

From: susanwood <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, 6 June 2018 8:56 AM
To: Competitive Neutrality Inquiry
Subject: Reverse funding cuts to our ABC

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The Competitive Neutrality Inquiry,

I am writing in support of the ABC, against funding cuts and other forms of ideological attacks.

'Competitive neutrality' is a meaningless concept when attempting to evaluate the functions of the ABC. Are we to believe that the ABC's educational, analytical, regional, national and international programs would be better provided by private enterprise?

The present Federal Government has undermined the ABC openly and also, indirectly - by appointments and political influence. Programming changes are eliminating important services and journalistic input.

It is no secret that there is an agenda to destroy or break up the ABC in order to eliminate competition for commercial media outlets. A balancing appreciation of the value and impartiality of our ABC is absent. This must be redressed, by the force of public opinion if necessary.

The ABC's online services are particularly seen as a threat (by/to commercial interests) because they are quite successful in attracting audiences and represent contemporary media trends.

In my opinion, the damage done to the ABC, by a government which is supposed to provide for all Australians, is unjustified. Cuts to outback Australia and international services have been very negligent and fail to be in the best interests of our nation.

Political influence has resulted in slipping standards of journalism, poorer quality dialogue and unbalanced presentation. A propaganda war is being waged by influential right-wing interests which is both denigrating the ABC and at the same time, taking it over!

I hope the ABC can be improved in the future. I point to the BBC (UK) as an example of breadth of service and world influence. First, however, a great deal of restoration is required.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Wood
[REDACTED]