

OBJECTION No 2

K. W. West

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10 June 1999

Mr. Geoff Halsey,
Australian Electoral Officer,
South Australia.

Fax ~~(08) 8231 2664~~ 680 Box 344
Adelaide

Dear Mr. Halsey,

Re: 1999 Redistribution of Federal Electoral Boundaries in South Australia.

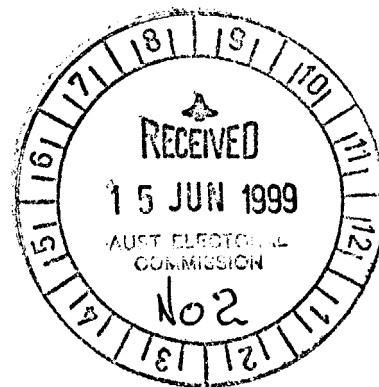
Firstly I wish to thank your staff for their efficient forwarding to me a copy of the Redistribution Committee's Report (containing more detailed maps and reasons than were presented in the recent Newsfile). I also contacted your office by telephone and received excellent service.

I found the Report most informative and clearly presented. In this respect I consider it a credit to the author(s).

The detail in the Report enables me to add to the 'in principle' submission I forwarded on 3 June 1999 (through you to Mr. Bill Gray) for the use of the Augmented Electoral Commission. Would you please represent these more specific views to that Commission on my behalf.

I have come to realise the difficulty the Redistribution Committee faced, particularly when confronted with an impending reduction in the number of Divisions after the next General Election.

The report could be criticised from the viewpoint that some of the changes proposed will have to be 'undone' at the next redistribution review. In my view, after more mature consideration, such criticism would be unwarranted.



Whilst I still hold to the 'in principle' views previously expressed I now temper them with pragmatism as follows: -

Names of Divisions

Retention of the existing 12 names would be the best approach at this point in time, with the abolition of the name Port Adelaide deferred until the number of Divisions is reduced to 11.

Specifically, the re-introduction of the name Hawker for a short time would be inappropriate; as would the introduction of new names suggested by others such as Dunstan or Playford.

Areas of Divisions

This comment does not affect the number of electors in each Division, but rather refers to the presentation of the information. As such I believe that the comment is valid.

Perhaps a general definition of the area of a Division could be along the lines that the area of a Division includes the area of rivers and lakes but not that of the sea no matter how the boundary is drawn.

Boundaries of Divisions

I believe that the proposed boundaries generally follow the principle outlined.

Shape of Divisions

This is a little tricky to comment on properly, for some of the proposed boundaries will be radically changed at the next redistribution. Indeed, if my reading of the implications of some of the material you sent me is correct the next redistribution may propose some boundaries in line with the current boundaries rather than those now proposed, or even in line with some which existed prior to the last redistribution.

In short, acceptance of the proposed boundaries as the most practical in the short term, is probably the best course.

Application of this 'principle' should await the next (major) review.

Yours faithfully,

K.W. West

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