50h ro. 124

Professor Richard Snape Productivity Commission Level 28 35 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000 Wm.H.Field 7 Fitzalan Circuit, Arundel Qld 4214 26th May 1999

Dear Sir.

I wish to submit the following objections to any planned changes to the current Cross Media Ownership regulations.

- 1. To enable either of the two principal contenders to control more of the media will guarantee further limitations of diversity of opinion. Already Murdoch, a foreign national owns some 60% of Australian newsprint, and Packer a goodly proportion of the balance.
- 2. Given that these two proprietors ,already owners of so much of our media, have many and varied interests what avenue is available to the public to criticise any aspect of their operations?
- 3. Their ownership of newsprint extends already to the myriad of provincial and local surburban papers....and which editor amongst them would be brave enough to publish a letter complaining about the commercial activities of either men?

So if the current rules are relaxed in their favour, we the humble public will be really without any avenue of protest.

MeGleel

Yours Faithfully