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General Manager

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General Manager
Public Broadcasting
Department of Communications, Information, Technology and the Arts
GPO Box 2154
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Date : 28th July 2004

Re : Indigenous TV broadcasting service review – digital transmission discussion paper

I would like to make known my thoughts on the prospect of having an Indigenous TV broadcasting service operating. There is Indigenous Television in other countries e.g. New Zealand, Canada, Wales, Ireland, so it would be only natural to have this type of service in Australia. I tune into all types of programs on the radio and television that contain and report on Indigenous peoples of this country. There are programs on radio e.g 'Radio National' and 'Koori Radio' that are great to listen to. There used to be 'Songlines' on ABC T.V quite a while ago which was excellent. We definitely need Indigenous content on television. There is only 'Message Stick' on ABC T.V in NSW. This program is on Friday at 6.00 pm and fortunately repeated on Sunday at 1.30 pm. I have watched every episode and am encouraged by both the professionalism and content of this series.

I am a non-indigenous viewer and believe that an Indigenous Television program is the way to go for both non-indigenous and indigenous people. Having people such as Aaron Pederson, Deborah Mailman and Leah Purcell on television is a must to encourage indigenous youth to have a go. There are reams of sports people, politicians and community leaders whose voices need to be heard by all.

Please advise outcome of this discussion paper.

Best Regards,

Merissa Bush

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