

SENATOR THE HON PENNY WONG

Leader of the Opposition in the Senate Shadow Minister for Trade and Investment Labor Senator for South Australia

Dr Ian Watt AO Secretary Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Andrew Fisher Building 1 National Circuit Barton ACT 2600

Dear Dr Watt

RE: APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATION PANEL FOR ABC AND SBS BOARDS

I invite you to attend the hearing of the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee on Monday 20 October 2014 when it considers the 2014-2015 Supplementary Budget Estimates for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for the purpose of answering questions about the appointment of members to the Nomination Panel for the boards of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and Special Broadcasting Service (Nomination Panel).

You will be aware the Prime Minister has failed to answer Senate question on notice no.755 asked on 15 July 2014 relating to this matter.

I refer to your previous assurance by way of correspondence dated 12 February 2014 that you take your accountability responsibilities very seriously.

Accordingly, I invite you to demonstrate your accountability by directly answering questions about Nomination Panel appointments.

Yours sincerely

PENNY WONG

16 October 2014

Copies to:

Senator Cory Bernardi, Chair, Senate Finance and Administration

Legislation Committee

Senator the Hon Kate Lundy, Deputy Chair, Senate Finance and Public

Administration Legislation Committee

Anne

We need to do a polite respectful letter to the SenWong saying something like happy to be of assistance to the committee but understand that the process would be for the Committee to resolve to ask him to attend rather than Sen Wong and that he would be happy to respond to a resolution of the committee requesting his attendance.

P



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Dr Ian Watt AO Secretary

Ref: EC14/843

Senator the Hon Penny Wong Leader of the Opposition in the Senate Shadow Minister for Trade and Investment Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Wong

Thank you for your letter dated 16 October 2014 extending your invitation to attend the hearing of the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee on 20 October 2014 for the purpose of answering questions about the appointment of members to the Nomination Panel for the boards of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and Special Broadcasting Service.

I understand that the more appropriate course of action would be for the Committee to resolve to invite me to attend the hearing. Should the Committee resolve to invite me, I will of course attend.

Yours sincerely

I J Watt

19 October 2014

Copy to:

Senator Cory Bernardi, Chair, Senate Finance and Public Administration

Legislation Committee

