised in this order: firstly, it is the only TV and radio news service that reports stories truthfully, objectively, independently, without bias and without sensationalism; secondly, it is the only channel that comprehensively reports news from around the world; thirdly, the commercial channels are unwatchable given the appalling quality of their programming (e.g. endless, excruciatingly boring, reality TV shows), news bulletins and current affairs; and finally, watching and listening to commercials - particularly 5-10 of them in a row - is unbearable - and infomercials are even worse.

I may as well throw the TV out if the ABC is commercialised or defunded, and hopefully any government that tries it will also be thrown out .

[REDACTED]

ACT 2617 

[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

How dare the Liberal Party even contemplate privatising the ABC! The ABC belongs to all Australians, not just to the shareholders of a private (possibly corrupt, possibly overseas-owned) corporation. It is one of our most important public institutions, and is essential for a well-functioning democracy and an enlightened civil society. At its best the ABC has been an independent, trusted source of information about how our country is being governed. It has also provided quality entertainment to those who cannot afford alternatives.

Without any public consultation conservative governments over the last twenty years have been savagely cutting funding to the ABC in order to reduce its effectiveness. This has been part of a more widespread effort on the part of government and its supporters to restrict information, discourage public debate and prevent dissent.

If the ABC were to be privatised this would severely damage democracy in this country.

[REDACTED]


VIC 3088 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Democracy needs independent information

Groups of human beings, societies, nations ..., must have a means of government to make decisions necessary to their survival and overall wellbeing. Democracy has failings but is better than the alternatives. Democracy is based on reasonable, informed decision making that recognizes the needs, aspirations and values of others within the community concerned. In today's world the sources of information are almost entirely mass media, increasingly electronic but still including the print empires. If those sources are privately owned they will inevitably disseminate information and opinion that favours their shareholders' financial (and political) interests. Independent public sources are essential. The election of Trump and the polarization of wealth distribution in the western world, which culturally includes Australia, are symptoms of the slide towards the 40 year falsity of the neoliberal message. Every Australian needs the ABC as a public institution! It is a mainstay of the nation.

[REDACTED]


SA 5064 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:44 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatization of ABC

There must be a news and information sources that is not biased or based on advertising to operate. If it is privately funded then there will be cut backs and the rural area will possibly lose its connection with the world. I can't trust any commercial stations news. It is public institution and it should stay that way. Too much of what belongs to the Australians has been privatized and Australia is suffering because of it.

[REDACTED]


WA 6036 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC Privatisation

I may be a working senior but I do not need anymore dumbing down. The programmes on the commercial TV are mindless and numbing. Nothing other than humiliating people, getting involved in their most personal life and promoting the envy factor. Really do we need any more of this? Only if you don't have an enquiring mind.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

VIC 3095 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

It is absolutely essential for the people of Australia to have ongoing access to fair and unbiased news and current affairs. Those of us in rural and regional areas are usually short changed by commercial enterprises which deem it non viable to provide services. The ABC ensures our regions are covered and not forgotten. They are there in times of natural disasters irrespective of whether or not there is an advertising dollar to be made.

It is our public broadcaster, owned and paid for by the people of Australia. Please stop using it as a political football and let it get on with its job.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2477 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC!

The ABC was a crucial part of my and my sister's education. Coming from a poor family in an isolated town, we both eventually graduated from University with Honours. For the rest of our lives we have given back to the community (my sister has now passed away, but I'm 79 and still doing it); in 1996 I was recipient of the University of Sydney Alumni Award for Achievement in Community Service. The ABC is an essential part of community values.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3136 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: DO NOT DISMANTLE THE ABC


To whom it may concern,
DO NOT DISMANTLE THE ABC.

For more reasons than i care to specify, the ABC is critically important to all citizens of Australia. It is the last impartial news source available to the bulk of our people. The reporting is second to none. The cultural contribution is second to none.

LEAVE THE ABC ALONE! STOP DISTRACTING OUR POPULACE FROM THE REAL ISSUES WE ALL FACE!

Make our future generations proud of your legacy! INCREASE FUNDING TO THE ABC!

[REDACTED]

QLD 4101 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:40 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Leave the ABC alone.

I listen to the ABC and I watch the ABC; I do not want the ABC to be sold off because YOU CAN'T COPE with an alternate view. Whilst I may not always agree with them in everything I love hearing another point of view, it helps me to see another side of things.
Leave it alone, it's not yours to sell!

[REDACTED]

QLD 4870 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

I don't want ABC to be privatised, as we watch fantastic and best programs adequate for children all day, everyday day, commercial free. The ABC channel is all that my three-year-old needs to watch and I don't have to worry about anything violent or inappropriate in any of the programs.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


NSW 2216 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keep ABC in public hands

quality of the public broadcaster in terms on news and current affairs, children's programming, science , technology etc, more in depth and well researched. commercial broadcasters are light weight, sensationalist and by and large , programming largely determined and shaped by advertising dollar. Really, you politicians are lucky that the public broadcaster does such a good job at providing informed discussions and opportunity for thoughtful debate...unless you would prefer your constituents to be kept in the dark?

[REDACTED]

VIC 3079 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:38 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in Public Hands

As Australians living in country NSW all of our lives, we rely on the ABC for information and bulletins that are uninterrupted by commercial advertising or interests. The ABC has been our source of news and current affairs for all our lives. We value the range of opinions and outlooks that are given.

Australia needs a public broadcaster to service people in country areas. Commercial broadcasters are not interested in small population areas.

In times of crisis the ABC is the only broadcaster to supply us with local information. This has been invaluable in times of fire and flood in our area. The commercial stations haven't been seen in these situations.

If the Liberal government commercialises the ABC they will lose our vote - a vote they have had for over 40 years!

[REDACTED]

NSW 2317



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:38 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC must not be privatised.

An independent, publicly funded, trustworthy and accurate broadcasting service is a cornerstone of democracy. It must never be at the mercy of tycoons in position of power due to accumulated wealth who can influence government and policy makers. A well funded public broadcasting service can meet the needs of rural and regional areas and provide services that private providers will not. Our ABC is OUR ABC!!!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2250



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

The ABC should remain a government entity as this is the only way to ensure a media outlet that is not subject to commercial pressures. News and information is a basic right in a democracy such as Australia. Maintaining a well funded public organisation that is responsible to the public is a necessity to ensure public debate on matters which affect corporate interests.

Removing the dependence on commercial sponsorship is the only way the public can be given any assurance that the information they receive comes without undue bias.

News and information that can be bought and paid for quickly becomes little more than marketing.

A public broadcaster that is funded without the need for corporate sponsorship is not only able to broadcast less biased information but maintains a standard that other broadcasters must uphold.

Public discussion depends on the free flow of information. Without a public non commercial standard, the standard becomes the commercial rate and goes to who can pay the most.

This is economically and culturally debilitating and opposing views are lost and the national debate loses breadth and depth. This will result in group think. Which is a certain path to suboptimal results.

