2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Tabernacle Court 16-28 Tabernacle Street London, EC2A 4DD Tel: +44 (0)870 164 7470

Fax: +44 (0)870 164 7471 Website: www.spungoldtv.com

Anthony Szynkaruk 5th Floor, Content and Standards Group Ofcom Riverside House 2a Southwark Bridge Road London SE1 9HA

29 April 2009

Dear Anthony

## **RE: CHANNEL TELEVISION COMPLIANCE**

I am writing in the hope that you may re-consider a change I understand you may be planning to the current compliance system within ITV. As the Managing Director of a small to medium sized television production company, I cannot stress enough how important it is to have a choice of compliance provider. In fact, I am certain if you were to garner the views of most production company owners/producers in the UK, they would claim it is imperative.

The ability to choose a compliance provider has long been guaranteed to those in my position, even before the undertakings by the Secretary of State in 2003, pre the Granada/Carlton merger – this cannot be allowed to change.

The television industry in Britain relies on personal relationships built up over many years. To force producers to work with just one compliance company would not only cast aside these long developed relationships, but jeopardise the quality control both on and off screen.

For many years now, my compliance relationship has rested with Channel Television. Their work has, without fail, been exemplary and much appreciated by not only myself but a host of other independent producers. Moreover, I personally believe it is key that producers should have their programmes complied outside of the commissioning company should that be desired. This arm's length approach to compliance can only be beneficial to all parties.

In short, I cannot see what benefits your planned change intends to bring. To that end, I and many other producers within the industry would be delighted to hear the arguments for your case.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you be prepared to discuss the matter further.

Yours faithfully

Nick Bullen MD, Spun Gold TV