

Growing up as a child in the 1980's the ABC was always my primary source/choice of entertainment and information, the content varied and attempted to encompass a broad array of viewpoints and inputs in a respectful manner towards all people, honorable indeed and a positive formative influence that remains memorable to this day, essentially the ABC (Aunty) is the people's broadcaster which leads me to this submission today.

### **ABC CHARTER**

Under the ABC's charter they are empowered/required to provide **innovative and comprehensive broadcasting services**, the closure of the ABC shortwave broadcasts fails (dismally) to provide any comprehensive services to Australian Citizens in remote regions where FM and MW broadcasts are unable to be received and where internet services are not available, this may sound fanciful to proponents of "digital transformation" but is a reality for many (including myself) when travelling remote areas, how is this reduced availability in anyway to be considered comprehensive broadcasting? Or promoting a national sense of identity (whilst excluding remote citizens)?

The closure of ABC shortwave services negates the charter directives to promote Australian culture, news, viewpoints, attitudes and values Internationally and specifically the Asia Pacific region to those whom do not possess access to internet services, effecting Australians abroad and International Citizens equally.

### **Emergency Broadcasting**

During periods of extreme weather, bushfires, earthquakes and cyclonic activity emergency broadcasts are vital to those living and working in the effected areas, existing local FM/MW/Internet infrastructure can easily be compromised/impaired or simply not exist at all, Shortwave is unequivocally the best solution for disseminating critical information, the cessation of the ABC Shortwave services directly impacts remote communities, long haul transport operators, offshore fishing vessels, remote travelers staff like Rangers, Farmers and Cattlemen to name but a few.

The presumption of the ABC management that their listeners/consumers all would have access to Digital Audio Broadcast services/devices and/or online media in addition to the existing FM and MW broadcasts was a significant oversight demonstrating a dramatic lack of understanding of their audience demographics.

