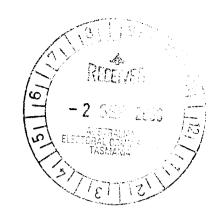


Public Objection Number 9

Carolin Parremore

3 Page(s)



Australian Electoral Officer for Tasmania 2nd Floor, AMP Building 86 Collins Street HOBART TAS 7000

30th August, 2008

Dear Sir.

In wishing to lodge an objection to the proposed redistribution of Federal Electoral Boundaries in Tasmania, I would first like to bring to your attention the difficulties experienced in gaining information on the guidelines for doing so. I could find no link to the Guidelines for Submissions on the AEC internet site (accessed Saturday 30th August) and have attached a copy of the dead link for your attention. I am thus proceeding to lodge an objection without access to these guidelines and I ask for your indulgence if this objection does not meet these expectations.

My objections to the proposed redistribution of Federal Electoral Boundaries in Tasmania relate particularly to the movement of the south-western boundary of Denison to the Huon Road at Lower Longley and the creation of a new western boundary along the Kingborough LGA.

Apart from numerical quotas for current and projected enrolment, it is noted that the Committee also shall give due consideration to:

- community interests within the proposed division, including economic, social and regional interests;
- means of communication and travel within the proposed division;
- physical features and area of the proposed division; and
- existing boundaries of divisions in the State or Territory.

The proposed incremental change to the southern boundary between Denison and Franklin electorates appears to affect a relatively small number of electors. The Longley/Lower Longley population resides against the backdrop of Mt Wellington and this area is currently facing restricted opportunities to develop land for residential dwellings. It is difficult to accept any claim that this area has greater than average projected growth and that this would serve to improve the relative growth position of Denison.

Since Franklin's actual and projected enrolment in the proposed divisions is less than Denison's and will negatively vary from the average significantly more than that of Denison, it is difficult to see why the electors residing in the proposed southwestern area of Denison need to be transferred from the Franklin division.

Part of the area known as Lower Longley is proposed for transfer to the Denison electorate. This is a rural area and many of its residents, like myself, are farmers. Others own acreage and enjoy a hobby farmer lifestyle. We access the nearby town of Huonville for rural supplies. Our local government schools are at Huonville and the Huonville Police and other Huonville based Emergency Services cover our area. Other services including supermarkets/grocery supplies, hardware stores, libraries, Centrelink services and social access to sporting clubs and recreational facilities are mainly divided between Kingston and Huonville, both of which are proposed to remain as part of the Franklin electorate. When considering community interests, it seems hard to justify why any of rural Lower Longley should be transferred to the Hobart/urban based electorate of Denison.

The Huon Highway plays a key role in communication and travel for all residents southwest of Kingston including Leslie Vale, Longley, Sandfly, Lower Longley and the Huon. It is difficult to see why residents on one side only of the Huon Highway between Kingston and Sandfly are to be included in the Denison electorate, no use of it is made as an electoral boundary between Sandfly and Vinces Saddle at the Huon Road intersection in Lower Longley (ie both sides remain in Franklin electorate), residents on one side only of the highway between Vinces Saddle and Blacksmiths Gully (Kingborough LGA boundary) are to be included in the Denison electorate, and then both sides further south of Blacksmith Gully remain in the Franklin electorate. Presumably this confusing approach to the electoral boundaries is based on alignment to CCDs. Unfortunately; this is likely to create confusion for proposed Denison based Lower Longley residents such as myself in having both the highway north and south of us being in the Franklin electorate. This is rather like the current anomaly of Franklin standing alone as the only federal division in Australia that is effectively split in two by another division and which is a key prompt for change to the electoral boundary in the Brighton LGA!

Another key consideration of communication and travel factors within the proposed division of Denison is Australia Post delivery. Most electors are used to receiving updates from their elected representatives in the form of mailbox pamphlets which may also contain community information, voter advice, information on key initiatives of their elected government member; or information on election candidates. Although Australia Post boundaries frequently coincide with LGA boundaries, they do not always do so. Lower Longley is such an area. Although we and other residents in Lower Longley, who under the proposed changes to the electoral boundary are to be transferred to Denison, live in the Kingborough LGA, we are under the postcode, 7109, and consequently we receive mail via Huonville. Since we face an ongoing battle to receive information relevant to the Kingborough Council in Lower Longley (Kingborough community news is only effectively delivered using Kingborough based postal services- not Huon based ones), it cannot be presumed that the Huonville Postal Service will deal any better with the handful of residents on the delivery run who are proposed to be in the Denison electorate!

Since the proposed redistribution of Federal Electoral boundaries in Tasmania does not entail the entire LGA of Kingborough being placed into Denison, it is suggested that the Redistribution Committee ignore the strict adherence to the LGA boundary at the southwest edge of the proposed electorate of Denison, and uses a services based boundary such as the 7109 postal boundary or a physical boundary such as the North West Bay River at Longley so that the area known as Lower Longley is not fragmented in the ways outlined above.

Yours truly,

Mrs Carolin Parremore

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