



**The Federal Redistribution 2008
Tasmania**



Public Objection Number 33

Rondaleen Cockshutt

3 Page(s)

> Redistribution Objection



"Ronda"
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m>
16/09/2008 07:46 PM

To <tas.redistribution@aec.gov.au>
cc
bcc
Subject Redistribution Objection

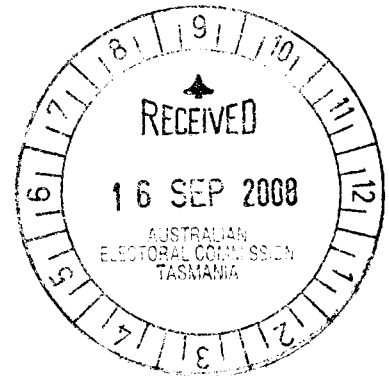
Dear Sir or Madam,

Please find attached our objection to the Franklin
electorate redistribution.

Regards,



Rondaleen Cockshutt Bridgewater Redistribution Objection.doc



> Redistribution Objection

KEEP BRIDGEWATER HIGH ON ITS ORIGINAL SITE
Steering Committee

Miss R.Cockshutt,
17 Greenpoint Road,
BRIDGEWATER 7030

We would like to lodge an objection to the electoral redistribution proposal for Bridgewater Tasmania.

To take Bridgewater out of the Franklin electorate and put it into Lyons is going to cause unnecessary distress and divide to our close Bridgewater and Gagebrook community.

Our reasons of objection being:

1. There is approximately only 1 kilometer separating Bridgewater and Gagebrook and this very significantly contributes to the two suburbs being uniquely able to share their resources and therefore keeping costs very minimal. Both are on the Eastern Shore of the Derwent River. Some of the shared services for example: Employment Agencies (Job Futures and Work Skills), Public Transport (Metro), Centrelink, Housing Services, Service Tasmania, Post Code, Local Government Area, Community Health Services, Medical Centre, Shopping Centre's to name a few. Many residents presently have employment in the Franklin electorate as well.

2. The Jordan River should not be used as a reason to bring about the redistribution.

3. Bridgewater and Gagebrook have shared a very close community bond since 1948 and have both been in the Franklin electorate for 31 years. Bridgewater was taken out of the Franklin electorate in 1948 and put into Wilmot (now renamed Lyons) together with Gagebrook. They were both then relocated back into Franklin in 1977 where they are today. So in fact they have been in the same electorate together as one since 1948...60 years, sharing the same electorate, the same local government and services. Why disrupt something that has been a partnership for that amount of time.

4. The two communities have been striving to break down the barriers associated with living in a socio-economic environment. This was very strongly displayed when the two communities came together after losing our high school to arson. A very strong community comrade surfaced through the disaster. Whilst door knocking in both areas it was portrayed very strongly that we are one community and want to stay that way.

5. The two communities presently share many services receiving federal and state government funding which has so many benefits because of being in the one electorate. Taking Bridgewater out of the Franklin electorate will cause unnecessary problems having shared access to many services. Possibly resulting in the need to have duplicate services, buildings etc in both suburbs which can not justified. Sharing services certainly helps the community.

6. Bridgewater and Gagebrook electors are in a very fortunate position to be able to have easy access to our elected Franklin sitting members both Federal and State. Many electors access these offices by walking or catching public transport. This will change dramatically if Bridgewater is moved to Lyons. It could possibly cause friction between the two suburbs.

7. There are a number of services shared by both communities receiving Federal and State funding: The High School, Bridgewater and Gagebrook Neighborhood Centre's, Pete's Community Shed, Vietnam Veterans Centre, Police and Citizens Youth Club, all of which are used extensively by both Bridgewater and Gagebrook residents.

8. The Australian Electoral Commission could not have fully taken into account the communities interest when putting forward the redistribution proposal. The reason for the redistribution is elector numbers. The Australian Electoral Office can still achieve the numbers required by using other suitable options. Put Cambridge into Lyons. Cambridge has so much in common with Richmond even sharing the same local council (Sorell). Just like Bridgewater and Gagebrook in Franklin.(Brighton Local Government). The same could be said about Acton and Seven Mile Beach. Numbers are very achievable and without significant disruption to anyone.

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Listed above are our objections to the redistribution of moving Bridgewater from Franklin to Lyons. We are asking the Australian Electoral Commission to very strongly reconsider this option and leave us as one community sharing our electorate of Franklin and our services as we have for 60 years.

Rondaleen Cockshutt
Spokesperson on behalf of
Keep Bridgewater High On Its Original Site steering committee