The ABC is not perfect but it does set a standard that is lifts the game of commercial broadcasters.

[REDACTED]

WA 6163 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: PLEASE Keep our ABC in private hands

We need the ABC, a broadcasting organisation that can be relied on to be unbiased. Not pushing the personal political agenda of some powerful individual or someone like Mr Murdoch. The ABC can be relied on for varied, interesting and stimulating programmes. We have great programmes such as Four Corners, Question Time and the 7.30 Report. I strongly feel these programmes have an integrity that most privatised broadcasters do not. The ABC is a channel that Australians have come to trust and respect for an honest and balanced appraisal of news and current affairs. They also show many interesting and entertaining documentaries. Please keep our ABC in public hands. Thank you.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4569 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: This isn't about competition, it is about providing fair and unbiased information

The reason the ABC is supported by government is not to give it unfair competitive advantage over other broadcasters. This isn't about competition. It is about providing fair and unbiased information, which is something a fair and just society is based on.

It is because it is not subject to competition that it is able to provide services to people other than the highest bidder. The assumption that the provision of frank and fair information should be determined by those with some sort of competitive advantage is, quite frankly, appalling.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2480 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Save our ABC

I am so very sad and upset at the thought of our public broadcaster ABC an institution being privatized it is akin to sacrilege. ABC is the only station our family watches because of the great content and NO Ads!!! We used to watch sbs until they succumbed to having ads. We deserve one station who is not trying to sell us something. Please have a heart there is more to life than profit. Sincerely [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6081



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:36 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

I am relying on the ABC to provide a more balanced point of view that does not have a commercial bias

[REDACTED]

ACT 2904 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:34 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: No privatisation of ABC

I am a script writer, editor and producer who has worked in the Australian tv drama industry for over 25 years, including ABC drama for both adults and children. Privatising the ABC would most certainly spell the end of the national broadcaster's commitment to quality Australian drama product, and a commitment to promoting and supporting our cultural identity and expression. Why? Because in the hands of big business, the value of such commodities cannot be reduced to a bottom a line. Nor can their returns be measured in dollars. Why is it important to retain Australian tv drama? Other than the fact it generates billions of dollars for the economy in terms of jobs and overseas sales, it also plays a vital role in strengthening and exploring our cultural identity as a nation, which is not a privilege but a right belonging to every citizen. The alternative is TV drama market flooded with cheap imports showing other countries stories, other countries people and other countries values. And quite simply, the death of the unique, extraordinary and vital voice of the Australian people. For that reason, the ABC must remain a public body always.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2016 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:34 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public ownership.

The ABC supplies the only TV and radio service that truly reflects Australia. For many years it has been the training ground for journalists, many of whom are then lured to better paying commercial radio and TV. The ABC promotes investigative journalism which would be lost if it were commercialised. It is the most trustworthy organisation for news.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2135 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:33 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep your hands off our ABC

Intelligent and investigative journalism as opposed to sensational dribble - that is the choice between ABC & the current commercial channels - I personally rarely listen/watch anything but the ABC. I believe that the ABC produces very balanced programs, and can continue to do this as opposed to commercial channels that has to keep their advertisers happy to maintain their very existence. Losing the ABC would be a tragedy for democracy.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4053



[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:33 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please don't privatise the ABC

Dear Members of the Liberal Party,
I am very concerned that you might privatise the ABC.
Most of my friends and family listen mainly to the ABC for it's excellent music and discussions.
If you are serious about democracy, it is essential to have an independent voice in the community..a voice that is not dependent on the finances of business.
In a healthy society this is so important and until now,we in Australia have been lucky to be in a healthy society.
I think privatising the ABC means the health of our democracy and society would immediately be compromised.
I would thank you if you would really consider this,

Respectfully ,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3113 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:33 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not sell the ABC!

We do not want private organisations with their own vested interests taking over the ABC for the sake of a quick money grab. It's dangerous for our democracy.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2478 

[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:32 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: No privitisation of our ABC

Dear Hard Right Ministers,

The reason you really want to privitise the ABC is that it is the last unbiased media source left. Most of the private owned media is extremely right wing biased. I only ever watch ABC or SBS news or current affairs BECAUSE they are unbiased. If you privitise it obviously there will need to be commercials to make profits for the shareholders. Why don't you just admit that you hate the fact that the ABC broadcasts fair and balanced news unlike the propaganda from right wing media. Stop attacking our fundamental rights. You actually need to increase funding for the ABC as it is such an important part of our lives

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3198 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:31 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Voters across the political spectrum support, respect and value Our ABC. It must never be sold or “given away.” Concentration of media in Australia has had very detrimental effects on democracy. Constant carping, whinging and vexatious complaints from the government only add to voters’ suspicions about why they want to do away with the ABC. We are not stupid, we see what the government and the Liberal Party is trying to do: shut down investigation and probing of corruption , dirty dealing and collusion in politics. Don’t let the ABC, our most trusted broadcaster, be a punching bag for a powerful rich elite that has its own self interest as its primary motivation for killing off the public broadcaster.

[REDACTED] 5007

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


SA 5007 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:30 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC is hugely important to Australians, and is by far my most trusted news source. I am horrified at the prospect of the ABC being privatised as it plays such an important role in our democracy and in Australian culture.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3126 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:29 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep my ABC in public hands


The ABC is so important to me because I am a time poor, hardworking, tax paying health professional and I object to spending my precious time watching commercials trying to sell me useless things I don't need or want. The ABC provides me with an alternative with comprehensive news and current affairs programs with great content, no commercials and very little to do with celebrities misbehaving or ordinary people employing deplorable tactics to beat others to be the next Master Chef.

When my children were small they enjoyed Play School, Round the Twist and many other shows over the years and didn't develop an American accent, as did many of their peers.

On top of this, my ABC has produced some wonderful dramas, comedies and documentaries using local talent and exploring particularly Australian topics and our unique culture. These are the things that make me incredibly proud and I am happy to keep paying taxes if they are spent on this wonderful institution.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3220 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:27 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Leave the ABC in public hands

The ABC is my only trusted source of information and entertainment, and it will only remain that way if left in public hands. Please do not destroy the ABC by handing it over to a private concern; their first priority will be to make profit for their shareholders and that is where the rot will begin as I have seen over and over and over again. Leave the ABC alone!

[REDACTED]

VIC 3067



[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:27 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC in public hands always

I was absolutely dismayed to hear that the Coalition Party passed a motion to privatise the ABC. The ABC is the only TV channel that I watch on a regular basis. It provides quality information and quality entertainment that is not provided by the commercial channels. As well as providing me personally with quality programs, it is a broadcaster that services a wide audience and is particularly important for regional areas of Australia. In private hands it is hard to imagine that it would continue to have such broad public appeal.

We cannot allow it to be privatised. It belongs to all Australians and should not be subjected to the private interests of a private media company.

