

Subject: Australian Broadcasting Corporation
Date: Thursday, 17 January 2013 11:29:39 AM

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on how I perceive the way in which the Australian Broadcasting Corporation is implementing its commitment to reflect and represent regional diversity in Australia.

The Senate Committee's terms of reference are clear and express the concern I and many others have about the perceived failure of the ABC in failing to implement its commitments to the above

The loss of the ABC's Tasmanian Production Unit has seriously reduced the ABC's commitment to regional diversity.

That unit produced many excellent programmes that had major National interest and the ABC is so much the weaker with the loss of the production unit's work.

Similarly the cuts to Western Australian programmes has added to the loss of diversity.

The centralising of production in Sydney and Melbourne is very concerning and has an alienating effect on viewers in the smaller states.

Combined with this is the sense of dumbing down of the ABC as a whole where many viewers now lack confidence in the type of opinion based presenters as against the experts who traditionally commented on issues in our country.

To our Senate Committee---Please exert what influence you can to reverse the unfortunate decisions taken by ABC management.

Please try to have the diversity and quality of ABC programming reinstated and maintained.

As a regular international traveller I have always taken pride in the work of the ABC and sadly I am losing this.

Yours faithfully

Les Lauder