

INFORMATION NOTE

Election broadcasting in selected places

1. Background

1.1 In Hong Kong, under the *2004 Guidelines on Election-related Activities in respect of the Legislative Council Election*, during the election period, individual candidates and candidate(s) on a geographical constituency ("GC") list for a Legislative Council seat are required to adhere to the "equal time" principle on electioneering on television and radio whereby equal time on election broadcasting should be allocated to each candidate and GC list. This principle applies to all candidates with or without political affiliation.

1.2 At the meeting of the Panel on Constitutional Affairs on 16 May 2011, the Research Division was requested to conduct a research on the regulation of election broadcasting in overseas jurisdictions, particularly regarding the application of the "equal time" principle in election-related programmes on television and radio. This information note studies the corresponding regulatory regimes during the election period in Canada, the United Kingdom ("UK") and Australia, in particular the legislative provisions on election broadcasting, application of the equal time principle, and airtime allocation.

2. Canada

Introduction

2.1 Throughout the history of broadcasting in Canada, radio and television licensees¹, as part of their services to the public, have been required to cover elections.. Under the *Radio Regulations, 1986* and the *Television Broadcasting Regulations, 1987*, during an election period², a licensee shall allocate time for the broadcasting of programmes, advertisements or announcements of a partisan political character on an equitable basis to all accredited political parties and candidates represented in the election. The purpose of these requirements is to ensure the public's right to be informed of the issues involved so that it has sufficient knowledge to make an informed choice from among the various parties and candidates.

Regulatory authority

2.2 The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission ("CRTC") is an independent public organization that regulates and supervises the Canadian broadcasting and telecommunications systems. Its mandate is to ensure that both the broadcasting and telecommunications systems serve the Canadian public and that the objectives in the *Broadcasting Act* and the *Telecommunications Act* shall be adopted to guide its policy decisions. CRTC reports to Parliament through the Minister of Canadian Heritage.

¹ Under the *Radio Regulations, 1986*, a "licensee" means a person licensed to operate an AM station, an FM station, a digital radio station or a radio network whereas under the *Television Broadcasting Regulations, 1987*, a "licensee" means a station operator or a network operator.

² An election period is the period beginning on the date of the announcement of the election and ending on the date the election is held.

Legislative provisions on election broadcasting

2.3 In terms of regulation on election activities, under section 347 of the Canada Elections Act, CTRC issues guidelines for broadcasters³ advising them on the applicability of specific sections of the Broadcasting Act and the regulations made thereunder and on the conduct of broadcasters in relation to the federal general election. In addition, election broadcasting is also governed by Broadcasters Guidelines issued by the Broadcasting Authority, whose responsibilities include allocating broadcasting time to political parties, issuing guidelines concerning the obligations of broadcasters during a general election, and arbitrating disputes between political parties and broadcasters concerning the application of the *Act*.

Equity principle

2.4 Broadcasters in Canada are required to give all candidates and political parties equitable treatment. Equitable is taken to mean fair and just, not necessarily equal, implying that all candidates and parties are eligible to receive some coverage to share their ideas on issues with the public under the principle of equitable treatment. The principle of equitable treatment applies not only to parties and candidates, but also to issues such as programmes, advertisements and announcements, federal, provincial and municipal elections and referenda. Equity also applies to the duration of broadcasts, scheduling, potential audience, choice of electoral districts and offices to cover, language of broadcast, issue coverage and approach, conditions under which an appearance may be made, and, in the case of paid-time programming, price.

³ Under section 2 of the Canada Elections Act, a "broadcaster" means a person who is licensed by CRTC under the Broadcasting Act to carry on a programming undertaking.

Election campaigns and political advertising

2.5 Equitable treatment applies to the following types of election coverage.

Paid campaign advertising time

2.6 If a broadcaster sells advertising time to one candidate or party, other candidates and parties must also be given the opportunity to buy commercial airtime from that same broadcaster. In cases where the demand for advertising time exceeds the airtime available, broadcasters must divide up the available advertising time on an equitable basis.

