

Dear Secretary,

I request permission to make the following submission to the IT Pricing Inquiry late.

Submission:

I ask the Committee to take note of the subsidies provided to the media sector by the Federal Government (including by way of direct funding, tax concessions, maintenance of legislation to support institutions such as collecting societies, exemptions in the Copyright Act from the operation of competition legislation etc). These subsidies help to fund the creation of content which, at a later date, is sold back to Australians. However, such content is often sold back to Australians at a higher price than in other jurisdictions. The Committee ought to recommend a linkage between pricing parity for Australian taxpayers and the grant or continuance of such subsidies. In some cases, such as direct funding, a pricing parity metric could be one of the evaluation criteria.

Yours faithfully,

Brendan Scott