302 M Barbalet

From: Margaret Barbalet

 Dear ALRC,

 As a writer I struggle to stay afloat and write. I have had eight books published  - six by Penguin - as well as numerous poems and essays. People who have read my books have written to me and come up to me at signing sessions to tell me how important my books were in their lives.  Unlike some countries such as Ireland where writers are helped through the taxation system, writers here receive very little recognition of the contributions they have made.  I have paid taxes all my life and worked in different jobs for 30 years.  I have and continue to make a contribution to the culture of Australia. ELR and PLR are an annual "lifeline" for me.

 Therefore I am totally opposed to:         repeal of statutory

licences that allow educational and government use of copyright content in return for fair payment to writers, artists, publishers and others;

 ·         a new ‘exception’ (known as ‘fair use’) that would allow

uses of copyright content without permission, including for business

purposes:

 No one needs these fees like writers. The system works perfectly as is!

 Best wishes,

Margaret Barbalet