Free campaign advertising time

2.7 A broadcaster can offer free time, which is programming time that is free of charge, to a political party or candidate during an election campaign. The message that goes on the air is under the editorial control of the party or candidate. Should a broadcaster offer free time to a party or candidate, it must offer equitable time to other parties and candidates.

Prime time advertising airtime during federal elections

2.8 In the period beginning on the issue of the writs for a general election and ending at midnight on the day before polling day, broadcasters must make 390 minutes (or 6.5 hours) of prime programming time⁴ available for purchase by all parties. These hours must fall within the time period between the date the writ was dropped and the second day before the election date. The allocation of broadcasting time to be made available by every broadcaster under the *Canada Elections Act* for purchase by political parties for the 2011 federal election is listed in **Appendix I**. Time purchased by a candidate for his or her own use does not form part of the allocated time.

⁴ Under section 319 of the *Canada Elections Act*, "prime time" is defined as, in the case of a radio station, the time between the hours of 6 am and 9 am, 12 noon and 2 pm, and 4 pm and 7 pm; and, in the case of a television station, the hours between 6 pm and 12 midnight.

2.9 Owing to the uniqueness of each licensee's situation, CRTC has no firm rules to cover all aspects of election campaign broadcasting. It generally deals with each situation on a case-by-case basis.

Airtime allocation

Allocation of purchasable prime time broadcast during election

2.10 Under section 336 of the *Canada Elections Act*, the Broadcasting Arbitrator shall convene a meeting of representatives of all registered parties to consult on the allocation of broadcasting time for purchase during prime time. Unanimous agreement of the registered parties on the allocation of the broadcasting time is binding on all registered parties. In the case where unanimous agreement cannot be reached, the Broadcasting Arbitrator will allocate the broadcasting time and that allocation is binding on all registered parties.

2.11 In allocating broadcasting time, the Broadcasting Arbitrator gives equal weight to two factors:

- (a) the percentage of seats in the House of Commons held by each of the registered parties at the previous general election; and
- (b) the percentage of the popular vote at the previous general election of each registered party.

2.12 The Broadcasting Arbitrator will assign half the weight given to each of the two factors to the number of candidates endorsed by each registered party at the previous general election, expressed as a percentage of all candidates endorsed by all registered parties at that election. The resulting ratio is then applied to the total of 390 minutes and the results for each political party are rounded to the nearest half-minute.

2.13 The Broadcasting Arbitrator cannot allocate more than 50% of the total broadcasting time for election-related purchase to a registered party. If the calculation results in more than 50% of the total broadcasting time assigned to a registered party, the Broadcasting Arbitrator will allocate the excess amount to the other registered parties entitled to broadcasting time on a proportionate basis. If the Broadcasting Arbitrator considers that an allocation would be unfair to a registered party or contrary to the public interest, the allocation may be modified in any manner that the Broadcasting Arbitrator considers appropriate.

Allocation of network free time during election

2.14 In the period beginning on the issue of the writs for a general election and ending at midnight on the day before polling day, broadcasting network operators are required to provide free network time to political parties to broadcast political announcements and other programming produced by them or on their behalf. There is no requirement that the free time be made available during prime time, and the value of free broadcasting time made available to a registered party will not be taken into consideration as election expenses.

2.15 The minimum amount of broadcasting time that a broadcasting network operator is to make available shall be no less than the amount of free broadcasting time made available by it at the last general election. The free broadcasting time shall be made available in the following manner:

- (a) two minutes to each political party; and
- (b) the remainder to all political parties that have been allocated purchasable prime time broadcasting in the proportion of their allocated or requested purchasable broadcasting time over the total broadcasting time allocated or requested.

2.16 The allocation of network free time by broadcasters during the federal election held in May 2011 is listed in **Appendix II**.

