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The General Manager,
Digital Broadcasting and Spectrum Management,
Department of Communications Information Technology
G.P.O. Box 2154 and the Arts
Canberra A.C.T.

Air/Madam,

Meeting the digital challenge.

Australian democracy and culture depends on there being no further loss of media diversity in any area of Australia, and a strong independent public broadcaster is absolutely essential.

You are requested to seriously and favourably consider no reduction in the number of media outlets in metropolitan or local areas across Australia.

There should be no weakening of the cross-media ownership laws that currently regulate the type of media outlets that can be owned in any market, and the issuing of media licences to remain with a relevant public authority which is independent of Government.

It is imperative that restrictions on the types of programmes the ABC and SBS can multi-channel be lifted.

Your response would be appreciated.

Patricia E. Mather