

Dear Sirs.

I wish to protest in the strongest manner about the proposed changes to the ABC programming schedules which will see a major shift away from locally produced news/current affairs and sporting coverage.

I do not want to watch news read out by newsreaders in Sydney or Melbourne. I expect it to come to me via a newsreader in Perth, in my home state of WA.

Nor do I want any reduction in sporting coverage, the ABC is the only broadcaster that gives a reasonable coverage of local football and other events.

Many people I know rely on the ABC to provide them with WAFL coverage, it is a major event in WA and should it be scrapped there will be a lot of very unhappy people who will be looking for someone to blame.

It is common knowledge the ABC has struggled for many years due to funding restraints, I suspect these proposed changes have been brought about by a lack of funds to provide the service that the public expects from it's national broadcaster.

I urge you to recommend an increase in funding, sufficient to at least maintain the status quo in regard to continuing the level of service we currently have.

Any further reduction in programming will be a sad day for Australia, and a sad reflection on our legislators.

Thank you for considering this submission.