

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings October 2015

Communications Portfolio

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Question No: 146

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Hansard Ref: Written, 30/10/2015

Topic: Regional and Local Radio

Senator Canavan, Matthew asked:

The following questions relate to the recent announcement by the ABC that it would be changing its Mornings regional radio programs and cutting some local radio news bulletins.

1. When was the decision made?
2. Which of the ABC's regional locations will change programming as a result of this decision? If this information is not available, please advise when it will become available.
3. The ABC has announced that there will be no job losses stemming from the announced changes. What will happen to the Morning presenters whose programs have been cut or merged with other programs

Answer:

1. The review of scheduling took place between July and October 2015 and followed a general public consultation on ABC Regional, which ran from February to April 2015. The revised schedule was approved by the ABC's Regional Executive on 23 October 2015.
2. The proposed regional radio changes affect all ABC Regional stations.
3. There are no job losses related to the proposed changes. All presenters who wish to do so will remain employed by ABC Regional. Two local presenters will continue to be required for the breakfast and morning programs.