

SUGGESTION No 4

Mr Tony West



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F A C S I M I L E M E S S A G E

TO: AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION	FROM: TONY WEST
FAX NO: 6234 4268	FAX NO: 64 712200
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MESSAGE: SUBMISSION ON ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES	
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24 May 1999

The Australian Electoral Commission
Redistribution Committee
Level 8, AMP Building
86 Collins Street
HOBART TASMANIA 7000
Fax: 6234 4268

Dear Mr Farrelly

I write in regard to the proposed redistribution of Tasmanian electoral boundaries. My particular area of interest is the proposed changes to the Lyons and Braddon boundaries.

I understand that there is a view that the West Coast of Tasmania should be incorporated into the Braddon electorate in order that S63(1) of the Commonwealth Electoral Act can be satisfied.

Section 63(1) of the Act prescribes that:

In making the proposed redistribution, the Redistribution Committee:

(a) shall, as far as practicable, endeavour to ensure that, if the State or Territory were redistributed in accordance with the proposed redistribution, the number of electors enrolled in each Electoral Division in the State or Territory would not, 3 years and 6 months after the State or Territory had been redistributed, be less than 98% or more than 102% of the average divisional enrolment of that State or Territory at that time; and

(b) subject to paragraph (a), shall give due consideration, in relation to each proposed Electoral Division, to -

(i) community of interests within the proposed Electoral Division, including economic, social and regional interests;

- (ii) *means of communication and travel within the proposed Electoral Division;*
- (iii) *the physical features and area of the proposed Electoral Division; and*
- (iv) *the boundaries of existing Divisions in the State or Territory.*

and subject thereto the quota of electors for the State or Territory shall be the basis for the proposed redistribution, and the Redistribution Committee may adapt a margin of allowance, to be used whenever necessary, but in no case shall the quota be departed from to a greater extent than one-tenth more or one-tenth less.

In keeping with the prescribed requirement that the quota shall in no case be '.... departed from to a greater extent than one-tenth more or one-tenth less', I formally submit the following:

1. The projected growth rate for the West Coast of Tasmania at -7.4% will be insufficient to meet the provisions of S63(1) of the Act beyond 2003, thereby necessitating a further redistribution.
2. By comparison, if an identified growth area such as Latrobe/Port Sorell were included within the boundaries of Braddon, population growth would be sufficient to meet the requirements of the Act in 2003, obviating the need for further redistribution between the two electorates at this time.

In respect of community of interest issues, the West Coast shares local government boundaries with the Central Highlands Municipality, the Derwent Valley Municipality and the Meander Valley Municipality all of which are in the electorate of Lyons. By comparison, it shares a local government boundary with only one Braddon municipality.

Thankyou for the opportunity to put forward my views.

J. West

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