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**Objection Number 31**

**Gail Robertson**

**1 page**

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**From:** Gail Robertson  
**Sent:** Thursday, 26 August 2010 3:17 PM  
**To:** VIC Redistribution  
**Subject:** Redistribution in Victoria, seat of Murray

The Australian Electoral Commission

**Redistribution of the seat of Murray**

I write with reference to the proposed redistribution in Victoria with the proposal of the seat of Murray being absorbed into other electorates.

I would like to register my displeasure at this redistribution happening.

The Seat of Murray has a great history and is a vital part of the "Food Bowl" both in feeding Australia and the world, and as such should have direct representation in Parliament through the likes of Sharman Stone as the member for Murray.

If the seat is to be taken over by areas that are more 'City centric' the direct representative in Parliament of our food producers would be at a disadvantage.

We can ill afford to lose the main focus of the area as well as the possible loss of Sharman Stone from political life.

I don't live in the electorate of Murray now as I am in Indi, but my political awakening was during the process of electing Sharman Stone to the seat of Murray back in the 90's.

Throughout my life I have been a farmer in the Nathalia / Numurkah area, a small business owner in Shepparton and worked for an Employment agency understanding the importance of the major food producing area of Murray.

In the country we as voters seem to miss out on so much: I would hate to see the country people miss out on the representation they justly deserve with the abolishment of the seat of Murray.

Keep the representation we have

Regards

Gail Robertson