Hands off the ABC!

[REDACTED]

VIC 3915 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:26 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands

Public broadcasting is essential in a democracy and has been part of Australian democracy for decades.
Keep it there!

[REDACTED]

VIC 3193



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:25 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

I am writing to express my strong concerns regarding proposals to privatize ABC. As an Australian living in a remote region, the privatization of the ABC is not only a question of individual preference, but an issue of rights to basic services and safety. Without the ABC providing core radio and news services those of us in remote areas.

As our elected representatives it is your job to protect our rights and ensure all Australians have access to key services. The privatization of the ABC would further marginalize those providing core services in re,one areas.

THank you

[REDACTED]

WA 6725 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:25 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Privatising the ABC at your peril, and the detriment of Australia

I am horrified at the idea of the ABC being privatised. The quality of journalism we see from the existing commercial providers is simply woeful and totally biased according to the whims (profit based) of the corporate masters in charge on any particular day. I don't watch any commercial TV, listen to commercial radio or read newspapers (I only wish the ABC was in print).

Politicians already have sufficient (in fact I'd suggest far too much) effective oversight of the ABC via control of the Board. Note that I'm not a rusted on Labor or Greens voter - in fact most of my voting life I've voted Liberal. I implore the current government to ignore the rantings of the extreme right and categorically state this will not happen, and furthermore for the party to state as a core promise that there will always be an independent government funded broadcaster.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2284



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:24 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC belongs to the people of Australia

I rely on the ABC to give me trustworthy news, current affairs, great entertainment, thought-provoking programs, creative and developing ideas, health information and so many virtues I couldn't list them. I will never ever vote for a government that would privatise it.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3032 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:23 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC in public hands and support it

Public broadcasting is the last refuge of the fourth estate. Do something for Australia rather than the media oligopoly and support and fund the ABC so it can truly fulfil its charter. I will use my vote accordingly.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2229



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:23 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC public

Our wonderful independence public broadcaster keeps journalism more free from editorial bias. Even the most extreme politicians would want freedom and independence in our society for their children and grandchildren.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3199 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:22 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC Advantage?

The ABC is important to Australian national identity. In line with its charter, it offers services to the entire population of the nation and to the extent of its financing it supports Australian creativity. As an Australian patriot, I strongly urge you to affirm the ABC transcendent role.

Commercial media are not in the business of strengthening Australia as a nation, but in the business of making profit, many of them for foreign corporations. The ABC is not competing with them. If the ABC did not exist, their audience would not be significantly strengthened.

Public ownership of a strong ABC is an important way to affirm Australia as a nation and help make us strong against terrorism.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3039 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:22 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I have a strong interest in public affairs and the role of media in strengthening democratic practices, and I feel very perturbed at the news that the privatisation of the ABC is being considered. I have not heard one good reason why, after the nation's long investment in such a trusted institution and the long term evidence of continued trust by the public, one would even consider privatisation. To what purpose? In whose interests?

Personally speaking, the ABC has been my preferred choice of channel since arriving in Australia in 1975; and, as a media academic, I have many to compare it with. I have always read, listened to, and watched a wide variety of national and international media, as part of my job.

The ABC is considered - by everyone I know - as the 'go to' media source for all global breaking news, for sustained and informed expert coverage of events, and for a variety of thoughtful analyses of public affairs.

It is not a perfect organisation but ABC expertise and talent are exceptional. No other media organisation in Australia has the range of staff, or the global cultural capital of the ABC.

For over a decade, as an academic supervisor of hundreds of industry placements at a research-focussed university, I could compare the ABC's professionalism and educational commitment with scores of other media organisations and workplaces: in the state in which I worked, interstate, and overseas. The ABC was the highest-ranked organisation on the top students' internship lists.

The ABC is an outstanding leader in providing educational programmes, in entertaining, in covering public affairs, in providing appropriate content for its various audiences. It encourages those same commitments in aspiring graduates by helping prepare them for employment, giving them practical experience and guidance. That pro-bono work comes easily to a public broadcaster's staff, not so easily to many commercial media organisations.

The formal and informal training opportunities offered to high school and tertiary students by the ABC are carefully crafted. The standards expected of ABC staff, and of the interns they mentored are impressive.

Regrettably, the ABC, one of the most trusted institutions in Australian life, if not the most trusted, has suffered at the hands of governments reacting badly to democratic scrutiny and engaged criticism.

Although news cycles have accelerated, and politics has grown toxic, the current state of Australian political culture can't be blamed on the ABC! ABC reporters have initiated significant investigations into corruption and criminality and, at their best, have 'spoken truth to power' in a way which has seen justice done in Australia.

Privatisation threatens the robust and necessarily critical nature of a national broadcaster. It would not take long under commercial management for the regions to be ignored 'on commercial grounds', or for a privatised organisation to be subject to the personal ideologies of owners and stakeholders' demands to make a profit. Inevitably, journalistic standards are eroded.

What are those who support privatisation afraid of? The ABC's Inclusiveness in terms of audiences and content? Its journalists' seriousness and integrity? Its commitment to educate?

Privatisation of the ABC would vandalise a widely respected cultural institution, and result in the

destruction of a public good and national asset.



ACT 2602



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:20 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep your hands off OUR ABC

As one who grew up in country WA, the radio was constantly tuned to the ABC. Newspapers were not available, and we relied totally on the ABC for news.

The standard of broadcasting on commercial networks is dreadful and clearly edited to maintain good relations with their owners. It is abundantly clear that because ABC journalists are not obliged to "suck up" to the owners, they can be relied on to ask difficult questions of the politicians.

Politicians - when it suits them - point out that its OUR ABC! And so it is!


How dare you try to take what is OURS!!!

This country desperately needs an INDEPENDENT source of news and current affairs in particular. Successive governments - in particular - Conservative governments, have consistently ripped funding from the ABC in an effort to water-down its effectiveness.

I will never support a government that privatises the ABC. I would be willing to pay a license fee in order to maintain a strong and independent broadcaster.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIC 3002 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:20 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC

Please keep the ABC from privatisation. We live in a remote area of Australia and the ABC is so vital to keep in touch with the world around us and raise the spirits of our whole family, many generations, especially in the current drought. The ABC is vital for families and generations across Australia, and must never be privatised.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2297




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:20 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

Dear Senate, I write with strong reasons for why the ABC should not be privatised. I am now in 72nd year and have lived a strong and full life within the Australian community and all of it has been helped and backgrounded for my fuller understanding of life and people in this country through its existence. Nothing else in my experience has come within coo-ee of providing this for my life. I am a 5th generation white Australian and proud of the many enormous challenges that our peoples have undertaken and partially overcome. The ABC has truly helped me through its ability to undertake difficult topics and provide a lens with some clarity which is not involved with any commercial interests. This I deeply appreciate.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2039 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:20 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Hands off the ABC!