3. The United Kingdom

Introduction

3.1 In the UK, political advertising is prohibited in the broadcast media as the public deems that such act will give an advantage to the best financed candidates or political parties. Party election broadcasts ("PEBs") are therefore designed to offset the differential ability of parties to attract campaign funds. Thus, free airtime is provided prior to elections⁵ and other significant events (such as the budget) and allows qualifying parties an opportunity to deliver their messages directly to the electorate through the broadcast media.

Regulatory authority

3.2 In the UK, communication broadcast is regulated by the Office of Communications ("Ofcom"), an independent regulator and competition authority overseeing the communications industry. Its main responsibilities include ensuring the provision of a wide range of high-quality television and radio programmes by different organizations, and furthering the interests of citizens and consumers.

3.3 In respect of regulation on election broadcasting, section 333 of the *Communications Act 2003* charges Ofcom with the duty of making rules regarding the allocation, length and frequency of party political broadcasts (including party election broadcasts) for commercial broadcasters with public service obligations⁶. As such, Ofcom has issued the "*Ofcom Rules on Party Political and Referendum Broadcasts*" to reflect the minimum requirements which licensees are required to follow in determining the length, frequency, allocation and scheduling of party political broadcasts.

⁵ Elections include parliamentary general elections, parliamentary by-elections, local government elections, mayoral elections, Scottish Parliament elections, Welsh, Northern Ireland and London Assembly elections, and European parliamentary elections. See Ofcom (2010c).

⁶ While PEBs are broadcasts transmitted during an election campaign, party political broadcasts are broadcasts made by political parties which are transmitted throughout the period of a Parliament, that is, outside of an election campaign.

Legislative provisions on election broadcasting

3.4 Ofcom is required under the *Communications Act 2003* and the *Broadcasting Act 1996* to draw up a code for television and radio, covering standards in programmes, sponsorship, fairness and privacy, including regulation on political party broadcasting during the election period⁷. This Code is known as the *Ofcom Broadcasting Code*.

The impartiality requirement

3.5 Under section 6 of the *Ofcom Broadcasting Code*, due weight must be given to the coverage of major parties during the election period. Broadcasters must also consider giving appropriate coverage to other parties and independent candidates with significant views and perspectives. If a candidate takes part in a broadcast about his or her particular constituency or electoral area, candidates of each of the major parties must be offered the opportunity to take part. However, if the candidates refuse or are unable to participate, the broadcast may continue to proceed.

3.6 Furthermore, broadcasters must offer the opportunity to take part in constituency or electoral area reports and discussions to all candidates within the constituency or electoral area representing parties with previous significant electoral support or where there is evidence of significant current support. This requirement also applies to independent candidates. However, if a candidate refuses or is unable to participate, the broadcast may continue to proceed.

⁷ According to Ofcom, the period for a parliamentary general election begins with the announcement of the dissolution of the Parliament. The period for a parliamentary by-election begins with the issuing of a writ or on such earlier date as is notified in the London Gazette. The period for the Scottish Parliament elections begins with the dissolution of the Scottish Parliament or, in the case of a by-election, with the date of the occurrence of a vacancy. The period for the National Assembly for Wales, the Northern Ireland Assembly, the London Assembly and local government elections begins with the last date for publication of notices of the election. For European parliamentary elections, it begins with the last date for publication of the notice of election, which is 25 days before the election. In all cases, the period ends with the close of the poll.

Airtime allocation

3.7 The two broadcasters, British Broadcasting Corporation ("BBC") and S4C,⁸ are also required to carry PEBs, but they are not regulated by Ofcom. The former is regulated by its own Charter and Agreements while the latter by the Welsh Authority. As such, the broadcasting authorities (i.e. BBC, S4C and Ofcom) each have a policy for the allocation of PEBs. BBC and S4C are required to set up and adhere to their own policies, while other independent broadcasters must work within the policies set out by Ofcom. In establishing these policies, BBC, S4C and Ofcom must have regard to views of the Electoral Commission⁹. Each broadcaster is responsible for deciding the actual allocation of PEBs it carries within the policies set by the broadcasting authorities.

