From: Ralph Humphries [Sent: Sunday, 5 August 2001 11:34 AM To: ecita.sen@aph.gov.au Subject: ABC Senate enquiry

The Secretary, Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee S157 Parliament House, Canberra

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The ABC is essential to Australia's culture and democracy.

The present system of appointments to the ABC Board is clearly unsatisfactory

The present Board and Managing Director no longer has the confidence of much of the public and should resign immediately.

The Senate enquiry should recommend that the Parliament introduce a system which ensures that members of the Board be appointed on the basis of merit and commitment to independent and comprehensive national public broadcasting and not just allegiance to the government of the day.

Ralph Humphries and

Joan Lynn