It's a no brainer..we need to be able to watch tv and listen to radio without continual interruptions by commercials! Besides if its privatised its not the ABC. !!! A privatised ABC is unthinkable...it would never be the same.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

QLD 4017 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:20 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please dont sell the ABC

Why is it that the ABC has managed to maintain its quality viewing after all these years? My family has never been big TV watchers but ever since I was young we have watched memorable programs such as David Attenborough and Robert Winston's the Human Body. I encouraged my own children to be active rather than spend time in front of a TV, but I had confidence that ABC programs were beneficial and happily allowed them to watch these shows. I appreciated the option to choose a channel that was free from advertising especially with young children and teenagers who are so easily influenced by these targeted ads. Once commercialism is allowed the broadcaster will lose its integrity. It will be bought and sold like everything else...for the highest price, and the highest price is not usually interested in people, this is the world of profits.

[REDACTED]

TAS 7109



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:17 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Australia must have the ABC, and ensure it is truly independent

Dear Sir/Madam,

Almost all forms of media are suspect, or to a greater or lesser extent motivated by a commercial or political agenda. People need a source of information which they can truly trust, and whose information is based on facts, and a fair and balanced analysis of those facts.

I believe the ABC is absolutely critical in this regard.

When seeking to become informed on important issues, Australian's need to access facts, rather than having to sift through different biased versions, or truths. Then we can have valid informed debates and ensure our society is fair.

We must ensure the ABC remains independent, and well funded. This is beyond providing entertaining content, and is not unfair to other media organisations.

Thank you for your time.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5052 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:17 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Role of the ABC

As all news organisations struggle to employ enough reporters to provide adequate coverage of events and issues, and succumb to brief and often syndicated reports, it seems more important than ever to have an independent and reliable voice reporting and commentating on local and international issues.

I live in a city where I have choices in source of local information, but who will provide local content in regional areas where it is uneconomic for a commercial operator?

We always need trusted sources of information in order to make decisions about our self-government. A commercial operator cannot fulfill that function when they are beholden to consider profit.

The ABC must remain a public entity.

[REDACTED]

ACT 2912



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:16 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: No Privatisation of ABC

Who Will Tell The Truth ?.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2034



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:16 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is not for sale

I am 81 and have been an avid user of the ABC all my life. It has been one of the stable and constant elements of Australia through such turbulent times. Politicians of all persuasions have complained about it being biased, but these are always petty issues compared to the great depth of the ABC's coverage of so many aspects of our world. Privatisation of public institutions has rarely been very successful and in the case of the ABC it would be a disaster leading to a dumbing down of its productions to more of the lowest common denominator material that is shown on commercial television now and what makes a profit for some entrepreneur. No incumbent government has the right to sell off and destroy one of Aistralia's most is significant institutions. Shame on the Liberal party for even contemplating such action.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2256 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:15 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC Privatisation

Not everything has to be sold and privatised.


It is outrageous you would even contemplate it. Already it is diminished and as a result there is little quality Australian content. Where will it come from without the ABC?

It will also be much easier for fake news to be disseminated.

And do you really want to be known as the government who dismantled the National Broadcaster.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2045 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Saving the ABC from Privatisation

The thought of an Australia without an independent ABC is not worth contemplating. I lived in NZ for almost 12 months. I can't tell you how much we missed having access to our National Broadcaster. There was no depth to any issue, no real discussion of important national issues. The ABC adds a depth of moral thinking to the Australian psyche. We would be a lesser nation without the issues brought to the fore by our ABC reporter. Please, please, please do not make us face a future devoid of our media outlet that gives us a voice and a greater awareness of our role in making Australia an even better nation. The ABC is worth every cent it costs us, the citizens of Australia.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4066 

[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the Public Broadcaster in public hands recognise value to economy and social fabric of Australia

The proposal by the lunar right of the Libersl party is most Apport. I rely on the ABC for insightful, unbiased and evidence based report on critical economic, social environmental issues which are of most interest to me. The commercial station only provide a shallow mediocre version wrapped up in short sound bites. the 7:30, former Late Line, 4 corners etc are crucial to me. I will be making my vines clear at ballot box and will be doing my uttermost to convince friends and families to do like wise.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


VIC 3015 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:14 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is a vital service and provides our country with fearless unbiased reporting that is crucial to our democracy. The quality of journalism provides Australians with balanced reporting and analysis that allows us to make informed decisions about issues impacting on our country and lives. I absolutely support tax dollars being used to run the ABC services across our country. No more cuts! Restore and increased funding !!!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2870 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:11 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

The privatization of the ABC is an issue I feel very strongly about. Under no circumstances should this attempt to silence independent critique of government be permitted.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2037



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:10 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is more valuable than its cost

Hi there,

The ABC is the sole civilizing influence in our country. It's the only media outlet that doesn't pander to our lesser angels. It tries to make us better humans.

The ABC is the only thing you can trust in our "democracy". It's there for my son when he was 12 months old - abc2, now when he's 8 - abc3, and I hope it will be there for him when he's 18 years old too.

I can trust that what he watches will be age appropriate. Will not induce him to gamble or drink beer.

I can trust that 4 corners will do our democracy a justice. How many royal commissions have been instigated by the current affairs shows on other channels?

The ABC is an investment in our society. The society of all Australians.

Destroying the ABC is destroying Australia.

Nothing can be more tragic.


Please, save our ABC, and you'll be saving the Australia that you love.

regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


NSW 2026 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:09 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

We are very concerned that the ABC could be privatised. It is the only independent news service in Australia, is not affected by advertising and commercial interests and provides a full national and international news service which the commercial channels do not do. In addition to see televisions and radio shows on art, music and drama the ABC is significantly better than the commercial channels. As regards coverage, there will not be sufficient financial interest for any commercial channel to provide coverage in isolated and regional areas and yet this is a very important aspect of the ABC's charter. Who will do this if the ABC is privatised? The ABC reports with integrity and without commercial interference and the only possible motive to commercialise the ABC is political!

[REDACTED]

TAS 7005 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:07 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC must not be privatised.

I wish to submit to the Inquiry my strongly held belief that the ABC is providing to the Australian public exactly what is required by its charter. Most importantly to me, it provides a news service which is balanced, reliable, accurate, and free of the bias or political leanings imposed by the owners of commercial broadcasters. The obvious current example of the latter is the Murdoch press with its recent unethical and illegal practices exposed in the UK, and the ridiculous pro-Trump support of US Murdoch owned press. The ABC is one of the few sources of reliable investigative journalism in this country, and is not coloured by bias or the need to falsify or present superficial coverage in the pursuit of commercial ratings and profit. I am a supporter of a free press, and I believe a Government funded body like the ABC, with a good charter, and restrictions on interference from government, is great example of a highly functioning free press. Threats from government to reduce funding or sell off the ABC are classic examples of attack on our liberal democracy which I trust will be punished by voters regardless of whether these attacks come from the extreme left or right of politics.