3.8 PEBs may only be allocated to political parties registered by the Electoral Commission. According to the *Ofcom Rules on Party Political and Referendum Broadcasts*, the major registered parties in the UK are the Conservative Party, the Labour Party, and the Liberal Democrats and, in Scotland and Wales respectively, the Scottish National Party and Plaid Cymru. The major parties in Northern Ireland are the Democratic Unionist Party, Sinn Fein, the Social Democratic & Labour Party, and the Ulster Unionist Party.

Allocation of broadcasts

3.9 Before a general election and in the case of other elections where appropriate, each major party will be offered a series of two or more PEBs, with the length of a series offered to a particular party determined by the broadcasters. The number of PEBs is determined having regard to the circumstances of a particular election, the nation in which it is held, and the individual party's past and/or current electoral support in that nation. Usually, the governing party and the main opposition party are allocated the same number of broadcasts, and no party is offered more than five broadcasts in total.

⁸ S4C is the Welsh language public service broadcaster.

⁹ The Electoral Commission is an independent body set up by the UK Parliament for registering political parties, running elections and setting standards for electoral registration.

3.10 Other registered parties are also qualified for a PEB if they are contesting one-sixth or more of the seats up for election in the case of first-past-the-post, multi-constituency elections such as a general election.

3.11 Broadcasters should consider making additional allocations of PEBs to those smaller registered parties if evidence of their past and/or current electoral support at a particular election or in a relevant nation/electoral area means that it would be appropriate to do so. In this regard, broadcasters should consider whether such registered parties should qualify for a series of PEBs and/or peak-time scheduling, as major parties do.

3.12 In determining allocations of PEBs at elections, the four nations of the UK should be considered separately.

Length of broadcasts

3.13 Political parties may choose a length of 2 minutes and 40 seconds, 3 minutes and 40 seconds or 4 minutes and 40 seconds on TV. For radio broadcast, political parties may choose any length up to 2 minutes and 30 seconds.

Scheduling of broadcasts

3.14 PEBs on television on behalf of major parties throughout the UK must be carried in peak time (6 pm to 10:30 pm). For radio broadcast, PEBs for major parties before a general election must be carried on the UK-wide analogue radio services between 5 pm and 9 pm.

4. Australia

Introduction

4.1 Unlike Canada and the UK, there is no statutory obligation on broadcasters to allocate election broadcasting time to political parties in Australia, and broadcasters are not required to broadcast any election matter free of charge. Nevertheless, if a broadcaster does broadcast election matter, it must comply with clause 3(2) of Schedule 2 to the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*, which, in particular, contains provisions dealing with access, timing and identification in relation to the broadcast of political and election matter, and also requires the broadcaster to give reasonable opportunities for the broadcasting of election matter to all political parties contesting the election.

Regulatory authorities

4.2 The Australian Communications and Media Authority ("ACMA") is a statutory authority under the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy. It is responsible for the regulation of broadcasting, the Internet, radio-communications and telecommunications. ACMA also provides technical expertise and regulatory input to the government, and supports the development of codes of practice for the industry to ensure that the industry is responsive to the community's needs.

4.3 ACMA is also responsible for regulating election broadcasting provided by broadcasters defined under Part 2 of Schedule 2 to the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*. Broadcaster means:

- (a) a commercial television broadcasting licensee;
- (b) a commercial radio broadcasting licensee;
- (c) a community broadcasting licensee;
- (d) a subscription television broadcasting licensee; and
- (e) a person providing broadcasting services under a class licence.

4.4 According to ACMA, each broadcaster is responsible for determining its election broadcasting airtime and schedule of election broadcasts during the election period. As such, national public broadcasters, such as the Australian Broadcasting Corporation ("ABC") and the Special Broadcasting Service are governed by their own Acts of Parliament and Charters, and are not within the purview of ACMA.

4.5 In light of ABC's popularity, as evidenced by the fact that ABC achieved the highest prime-time audience across five cities during the 2010 federal election, with an average audience of 1 003 000 and a 27% free-to-air share, the following sections will focus on the election broadcasting policies of ABC.

