



Objection 163

Dr Dawn Peel OAM

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From: Dawn Peel
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: Boundaries of the former Corangamite electorate
Date: Monday, 30 April 2018 11:36:43 AM

I have lived in Colac for over 60 years and during that time have been involved in many community organisations, including the Lough Calvert Drainage Trust, a Lake Colac Consultative Committee, The Infant Welfare Committee and the Colac and District Historical Society. It is my experience with these bodies as well as my long residence in the district which brings me to object to the proposed re-distribution of electoral boundaries which places Colac in the proposed new electorate of Cox. I will voice my objections particularly from my background of historical research. Since the earliest days of settlement Colac residents and organisations have had much closer interactions with the Geelong area rather than with the area to the west, proposed as the newly named Cox. The Stony Rises, between Colac and Camperdown, for over a century, proved an effective barrier to easy communications and interactions between Colac residents and the west of the state. The management of our water supply now rests with Barwon Water. Our tourism industry has had historical links with Geelong bodies. The long distances involved in travel have acted against our Historical Society taking a strong role in the association of societies covering the west and north-west of the state, while there are many more reasons for our society to interact with the Geelong based regional historical bodies. Many historical records relating to Colac have been held by the Geelong Heritage Centre. The Geelong and District Historical Website includes Colac and has a host of Colac, including cemetery records and other publications related to the area. Indeed the Cemetery in Colac is managed by the Geelong Cemetery Trust. As an historical researcher I have found that many Colac residents over the years have had business relationships with Geelong, have retired to Geelong, have supported Geelong schools and charities. Currently the links with Geelong health services are constant and strong.

these are only a few reasons for my current strong objections to the inclusion of Colac in the proposed electorate extending to the west of the state.

(Dr) Dawn Peel OAM

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- community of interests within the proposed electoral division including economic, social and regional interests;
- means of communication and travel within the proposed electoral division;
- the physical features and area of the proposed electoral division; and

The city of Colac, in many respects, is the heart and soul of this federation seat. The communities of interest between Colac and Geelong – as well as between Colac and Winchelsea, Colac and Apollo Bay and Colac and Birregurra to name but a few – are exceptionally strong. Severing Colac from the electorate would leave the city isolated from the many organisations and communities it services, particularly in the agricultural, tourism, health and education sectors.

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...covering local and family history in the greater Barwon region