The ABC is complementing the commercial stations in many areas and leading by example in quality of news reporting . This is a result of higher standards and ethics and not due to any competitive advantage of being publicly funded.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4556 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:06 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Hands off our ABC


Our ABC is world famous.

The ABC as independent broadcaster has way more value to Australia than any of your Alan Jones or ray Hadley and biased commercial stations.

It is distressing that the ABC is underfunded and understaffed and is resorting to repeat programs instead of offering further educational knowledge.

ABC MUST REMAIN PUBLIC. It is OURS and must not be privatised

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2094 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: keep theABC in private hands

We can not give away a jewel like the ABC . Mr Turnbull take notice if you want our vote.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2107




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands.

It is very rare for our television to not be tuned to the ABC. My kids love watching both ABC Me and ABC for kids. I know that when they are watching these channels they will not be subjected to any unsuitable ads. I had the experience with one of the commercial channels where an ad came on during a family show and my child had nightmares for weeks afterwards - not to mention endless junk food ads which do nothing for the obesity crisis in Australian children. The ABC provide not only entertaining shows but informative shows such as BTN and Operation Ouch. I grew up watching BTN and Playschool and now my kids are doing the same. Dirtgirl was a huge hit in our house. I have lived in both city and rural areas and I like listening to ABC radio. I tried to listen to the cricket on a commercial station but the endless ads made me return to the ABC. My news comes from the ABC either via Facebook feeds or by listening to ABC radio as it is reported fairly and without dramatisation. It is important to keep the ABC in public hands as the ABC and SBS are the only news services that can be taken seriously because they do not have a point of view to push unlike a lot of the daily papers and other television stations. We live in a democratic nation and we need to keep the ABC in public hands. We don't need to spend money on an enquiry that compares a public broadcaster with a commercial one - they both play very different roles. The ABC has the freedom to provide educational programmes such as Playschool, BTN, The Wiggles and Sesame Street without having to worry about whether they are rating highly - a commercial station only cares about money not the education of the nation.

Please do not look at the dollars when deciding what to do with the ABC - it means a lot to the public of Australia to keep the ABC in public hands. I will not vote for any party that sells out on our ABC.

[REDACTED]


VIC 3647 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:05 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: do not DETROY OUR abc, IT'S A WONDERFUL NATIONAL ICON.

From classic FM Radio to the nightly ABC TV news, my seven, nearly eight decades of living are daily framed by the invaluable ABC. You only need to live awhile in New Zealand to experience how impoverished and derivative the news and current affairs coverage becomes without a national broadcaster of the ABC's calibre. LEAVE THE ABC ALONE! Australia needs to keep this impartial bradcaster public. DO NOT PRIVATISE AND [REDACTED] IT!

[REDACTED]

QLD 4020 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please keep the ABC public

80 years ago the ABC was founded as a firmly independent broadcaster, which sought to enrich Australian culture and keep Australians informed in an impartial manner. That is exactly what it has done, proudly, over those 80 years and for the ABC's fate as a public broadcaster to be in jeopardy is something that deeply concerns me. This inquiry is a bloody sham and has been clearly engineered by those who find themselves rightly scrutinised by honest journalism.
Thank you for reading this and hearing my voice.


[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2132 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:02 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I have worked and lived overseas, and one of things that I value most about our life in Australia is the service provided by the ABC. I know that it does provide a public service that is focused on transparent and responsible government. It is a fearless champion that exists independent of government, business, church or political parties, calling for a fair go. I have worked in countries that exploited workers, others with corrupt public organizations, in all these places they lacked a free voice to protect the common good. In our commonwealth of Australia we need and should value such an institution, and we should restore it to its former level of funding (going back to the level of 2015) as a benchmark, to ensure it can continue to be our effective voice.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3451 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is the only channel containing decent content worth watching. It represents our culture and gives us a diverse perspective on an array of topics. It must remain in the public's hands.

[REDACTED]

SA 5082



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Australia without the ABC would be a more myopic, mean spirited, selfish and uncivilised country. The ABC represents the best of this nation: rational, intelligent debate, generous inclusiveness, cultural depth. The alternative is crass, venal commercialism where everything has a price but is utterly devoid of moral value. This whole debate about the future of the ABC is fuelled by resentment, envy and spite and supercharged by corporate greed.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3934



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:01 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Leave the ABC and increase its funding

I am saddened beyond measure by the current attacks on the ABC and the pitiful calls to "privatise" it. The ABC as a public broadcaster was established by the Lyons government in 1932 and strongly supported by Menzies. It was to be free from commercial pressures, hence no advertising, and to enhance Australian social and cultural life.

The rancorous calls about the ABC focus purely on what is perceived bias in the news and current affairs programs.

The ABC is the most reviewed, the most self aware in terms of the accuracy of its factual content. It is a nonsense.

Those who make these claims do not understand the fundamental principle of "Western Civilisation" is the notion of examining issues and shining light upon them. The ABC is the only (and SBS) medium which does just this. It is a bedrock of democracy

But do ask Australian what does the ABC mean to them?

A great news service.

Wonderful programs on Radio National which open up the world

ABC Classic FM, music that sustains me and the source of so much joy, support and encouragement to young musicians

It is the regional broadcasting, in touch with the local communities

And it is the service to which we all turn in times of impending disaster.


I have a battery powered radio always at the ready so that I can keep up to date with bush fires which have been so close on too many occasions.

As for the petty, meretricious, white-anting, endless streams of complaints against the ABC news and current affairs, I worry for the future of Australia in the hands of some of our legislators.

These never seem to have a response to the question which is the most trusted news source in Australia.

The ABC of course



SA 5352 


[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 9:00 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: AUSTRALIAN Broadcasting Comporation

The ABC is the voice of Australia, as fundamental to the democracy of Australia as the right to have a BBQ and a beer with your best mate. It is a sorry state of affairs when a government, elected by the people, takes it upon themselves to be the judge and jury in the demise of an Australian institution. No fair dinkum Australian would ever want their government to privatise the ABC, the only reason a government would do that is to silence the voice that regularly holds them to account for their inappropriate, non democratic and underhand actions. To privatise the ABC is an admission of guilt by the government. Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely.

Listen to the people of Australia that you were elected to represent.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2120 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:59 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Watch ABC tackle Labour

No matter which party governs they will be subjected to ABC forensic reporting. Just ask Julia Gillard, Kevin Rudd and Tony Abbott. The ABC is a funded information filter for all Governments. Its a resource.
From [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SA 5211 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC unprivatised!

The ABC has been a trusted source of news, music, art and Australian content for my whole life. Not only is it a trusted news source, especially with the increase of Fake News and paid for comment. It is also a supporter of Australian artists, music and culture. As a democratic country there should be an outlet for the voices that don't agree and are able to question the government.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4300



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:58 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

We're deserve a public broadcast network to represent Australia on as manner that is not constrained but commercial interests!