Role of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation during an election period

4.6 Under Section 79A of the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*, ABC may determine to what extent and in what manner it will broadcast political matter. The ABC Board has determined that free broadcasting time shall be allocated to political parties during election campaigns according to its eligibility and allocation criteria.

4.7 In each election, ABC establishes an Election Coverage Review Committee which comprises representatives from all relevant ABC Divisions and is chaired by the Director of Editorial Policies of ABC. This committee is principally a committee of review and does not direct day-to-day coverage. The committee monitors and advises on election coverage in accordance with the ABC Editorial Policies. It provides guidance on interpretation of policy and the chairman administers free election broadcast time on radio and television which the ABC Board allocates to eligible political parties.

4.8 In addition, ABC issues detailed production guidelines to political parties eligible for grant of free election broadcast time during election. The production guidelines outline the allocation of free time on ABC radio and television, conditions for broadcasting, ABC technical and production standards to be observed, copyright clearance requirements, online posting of party election broadcast material and other necessary information.

Guiding principles in allocating free election broadcast time

4.9 The criteria and guidelines applied by ABC in allocating free election broadcast time are founded on the following principles:

- (a) for the proper functioning of representative government in a democracy, it is essential that the public is fully informed of the issues of current debate and of the position and policies of those parties competing for political office;
- (b) the public is entitled to hear the principal points of view on all questions of importance;
- (c) the right to hear alternative policies and points of view is inherent in the concepts of objective reporting and impartiality, which are part of ABC's statutory duties; and
- (d) the full exchange of opinion is one of the safeguards of free institutions and of democracy itself.

Airtime allocation

4.10 Consistent with the above principles, ABC makes allocations of free broadcast time on ABC's radios and televisions during federal, state and territory election campaigns for party political purposes. The largest portion of free broadcast time is allocated to the political parties with the prospect of forming the next government. Efforts are made to apportion time fairly to minor parties according to their existing parliamentary representation, the extent to which they field candidates, and their support in opinion polls.

4.11 The Government and the official Opposition parties in an outgoing federal, state or territory Parliament or Assembly are granted equal time by ABC for election broadcasts within the relevant jurisdiction during election campaigns. When political parties are in a Government or an official Opposition coalition, ABC will provide an equal allocation of time to the Government and the official Opposition coalition, leaving it to the coalition parties to divide the time between them as they see fit.

4.12 Meanwhile, minor parties can apply for more time during election campaigns and these applications are assessed against the criteria on a case-by-case basis.

Time allocated to Government and official Opposition parties

4.13 During the 2010 federal election, the Government and official Opposition parties were granted 45 minutes free time on ABC1 Television and 45 minutes on ABC Local Radio. The allocation for state and territory elections was 22 minutes free time on ABC1 Television and 22 minutes on ABC Local Radio.

4.14 In the case of federal elections, the time was allocated as follows:

- (a) ABC1 Television (totalling 45 minutes):
 - (i) 27 minutes for the party election launch; and
 - (ii) 18 minutes, split into six 3-minute spots, for policy announcements; and
- (b) ABC Local Radio (totalling 45 minutes):
 - (i) 27 minutes for the party election launch; and
 - (ii) 18 minutes, split into six 3-minute spots, for policy announcements.

4.15 In the case of state and territory elections, the time was allocated as follows:

- (a) ABC1 Television (totalling 22 minutes):
 - (i) 10 minutes for the election policy launch; and
 - (ii) 12 minutes, split into four 3-minute spots, for policy announcements; and

(b) ABC Local Radio (totalling 22 minutes):

- (i) 10 minutes for the election policy launch; and
- (ii) 12 minutes, split into four 3-minute spots, for policy announcements.

4.16 Parties are not permitted to divide up or combine their allocations, for example, making two 3-minute spots into three 2-minute spots or making three 3-minute spots into a 9-minute spot.

Time allocated to minor or new parties

4.17 The time allocated for minor or new parties is at the discretion of the ABC Board, based on the number of seats contested, demonstrated public support, and any other factors deemed relevant.

