



RESPONSE TO SCREEN AUSTRALIA'S POLICY GUIDELINES

Summary

- **The Australasian Natural History Unit**
The Australasian Natural History Unit is one of Australia's leading producers and distributors of high quality science and wildlife films, documentaries, animations and other multi-media content for screens of all sizes. It is a private sector company representing a number of successful Australian filmmakers;
- **Economic viability and greater funding flexibility**
ANHU again applauds Screen Australia's shift towards a greater focus on the economics of the industry and the greater flexibility evident from a number of its proposals. We believe that there are many areas in which the new proposals remain unnecessarily prescriptive;
- **Lack of genuine industry consultation**
We are particularly concerned by the ongoing lack of genuine consultation with industry and believe that there are many individuals, companies and associations that could contribute actively and positively to the guidelines that will determine the future of our industry.

Wildlife films, as just one example, are arguably the most economically viable of any genre of film or television and should provide a model of the types of business Screen Australia aims to encourage. Yet input from wildlife filmmakers appears not to have been taken into consideration at all when developing the proposed guidelines and programs.

We would ask that our submission of 30th September be properly considered.

TOWNSVILLE
P.O. Box 610
Townsville QLD 4810
AUSTRALIA

ALICE SPRINGS
P.O. Box 432
Alice Springs NT 0871
AUSTRALIA

PERTH
P.O. Box 4422
Myaree BC, WA 6960
AUSTRALIA



- **Workshops should be run by industry**

We believe that, as a generalisation, private sector organisations and industry are better able to run workshops, and more familiar with requirements on the ground and throughout the country, than government agencies;

- **Regional Australia needs greater support**

The development of sustainable businesses throughout Australia needs to be proactively supported in the interests both of indigenous filmmakers and of the entire industry. Given the many incentives for, and advantages of, being based in Sydney in particular, Screen Australia should put in place active measures and funding to balance out the additional costs of establishing a viable business in regional Australia.

Screen Australia should provide more equal opportunities for all Australians.