[REDACTED]

QLD 4007



From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep Our ABC In Public Hands

I am making a submission in support of Our ABC remaining in public hands where it can continue the excellent job it does, as an independent and trusted Source of news and analysis.

The ABC has no equal in the commercial sphere for the balance and professionalism it brings to its reporting and presentation of issues.

Its role in maintaining a fair and healthy democracy is fundamental. It must be allowed to hold up a fearless mirror to the powerful and not become a minion of vested interests.

The ABC brings us diverse and wonderful programs that enrich our lives and feed the cultural and intellectual life of this country. Radio National is my constant companion either live or via podcasts. I cannot imagine Richard Fidler's Conversations being broadcast on commercial radio....or The Philosophers' Zone....or heavens...God Forbid!

The ABC appeals to Australia's 'better self' and is a unifying institution that belongs to us all. We rely on it in times of crisis and regional Australia would be lost without it.

There is too much tearing down of what is good and unique in this country. We have seen what privatisation without regulation has done to many utilities and institutions in Australia and it is unthinkable that the ABC could go down that same road.

The Hard Right in the Turnbull Government is pushing Australia in a frightening direction and would change Australia, if they could, so that it would become unrecognisable to the majority of us.

Their push to privatise the ABC must be totally resisted. It has taken decades to build this loved and respected institution and it must be protected from the depredations of a group who lack vision and who do not have the country's best interest at heart.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ACT 2602



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:57 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise the ABC

I have watched the ABC all my life, or at least since we first got TV. Apart from SBS I do not watch other channels. The ABC has produced brilliant shows which are far above the standard of the commercial channels. It is of course, a boon not to have to watch advertisements. Please leave it as it is - with increased funding!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

QLD 4104 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:56 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC has a special place in the hearts and households of almost every Australian family. As a public broadcaster it is independent, and free of the capitalist concerns that have such a powerful and negative influence on the content of commercial stations. For me as a mother of two small children, I am grateful to have access to quality children's programs that are both entertaining and educational, and appreciate the absence of advertising attempting to influence my family's consumer behaviour and values. I am concerned that if the ABC is privatised that there will no longer be free and readily available television content that I would consider suitable for the eyes and ears of my impressionable young children. I also highly value and trust the ABC because it is unbiased, unlike commercial media sources.

[REDACTED]

QLD 4061 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:55 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Increase public support for the ABC, never privatize

Most people I've heard supporting the ABC talk about the importance of its independent, non commercial, news and current affairs programs. I agree absolutely with their position, and I desperately want to add: please don't forget it's central role in the arts, sciences, education and general cultural knowledge in Australia.

We rely on it for Australian musical performance in all genres. In our household we mostly listen to classical music and love Classic FM. We also acknowledge the role of JJJ in contemporary rock music and miss our music programs on RN.

We'd like to see more invested in Australian drama, and critical commentary and analysis on and of the news.

The Drum is brilliant. We need commentary on international news and events as well as Australian politics. How about more analysis of social trends and issues in Australia too?

All of these things require continuing, indeed extra, investment, not the massive cutbacks the keep being made by the Liberal governments.

Critical comment is not bias, it is an essential part of the core of democracy.

Please bring back strategically positive funding levels to the ABC, and do not proceed with the cuts.

The liberal Council policy on the ABC issue, and Georgina Downer's hostile attitude to the organization, means there is no way I will support her or the Liberal Party in any way for the forthcoming Mayo by-election or as long as the policy is in place.

[REDACTED]

SA 5154



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:55 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC for Life

This government must be crazy, I have been a Liberal voter all my life and so has my family. If you dump this rubbish on us you must have a sheltered life. Look at all the awards they have got, I will say no more. You need to wake up to yourself.
5 votes against from this family.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2251



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:55 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

The ABC is an essential, public broadcasting service.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3450 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:54 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Our ABC

We are reduced to the ABC and Fairfax for reliable news journalism and the conservatives want to privatize the ABC?????? Malcolm take back the Liberal Party from the hard right!!!

[REDACTED]

VIC 3004



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:53 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands

Radio National from 6am is my source of national plus international news . Beginning work at 8am ,and finishing at 6pm ,or usually later I have no time to read papers all week ,and it is therefore very important to me with it's wide coveridge and discussions from different points of view - not one sided as suggested by Eric Abetz , and i was also appalled by his his insinuation of bonuses given to staff members , and unable to give any evidence of this .

It is so important to be able to listen carefully to programs without multiple interruptions from advertisements which if privatised will certainly occur .

[REDACTED]

NSW 2025 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:52 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise the ABC

The idea that the Liberal party would seriously consider privatising the ABC has me gravely concerned. The one spot I can go to get unbiased, quality reporting on local & world events must be protected & not diluted to the drivel we get from commercial outlets. I certainly won't hesitate to protest loud and long if you do move in the direction of privatisation or further cuts. Please leave it be

[REDACTED]

VIC 3960



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:52 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Don't privatise our ABC

I have been listening to the ABC for the last 68 years - my parents turned ABC radio on when they got up in the morning and turned it off when they went to bed at night. Through my childhood, the ABC provided a huge education for me. We had singing and other programs at school. Even before that I was listening to Kindergarten of the Air and can still sing some of the songs I learned from the program. I was an avid listener to the Children's Hour all through my childhood. The provided a great education in so many areas - books, art, music.

As an adult I have been an avid listener to local radio, radio national, Classic FM and I have also only watched ABC TV.

I cannot stand listening or watching the commercial stations. The presenters are opinionated and biased whereas the ABC presenters go to great trouble to give both sides of any story.

In this day of social media with everyone having an opinion, it is really important to have news stories presented by trained journalists who know how to look at the whole story. The commercial media tends to be very one-sided. We are supposed to be a democracy and need to have an unbiased new source.

The ABC should not be compared with a commercial news source. It was set up to support people in all parts of the country.

Keep your hands off our ABC.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2745



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:51 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Public broadcasting supports all Australians

It is essential to have broadcasting services that are not just driven by the need to make money. I only watch ABC and SBS these days as nothing interests me on commercial stations; I am not interested in reality shows where participants are manipulated by the producers into ever more extreme behaviour to lure in the viewing public or 'news' programs which promote stories to shock or titilate the public instead of the news we actually need to know. If there is ever is a series worth watching it is quite likely to be cancelled mid-season because it did not 'rate'. If it was not for our publicly owned broadcasting there would be no platform for the discussion of important issues without the influence of shareholders money and no broadcasting which caters for minority interests and nothing for children to safely watch without being manipulated by advertises. It is important to remember that everyone is part of some minority or other - the very old, the very young, gardening enthusiast, collectors, VFL players, bowlers - so everybody needs public broadcasting at sometime. It is not possible that a commercially motivated broadcast service would continue to cater to the whole Australian population as the ABC does.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3207 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:51 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the ABC in public hands.


