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**Objection Number 44**

**Neil Repacholi**

**3 pages**

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**From:** Repacholi, Neil [NeilR@g-mwater.com.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 27 August 2010 10:22 AM  
**To:** VIC Redistribution  
**Subject:** Electoral Boundary Objection  
**Attachments:** Australian Electoral Commission.doc

Please find attached my objection to the proposed Federal electoral seat boundary changes  
Neil Repacholi

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Australian Electoral Commission  
GPO Box 9867  
Melbourne  
Vic

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Objection to the proposed Federal Electorate Boundary Changes in Victoria

Thank you for the opportunity to provide alternatives to the proposed boundary changes and in particular to the abolition of the Federal seat of Murray.

The current proposal to include towns such as Kyabram, Rushworth and Tongala in a Mallee seat headquartered in Mildura is contrary to the interests of the residents who live in these centres. In fact the whole of the Campaspe Shire has a natural association with Bendigo and virtually no association with the Mallee region. Bendigo provides the majority of education and medical services to the Shire of Campaspe which is located in a central growth corridor in Victoria. The recent census identifies the Melbourne /Bendigo and Bendigo/Echuca corridor as the fastest growing regional area outside of the fringe or interface Councils around Melbourne.

Suggest the following amendments to the boundaries.

- Both Loddon and Buloke Shires have a natural association through agriculture with the Wimmera/ Mallee Region and virtually no population growth outside of the Mildura precinct.
- Consider the abolition of the Murray electorate to form a Bendigo North Electorate which includes Epsom, Huntly, Heathcote through to Echuca. Reduce the extent of the Western boundary to exclude Loddon and Buloke and replace with a more central corridor through to Echuca. The current growth rate of Bendigo (11%) and Echuca (4%) will accommodate only minor changes in Boundaries in the future.
- The population is predicted to double in the Macedon Ranges and Mt Alexander Shires in addition to the doubling of population in Bendigo by 2030 and I believe is the driver behind the new electorate to be established in that region. However this proposal ignores the growth pattern North of Bendigo towards Echuca.

In summary the western boundary can be adjusted in the Mallee region to include Loddon and Buloke which would allow the inclusion of the Echuca corridor within the proposed Bendigo electorate.

This option provides consideration for future growth with only minor boundary changes being required and brings regions with common interests together

Yours Faithfully  
Neil Repacholi

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