

Corporate Affairs

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abc.net.au

By email:

Dear

FOI REQUEST - REFERENCE NUMBER 2013-044

I refer to your email of 12 October 2013 which I accepted as a request for access to the following documents under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (the FOI Act):

- policies and/or procedures that are used when assessing climate change-related reports, interviews and opinions on ABC programs and activities - be they on television, radio, print or online.
- policies and/or procedures [which] provide guidance to management, editors, researchers, journalists and other ABC employees about how to manage the issue of false equivalence.

I am authorised by the Managing Director under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions in respect of requests made under that Act. Following is my decision in relation to your request.

Locating and identifying documents

I have taken reasonable steps to identify and locate all relevant documents. My search for these documents involved consulting with the following relevant people:

- Head of Policy and Staff Development in the News division;
- Head of Current Affairs in the News division;
- Head of Industry Policy and Strategy in the Radio division;
- Editor, *The Drum* in the Innovation division.

I requested that searches be conducted of all hard and soft copy records for documents which fall within the scope of your request.

As a result of those searches, I am satisfied that the ABC Editorial Policies and associated Guidance Notes are the only documents which fall within the scope of your request. Those documents are

publicly available on the ABC's website here: http://about.abc.net.au/how-the-abc-is-run/what-guides-us/our-editorial-policies/. No other relevant documents exist.

If you are dissatisfied with this decision you can apply for Internal or Information Commissioner (IC) Review. You do not have to apply for Internal Review before seeking IC Review. Information about your review rights is attached.

Yours sincerely

Judith Maude

Head, Corporate Governance Direct line 02 8333 5316