As a husband, father, student, teacher, musician, academic, and lover of Australian Culture, it is with great sadness that I saw the the Turnbull Federal government has decided to try to sell off the ABC.

Soon there will be nothing left of Australia, nothing we own as a country, we will become the property of a small number of individuals and our country will have no icons of its existence left.

Please DO NOT sell the ABC

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2086 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

When I first came to Australia almost 40 years ago I came from a country with a strong history of public broadcasting in the public interest. Its programs covered culture, political activities and events, local communities and major policy areas such as health, education, industry and agriculture as well as the European market, as it was then, and World issues. When I came to Australia I looked for the same informative programs, measured views and quality production. I thought to try the commercial stations so I could make comparisons. I found then and have found increasingly ever since that on most of the commercial stations there is effectively no news, certainly no or very little news of the state of the world outside this country or even local cities. Commercial news almost invariably follows the format of road accidents, crime, welfare fraud first and then if lucky a little national and political information. I watch with growing dismay how uncritical and unanalytical the offerings are. I can't imagine how anyone learns anything of value from this. Worse, its low quality I find is turning young people off the news altogether. Much the same can be said about coverage of current affairs, culture relevant to this country or its multicultural citizens or discussion of major areas such as health and education.

It is for these reasons that we must keep the ABC in public hands. It is impossible to imagine where our understanding of or even information about crucial national and international issues would be without Four Corners, Media Watch and the 7.30 report. Where would we be without high quality drama series such as the current Mystery Road. And I am just talking about television

I would like to emphasise too that ABC Radio, especially Radio National, is a truly excellent media resource. I listen a great deal, both at home in the morning and on the road several times a day. I hear a variety of excellent programs, from political discussion and reporting of so many areas never covered by the commercial stations from political issues, technology developments, science and music to religion to sport and entertainment.

I am also a family person. My French-born children have both married Europeans but decided to live in this country. My grandchildren have been brought up on ABC Kids, programs of marvellous interest and quality that both children and adults happily watch and discuss.

The ABC has a national charter and it can only fulfil those important obligations if it remains in public hand, with guaranteed levels of public funding to enable the high quality programs, documentaries, drama that are valued by so many. The ABC helps immigrants to get a proper feel for what is Australian, what is important and not sensationalised about events in this country and what it means to be part of a multicultural society in the fast changing Asian region of the world. It has always seemed to me that compulsory voting can only have full import and impact if voters have a good understanding of the issues we all face. Keeping the ABC in public hands is a major element of protecting and nurturing our functioning democracy, showing that populism is no solution and has the kind of ugly face that diminishes us all. Privatising the ABC would harm this country in multiple ways and bring no good at all in return. It is bad enough that the ABC has had to shed high programs and the staff who sustain them through endless cuts to budget and political interference in Board membership and functioning among other barriers to sustained excellence as an icon of what it means to be Australian. I urge you on the inquiry to recognise the enormous social value of our public broadcaster, the only news medium we all think of as 'ours' in a very positive and trusting way and advocate for its continued existence as a publicly funded central Australian institution, much lauded outside as well as inside this country.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2041




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep your hands off our ABC

The ABC belongs to the people of Australia. Our independent voice and not commercialised by political parties. Stop hijacking our ABC

[REDACTED]

QLD 4560 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:50 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

The ABC is extremely important in my household for my partner and our 2 young children. My children love watching the shows Playschool and Peppa Pig. I know I can trust ABC kids for content that is not harmful or inappropriate for my children, aged 4 and 2 years old.


I rely on the ABC for news and watch ABC television every night. Shows such as Four corners and Australian Story are two of my favourite shows as they provide unmatched investigative journalism and news.

I am very concerned the ABC is under attack by the coalition government. It is extremely alarming to me that the Liberal government has voted to privatise the ABC. Privatizing a public broadcaster undermine the fabric of our democracy and undercuts Australian society values. I rely on the ABC to stay informed of major issues in Australia, politics and government policy. Without a public broadcaster my ability to participate in our democracy will be lessened.

As a public broadcaster, the ABC is a crucial component of our Australian democracy. It cannot be compared to commercial broadcasters.

I urge the coalition to refrain from privatizing the ABC and instead commit to recognising and supporting the ABC's importance to Australian democratic society and everyday Australian families such as mine.

[REDACTED]

WA 6100 

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:48 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not sell off the ABC

In the bush the only place we get our news and what is happening around the world comes from the ABC. The programming despite the cuts still offers a breath of fresh air, not overloaded with trivia or personality or gossip. The ABC tells the truth. sometimes like many they may make a mistake, but they do not cover it up as in commercial media. Conservatives use the argument that Tax Payers pay for the ABC. We should remind these people that Tax Payers also pay for billions of dollars of tax benefits to private enterprise including media companies. Now we have a government that has approved billions for more tax benefits to the high income earners in this country. The Polies get big pay rises while those on the dole stay where they are. Many people in the bush and regional area rely in the ABC no matter where you are in the class system. Selling off the ABC as the Conservatives who the other day voted for privatisations and another opportunity to make money for themselves at the expense of th rest of us.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2280



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:47 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep ABC public!

The ABC is a flagship of Australian society and needs to stay public. We need our unique voice, as Australians. Commercial broadcasters are only concerned about profits not quality or Australian society. I do not support privatisation of the ABC in any way.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]


SA 5074



[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] <[Redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:46 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

Its the last media outlet not controlled by money and ratings, but what australians really think.

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
QLD 4573 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC should not be privatised

Its the only tv channel I watch because its actually australian. I have netflix for everything else. Love tuning in for monday QandA and other great shows! I have already seen changes since the cuts. Stop! Now!

[REDACTED]

VIC 3081



[REDACTED]


From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands!

I would like to express my deep dismay at any talk of privatising the ABC. The ABC for a long time has been a kind of lifeline for me. Although I am based in Melbourne I spend most of the year working in rural and regional locations including some remote Aboriginal communities. No matter where I am, I always like to keep informed and I consider the ABC to be my most trusted news source. However if it was to lose its independence and be subject either to the dictates of the government of the day, or to commercial interests, it would lose all integrity in my eyes. In times like these with the proliferation of numerous dubious sources of “fake news”, I believe it is all the more important to support our public broadcaster.

I also enjoy having informative programs such as Four Corners and 7.30 Report, plus I believe over the years that the ABC has produced some really fine drama.

I doubt that I would have any appetite for TV at all if the ABC is downgraded or privatised. I sincerely hope to see instead the increased level of support that I truly believe the ABC deserves.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3057 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Do not privatise the ABC

The ABC is known as Auntie for good reasons! It's my companion throughout my day at home as a retired person. I cannot imagine living without Classic FM, I need the balanced news, the researched programs on TV ranging from Australian Story to The War on Waste which people everywhere are talking about and taking action, and the quality dramas, and on and on. And only the ABC offers the kind of children's programs that my granddaughter's parents and I will tolerate her watching. Privatising the ABC is unthinkable! And would be totally unforgivable.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NSW 2062 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:45 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Shame on the Liberal Party for attacking the ABC

I am very concerned that the liberal party is arguing that the ABC should be privatised. Even though LNP politicians are claiming that the ABC is safe, I don't trust those comments anymore after successful Liberal governments have not maintained pre-election promises about the ABC previously.

