



**The Federal Redistribution 2008
Tasmania**



Public Objection Number 41

Corey James Peterson

3 Page(s)

Submission regarding objection to disallowing electorate name change



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18/09/2008 07:33 PM

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cc

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Subject Submission regarding objection to disallowing electorate name change

273 Bathurst Street

West Hobart, Tasmania 7000

Marie Neilson
State Manager AEC Tasmania
Redistribution Committee for Tasmania
GPO Box 520
HOBART
TAS 7001

18 September 2008

Re: Federal electoral area name change

Dear AEC State Manager:

Please accept this submission as an objection to the decision to not support a Federal electoral area change of name from Denison to Inglis Clark:

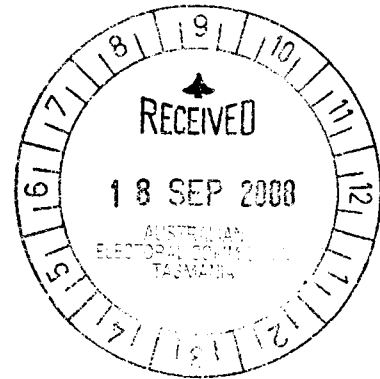
Firstly, I will re-iterate points made in my original submission and then make a few counter points to those submissions opposed to the name change.

As previously stated in my first submission and the most critical point to make is again that Inglis Clark was one of the founders of modern day democratic Australia with a strong voice for the rights of the people, equality and justice before the law, and supporter of creation of the most representative electoral systems in the world. In fact, my home country of the USA provided the other name associated with this system now known as Hare-Clark.

Specifically, Inglis Clark was one of the drafters of the Australian constitution; in fact some would say the primary drafter as his original version received very few changes in subsequent revisions. He was an advocate for progressive government at a time when so many of the leadership of this state were seeking to repel democratic ideas and he was in favour of innovations such as giving women the right to vote. Similarly to his support of the rights of the people to choose how they would be governed, he supported the right for workers to help determine how they would work by supporting recognition and giving respect to the trade union movement.

Inglis Clark made every effort to create the Australian concept of a fair go that we all benefit from today, unlike Denison who bought his way to a title and was dismissive of democratic ideals and the rights of ordinary people to be respected and given the opportunities to live a life with equal opportunity and an equal voice in deciding their government.

As you will no doubt hear in other submissions, the guidelines purported to disallow this name change have already been overturned in other precedents within Tasmania in recent times, namely the change of Darwin to Braddon and Wilmot to Lyons.



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It should also be noted that the Redistribution Committee miscounted the number of submissions in support of the name change, wherein the six claimed are 16 in actuality.

Now for the one submission against the proposal as again I feel the Redistribution Committee erred in counting as the submissions from the Hon M. Hodgman must count as one and not two. In his submission, Hodgman claims that the number of landmarks, and geographic and political areas already named after a person (Denison) or not (Inglis Clark) somehow is justification for not making a change. With that logic, it could be extrapolated that there will be even more things named after Denison to the point of absurdity as he already has all those features named after him. This logic would never allow any "new" names added or corrections of persons overlooked. Hodgman's argument could be turned on itself. One could say that seeing as Denison already has all of these features named after him, that losing one of them will come as no great loss in the recognition provided to his role in history. On that front, it is even more imperative that Inglis Clark get a look in on this issue in particular seeing as he was one of the prime architects of the Australian constitution and the most democratic electoral system in the world. And what better place to do that than the electorate in Tasmania that encompasses the capital city and seat of the State Government elected under his system.

Further on that point, and it needs to be stressed, that Denison was a colonial Governor whose only connection with Tasmania (I guess he would've known it as Van Diemens Land - yes, another name change that has occurred) was decades before federation. Inglis Clark played a critical role in the history of Australian federation and the transition from a near-forgotten colonial outpost to the country it is today. Through the work of people like Inglis Clark, this country went from a penal colony and far-removed colonial outpost to the "Lucky Country" it is today and for that reason as well as others noted above, the change should be made.

It is time for a name change from Denison to Inglis Clark. I would be pleased to see his name as the heading on my ballot papers in the future.

Thank you for your attention to this submission against the decision not to change the electoral area name.

Sincerely,

Corey James Peterson

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Check out our efforts:
www.mackillop.tas.edu.au/sustainability.htm

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