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From: Jenny Bell <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, 11 June 2018 1:27 PM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: ABC inquiry

To whom it may concern

My first conscious encounter with the ABC was when I was working on a station in the Gulf of Carpentaria in 1978. I remember the close attention all the people on the station paid to the news, information and entertainment it provided. There was no television but the radio seemed to keep everyone abreast of what was happening in the world. I had grown up in a home where the radio was tuned to the horse racing channel and the din of Ken Howard was just background noise to me, so I have never forgotten the revelation ABC radio was to me. I have found in the following decades ABC radio and ABC television - a lifeline. A companion, an informant and an entertainment - literally bringing the world to us. I live now, on a much less remote farm but it is nevertheless away from cultural centres and the ABC stands in for that - enriching our lives in unquantifiable ways. A trusted friend that I hope we the Australian people with maintain in our collective ownership, with truly appropriate funding to allow it to evolve and engage us - and value in different ways at all different stages of our lives. I doubt there is such a thing as a totally neutral organisation - all I do know is that if I and most of the people I encounter want to know what is really happening they tune in to the ABC .

yours sincerely,
Jenny Bell