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From: William Schaffner [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 18 June 2018 3:46 AM
To: asia pacific media review
Subject: Radio Australia

Although I am not in the intended Pacific region target area, I have been a regular listener to Radio Australia for decades and wish to comment on the recent shutdown of these shortwave broadcasts.

Let me start by stating that I do not own a television and prefer to get my news and entertainment exclusively from radio, with particular emphasis on international broadcasts such as those provided by Radio Australia.

I live in the United States and on September 11, 2001 the infamous attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington DC shocked not only my country but the entire world. On each day of the week that followed those events I listened to our own domestic network National Public Radio (NPR) during the afternoons while I was at work, which kept me informed of happenings and reaction from a purely American viewpoint. Upon arriving home, I listened to the British Broadcasting Company's World Service (BBCWS) on shortwave, which gave me a broader global perspective, mainly from the European capitals and the Middle East.

Every morning for three hours before work I listened to Radio Australia to keep me up to date on anything which may have happened while I slept, and to give me insight from the Asia and Pacific regions which NPR and the BBC did not provide.

Radio Australia was invaluable to me during such a difficult time and I simply can not possibly convey just how important those broadcasts were to me, just as I can not state strongly enough how the closing of shortwave services from Radio Australia is disheartening to me. I'm sure that few can understand how I feel about it, as the developed world seems to be all about satellite television and internet streaming (until the next "advancement" comes along). Shortwave reception from Australia has always been very good here and I certainly enjoyed having my good friend Radio Australia visit my home on an almost daily basis.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my thoughts on the matter.

Sincerely,

William Schaffner
[REDACTED]