4.18 If a minor or new party meets the twin criteria of contesting at least 10% of vacant seats in an election and demonstrates at least 5% public support in votes cast or in polls, or has at least one Member in the existing Parliament or Assembly, then the party may be granted one 3-minute spot on ABC1 Television and one 3-minute spot on ABC Local Radio for a policy announcement.

4.19 If a party meets both criteria of contesting at least 20% of vacant seats in an election and demonstrates at least 10% public support in votes cast or polls, then the party may be granted an additional 3-minute spot on ABC1 Television and an additional 3-minute spot on ABC Local Radio for a policy announcement.

4.20 The ABC Board retains discretion to make further allocation of free election broadcast time. Please refer to **Appendix III** for examples of allocation of free broadcast time by ABC during the 2010 federal election.

Scheduling of broadcasts

4.21 The order in which the parties are scheduled for broadcast on radio and TV over the period of an election campaign is determined by ballot at a meeting to which the political parties' representatives are invited. After the parties' broadcasts have gone to air on radio or TV, they are uploaded to the election page of the ABC website for public viewing.

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Table – Key features of election broadcasting in Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia

	Canada	The United Kingdom	Australia
Regulatory authority	The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission	The Office of Communications ("Ofcom")	The Australian Communications and Media Authority ("ACMA")
Relevant legislation	<i>Canada Elections Act; Radio Regulations, 1986; and Television Broadcasting Regulations, 1987.</i>	<i>Communications Act 2003</i>	<i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i>
Broadcasters' obligation	Broadcasters are required to allocate both free and paid time for election-related matters.	Broadcasters are required to allocate free time for election-related matters.	There is no statutory obligation on broadcasters to allocate election broadcasting time to political parties.
The equity principle/ impartial requirement	Broadcasters are required to give all candidates, political parties and issues equitable treatment. If one party or candidate receives free or paid time, all rival parties and candidates must be offered equitable time.	Broadcasters must give appropriate coverage to political parties and independent candidates with significant views and perspectives. If a candidate takes part in a broadcast about his or her particular constituency or electoral area, candidates of each of the major parties must be offered the same opportunity to do so.	Broadcasters must give reasonable opportunities for the broadcasting of election matter to all political parties.

Table – Key features of election broadcasting in Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia (cont'd)

	Canada	The United Kingdom	Australia
Free campaign advertising time			
Availability	Yes, required by law.	Yes, required by law.	Yes, but not required by law.
Method of time allocation	<p>The minimum amount of broadcasting time that a network operator is to make available shall not be less than the amount of free broadcasting time at the last general election. It shall be made available in the following manner:</p> <p>(a) two minutes to every political party; and</p> <p>(b) the remainder to all political parties that have been allocated purchasable prime time broadcasting in the proportion of their allocated or requested purchasable broadcasting time over the total broadcasting time allocated or requested.</p>	<p>Each broadcaster has a policy for the allocation of the party election broadcasts, and will consider the circumstances of a particular election, the nation in which it is held, and the individual party's past and/or current electoral support in that nation.</p>	<p>Each broadcaster is responsible for determining the allocation of election broadcasting airtime.</p>

Table – Key features of election broadcasting in Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia (cont'd)

	Canada	The United Kingdom	Australia
Paid campaign advertising time			
Availability	Yes.	No.	Yes
Statutory requirement on broadcast time	Every broadcaster is required to make available for purchase by political parties 390 minutes of prime time during a federal election.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.
Method of time allocation	The Broadcasting Arbitrator will take into account: (a) the percentage of seats in the House of Commons held by each of the registered parties at the previous general election; and (b) the percentage of the popular vote at the previous general election of each registered party.	Not applicable.	Each broadcaster is responsible for determining the allocation of election broadcasting airtime.