My passion about the importance of the ABC has been prominent after the election of Donald Trump. I have repeatedly claimed that having an independent national broadcaster was such a benefit to Australia. To think that a major party in Australia advocates us moving up the path of the USA through privatising our national broadcaster leaves me dumbfounded.

I will campaign doggedly to prevent this dangerous and undemocratic proposed policy.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

QLD 4103 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:44 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Please keep the ABC in public hands

Dear Sir/Madam,

I strongly disagree with the notion that the ABC should be privatised or corporatised. I value their service highly and trust their reporting over the self serving commercial channels. They may not be perfect but are vastly better than the alternative. I feel that I get excellent value from the modest public funding allocated to them. If commercial channels feel that they can't compete with the ABC it is because the "product" they are offering is inferior to the ABCs.

Ask yourself, why would I choose to waste my time watching commercials? Their shrill, garish intrusion on my life annoys me intensely and their messages frequently clash with my values. Commercial news is thinly veiled propaganda. Very happy to have an independent public broadcaster for whom I am the customer, not the corporations that pay the bills. If certain elements of the right wing don't like the ABC, it is for narrow personal and political reasons. They do not represent the majority and must not be allowed to impose the will of their paymasters.

Yours truly

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WA 6154



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:44 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep the public broadcaster PUBLIC, please

Growing up in regional South Australia, I am aware of the indispensable service the ABC has provided and still provides to country people in Australia. Because it is not dependent on ratings and advertising money, it can provide a wide range of programs that make a huge contribution to the diversity of our society. It is free to provide quality content that uplifts, instructs and balances more commercially oriented media.

And when there are stories that need to be told or exposed, it is freer than most privately owned media organisations, to actually tell the truth. Which we need to hear! I've lost count of the number of important stories 4 Corners has aired that resulted in much needed changes to laws, governments and how things are done. It's true that sometimes governments are inconvenienced.(eg the Adani story)

I feel appalled when I hear this talk of privatising the public broadcaster. Isn't it obvious that a private broadcaster will look after its owner's interests before the needs of the Australian people? And we will never know what we are not being told! RIP democratic freedoms.

It is absurd to me that we should even be having an inquiry into whether the ABC has an unfair advantage over the commercial networks. They are not the same thing and can't be compared as if they were. The ABC and SBS are there for a very broad range of the Aussie community whereas the privately owned media is there because it is profitable for its owners and it provides a lot of "popular" programming. We certainly don't need more of it, in my opinion.

I am wondering why Mr Turnbull's Coalition government seems so intent on attacking our only relatively independent source of vital, multi-layered, political and cultural information. To me, their actions are not in alignment with core Australian values of freedom and public service.

So please, keep the public broadcaster PUBLIC.

[REDACTED]

WA 6159



[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:44 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: THE ABC SHOULD REMAIN PUBLIC

The ABC is my favourite channel to watch.
I trust it's reporting more than any other channel because I know there are no commercial interests behind it.
The quality of it's news, reporting and entertainment programs is higher than the other channels in general
It provides quality journalism especially in the news and behind the news area. Privatising it would
definitely reduce the quality as profit and political interests would start to influence it's operations.
Without a public ABC I would get rid of my television altogether and be forced to look for quality news
reporting and entertainment elsewhere.

[REDACTED]


NSW 2086 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:43 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC does not belong to Scummo, it belongs to the people.

I hope the [REDACTED] silver-spooners of the Young Liberals don't get away with this.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]


VIC 3145 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:42 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC belongs to the people of Australia.

The ABC provides reportage in areas that commercial media will not touch. As a person who lives in regional Australia the ABC supplies a cultural perspective. Without the ABC Australia would be the poorer. The nation can afford the ABC it can't afford privatisation.

[REDACTED]

NSW 2482 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:41 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our Public Broadcaster


Like most other Australians I have a great affection for the Australian Broadcasting Commission. I grew up in a working class home with the necessities but few amenities. My life was enriched by the ABC's children programs, particularly Play School and the Argonauts, My parents without fail listened to the ABC news programs in the evening and relied on it for fair and balanced reporting, something often not found in the privately owned, for profit, media.

As an adult I have continued their practice for the same reason but also because of the quality of the drama and comedy and in between those two they have produced. The ABC was the first TV channel to give us anything that was truly Australian and they have continued to do that to this day.

To do away with the ABC would do away with a pillar of our democracy. It mean that we would have only vested interests in the media and no unbiased news, research and in depth analysis.

For cultural reasons and to ensure a well informed and strong democracy we must keep our public broadcaster and finance it generously to enable it to carry out its functions adequately

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NSW 2463 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:39 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC is not for sale

I have been watching the ABC since the early days of television.

It has always provided me with well researched and comprehensive information regarding Australian and world wide events.

In my adult years I have relied on ABC for evening entertainment with a greater depth and substance than the programmes aired by commercial channels.

I love the political and social documentaries, human interest stories and natural history programmes. And the many wonderful fictional series.

My children grew up with Playschool and my grand children with Peppa Pig.

I cannot imagine growing old without this good friend who I turn on in the evenings for stimulating entertainment.

The ABC cannot be sold off to the highest bidder. Money, the bottom line, is not always the most important factor

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2304




[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:38 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in Public Hands

The ABC is an organisation that represents true liberal values. It was instigated by rising Liberal Member of Parliament Robert Menzies in 1931. Throughout its history it has provided vital information for our nation. As an early childhood educator I particularly value its non commercial status for young developing minds. It offers an important variety of material that is educational. It is available to all regardless of a person's income. Australia is a better place, thanks to the ABC.

[REDACTED]

VIC 3070 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:38 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: The ABC is an important part of Australia

I am writing to ensure that we do not privatise the ABC, having a station that is not run by big business allows Australians access to free media coverage that can provide a fair and unbiased opinion. The quality of those shows are not matched by the private free to air options and any change to this will be a huge impact to the Australian public. Please make sure that this does not happen.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW 2080 

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 21 June 2018 8:37 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Keep our ABC in public hands

I am a rural resident and the ABC is my go to news so that I am guaranteed an impartial review of the days happenings. I do not want to have a corporatized viewpoint, that represents facts with a bias towards big business. I want the hard hitting investigative journalism that shines a light in dark corners and speaks up for the non profit areas. I don't want the only view point to be that of the user pays mentality. I want four corners, ABC news, indigenous points of view. I want my ABC! I don't want Murdoch, Fairfax and Packer. I've had enough of them. Give me my ABC [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

TAS 7109 