



21 December 2018

Mr Jonathan Sequeira

E) foi+request-5154-b1ec806c@righttoknow.org.au

Dear Mr Sequeira

FOI REQUEST – REFERENCE NUMBER 201819-047

I refer to your request for access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the FOI Act) in your email of 12 December 2018. Specifically, you have sought access to the following:

“...all documents, including emails, sent or received between 1 August 2018 and 1 October 2018 inclusive, relating to the drafting and release of the ABC’s public statement provided to Australian media (on approximately 25 August 2018) explaining the ABC’s decision not to acquire Descent into the Maelstrom – The Radio Birdman Story for broadcast.

This includes but is not limited to original drafts, authorising officers’ correspondence and follow up correspondence.

Excluded are documents, correspondence and emails sent by Jonathan Sequeira to the ABC, or received by Jonathan Sequeira from the ABC.”

I confirm that the 30-day statutory period for processing your request commenced from the day after your application was received, being 13 December 2018.

Subject to any suspension of the processing period or extension of the time for deciding this application, the ABC is required to make a determination in relation to this application by 11 January 2019.

Request for extension of time

Unfortunately, due to the holiday period, many of the ABC employees relevant to this request will be on leave at this time. It is likely an effective search for this FOI request will not be able to be conducted until mid-January 2019 at the earliest. As such, it is almost certain we won’t be able to meet the statutory deadline for a decision in this matter.

I would be grateful if, under section 15AA of the FOI Act, you would agree to an extension of **30 days** so that we may effectively and thoroughly conduct our search, and provide a considered decision on any documents retrieved. This would make the deadline for provision of a decision in the matter 11 February 2019.

If you agree to the above request, please let me know via email to foi.abc@abc.net.au, and I will notify the Information Commissioner of the extension of time granted to provide a decision in the matter as soon as is practicable.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Please note that processing charges may be imposed and that consultation with third parties may be required. If it is necessary to seek agreement to pay charges or to consult with third parties, additional processing time is provided under the FOI Act. You will be advised of any charges as well as any need to consult third parties in relation to your request.

Please note that the ABC is required by the FOI Act to publish accessed information on its website within 10 working days after the release of the documents to the FOI applicant.

You should also be aware that by making an FOI request, you may be providing personal information to the ABC. The ABC will manage any such information in accordance with the ABC's Privacy Policy. Details of that policy are available on the ABC's website: <http://about.abc.net.au/abc-privacy-policy/>. Please note that personal information (such as your name) may be disclosed in the course of processing this request, for instance for the purposes of consultation or internal reporting.

Your request will be considered and you will be provided with a decision as soon as practicable.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Juliana Walsh', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Juliana Walsh
FOI and Corporate Governance Advisor
foi.abc@abc.net.au