Appendix I

**Allocation of broadcasting time made available by
broadcasters under the *Canada Elections Act*
for purchase by political parties
for the federal general election held on 2 May 2011**

Political Party	Minutes:Seconds
Conservative Party of Canada	103:00
Liberal Party of Canada	69:30
New Democratic Party	48:00
Bloc Québécois	36:30
Green Party of Canada	23:30
Christian Heritage Party of Canada	9:30
Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada	9:30
Communist Party of Canada	8:30
Libertarian Party of Canada	8:30
Canadian Action Party	8:00
Animal Alliance Environment Voters Party of Canada	7:30
First Peoples National Party of Canada	7:30
Marijuana Party	7:30
People's Political Power Party of Canada	7:30
Progressive Canadian Party	7:30
Rhinoceros Party	7:30
Western Block Party	7:30
Pirate Party of Canada	6:30
United Party of Canada	6:30
Total	390:00

Appendix II

Allocation of network free time among political parties for the federal general election held on 2 May 2011

	CBC-TV	CBC Radio One	TVA
<i>Political Party</i>	<i>Min:Sec</i>	<i>Min:Sec</i>	<i>Min:Sec</i>
Conservative Party of Canada	56:30	32:00	16:30
Liberal Party of Canada	38:00	21:30	11:00
New Democratic Party	26:00	15:00	8:00
Bloc Québécois	20:00	11:30	6:00
Green Party of Canada	13:00	7:30	4:00
Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada	5:30	3:00	1:30
Christian Heritage Party of Canada	5:30	3:00	1:30
Libertarian Party of Canada	5:00	3:00	1:30
Communist Party of Canada	5:00	3:00	1:30
Canadian Action Party	4:30	2:30	1:30
Animal Alliance Environment Voters Party of Canada	4:00	2:00	1:00
First Peoples National Party of Canada	4:00	2:00	1:00
Marijuana Party	4:00	2:00	1:00
People's Political Power Party of Canada	4:00	2:00	1:00
Progressive Canadian Party	4:00	2:00	1:00
Rhinoceros Party	4:00	2:00	1:00
Western Block Party	4:00	2:00	1:00
Pirate Party of Canada	3:30	2:00	1:00
United Party of Canada	3:30	2:00	1:00
Total (rounded)	214:00	120:00	62:00

Appendix III

Australian Broadcasting Corporation schedule of political parties' free time broadcasts on radio and TV for 2010 federal election

Party announcements on ABC1 Television			
Date	Time	Duration	Party
Tuesday July 27	9:30pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Thursday July 29	6:00pm	3 minutes	Labor
Thursday July 29	9:25pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Friday July 30	6:00pm	3 minutes	Labor
Tuesday August 3	9:30pm	3 minutes	Greens
Thursday August 5	6:00pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Thursday August 5	9:25pm	3 minutes	Labor
Friday August 6	6:00pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Tuesday August 10	9:30pm	3 minutes	Labor
Thursday August 12	6:00pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Thursday August 12	9:25pm	3 minutes	Labor
Friday August 13	6:00pm	3 minutes	Greens
Saturday August 14	8:20pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Saturday August 14	9:15pm	3 minutes	Labor
Tuesday August 17	6:30pm	27 minutes	Coalition
Wednesday August 18	6:30pm	27 minutes	Labor
Party announcements on ABC Local Radio			
Date	Time	Duration	Party
Tuesday July 27	7:05pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Wednesday July 28	7:05pm	3 minutes	Labor
Wednesday July 28	8:06pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Thursday July 29	8:06pm	3 minutes	Labor
Monday August 2	7:05pm	3 minutes	Greens
Tuesday August 3	7:05pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Wednesday August 4	7:05pm	3 minutes	Labor
Thursday August 5	7:05pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Monday August 9	7:05pm	3 minutes	Labor
Tuesday August 10	7:05pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Wednesday August 11	7:05pm	3 minutes	Labor
Thursday August 12	7:05pm	3 minutes	Greens
Sunday August 15	8:05pm	3 minutes	Coalition
Monday August 16	7:05pm	3 minutes	Labor
Tuesday August 17	7:30pm	27 minutes	Coalition
Wednesday August 18	7:30pm	27 minutes	Labor

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Canada

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