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Mr Derek Abbott
Committee Secretary
Environment, Communications and the Arts Standing Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600
Email: Derek.Abbott@aph.gov.au

Monday May 26, 2008

Dear Mr Abbott,

I refer to your phone call to me on Friday May 23 regarding the publication of third party responses to ACL's submission to the Inquiry into the effectiveness of the broadcasting codes of practice.

Whilst ACL notes that inviting third parties to respond publicly to a submission to a Senate Inquiry is a departure from usual practice, we respect the committee's decision to do so and ACL has no qualms with people disagreeing with our position.

However, the Committee's action in this instance has resulted in the publication of a serious allegation about ACL by one of the third parties, Nova 93.7, and we request the opportunity to set the record straight in the same forum, namely on the Committee's website.

On page 12 of ACL's submission, we state: "Another top rating show featured a Brazillian bus, touring Perth doing live broadcasts of full Brazillians (complete body wax) on men and women". This is in no way a reference to Nova but was included in a paragraph detailing three instances from three different radio stations which ACL believes constitute potential breaches of the relevant classification standards.



It appears that the Committee or Nova has misinterpreted our submission leading to Nova's assertion, now published on the Inquiry's website, that "ACL's allegations are factually incorrect."

This is clearly not the case and ACL strongly refutes any imputation that it has provided incorrect information to the Inquiry.

It is my request that you publish this letter on the Inquiry's website alongside Nova's response to our original submission. I would also be grateful if a copy of this letter is provided to Committee Members.

Thankyou for your assistance.

Sincerely

Lyle Shelton Chief of Staff

