Public Objection Number Thirty four

Lydia Wilson, Chief Executive Officer
Macedon Ranges Shire Council

4 pages

56

FACSIMILE

Macedon RANGES SHIRE COUNCIL

TO: NAME AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ORGANISATION

FAX No. 9285 7153

FROM: NAME STEPHEN MAHON

DATE 26/9/02 No. of Pages including this sheet 4.

FAX No.

MESSAGE: ☐ CONFIDENTIAL ☐ URGENT

MACEDON RANGES SHIRE COUNCIL
129 Mollison St. Kyneton 3444

PO Box 151, Kyneton 3444
Tel. 1300 656 577 Fax (03) 5422 3623

Ref File: 03/09/01
Contact: Mr. Stephen Mahon
5422 0352

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

Faxed 26/9/02
5.31 pm. SM

27th September 2002

Australian Electoral Commission
GPO Box 768G
Melbourne

Via facsimile 03 9285 7153

Dear Sir,

RE: Submission on proposed redistribution of boundaries of Federal Electoral Divisions for the House of Representatives in Victoria.

This submission has been prepared as a formal response from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council in relation to the proposed redistribution of boundaries of Federal Electoral Divisions for the House of Representatives in Victoria. Council at its Meeting on 25th September 2002 resolved to endorse the issues and comments outlined in this submission.

Council has serious concerns regarding the overall impact of the exhibited proposal on this Shire's ability to manage and advocate for our citizens in partnership with the Federal Government and neighbouring municipalities.

The core issue in this regard is the dividing of the Shire between two divisions, namely the Divisions of McEwen and Bendigo.

The principle of maintaining municipal districts within State and Federal electorates has been previously endorsed by this Council and was expressed in our preliminary response to this redistribution in April this year.

It is this Council's firm belief that this outcome is inconsistent with the legislative guidelines and the general strategy of the Redistribution Committee as outlined in the publication, ' 2002 Proposed Redistribution of Victoria into Electoral Divisions '. In this regard we make specific reference to the statements of general strategy;

129 Mollison Street,
Kyneton, Vic. 3444

PO Box 151,
Kyneton, Vic. 3444

Telephone
1300 656 577

Rates
1300 656 574

Local Laws
1300 656 576

Planning
1300 656 578

Building
1300 656 579

Facsimile
(03) 5422 3623

ABN
42 686 389 537

Email: mrsc@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au
Internet: http://www.macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au

"29. In fulfilling its statutory duty, the Committee was mindful of areas of population growth and decline, limitations posed by major geographical features and State borders, and guided by boundaries of a municipal district, wherever possible as indicators of community of interests.

33. A key indicator of community of interests as defined by municipal boundaries was used in regional and/or rural Victoria to a significant extent;....."

In light of these inconsistencies the Macedon Ranges Shire Council opposes the exhibited proposal insofar as it divides the Macedon Ranges between two divisions on the basis that:

1. It is inconsistent with Council's previously adopted view that wherever possible municipal districts should be maintained wholly in State and Federal electorates.

2. It is inconsistent with the Redistribution Committee of Victoria's publicly stated strategy of recognising the boundaries of municipal districts as being reflective of communities of interests, and as such the whole Macedon Ranges Shire district should be included in a single division. The fact that only eight (8) rural shires have not been accommodated in single divisions supports the Committee's commitment to this objective.

3. An alternative proposal is available that would maintain the Macedon Ranges Shire district wholly in the Division of McEwen. This proposal also keeps the Shires of Murrindindi, Loddon, Strathbogie and Moira all in single electorates, whilst maintaining the balance of voters within the required limits. I have attached details of this proposed alternative solution for your attention.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Stephen Mahon on 5422 0352.

Yours sincerely,

Lydia Wilson

Lydia Wilson
Chief Executive Officer

S 5

Macedon Ranges Shire Council : Submission on proposed redistribution of boundaries of Federal Electoral Divisions for the House of Representatives in Victoria

Proposed Alternative Redistribution

Electorate of Bendigo.

Remove proposed portion of MRSC (5868 voters in 2006, and 5592 voters in 2002).
Add all of the shire of Loddon (5462 voters in 2006, and 5514 voters in 2002).

Voters in Bendigo in 2002, total 91751.
Voters in Bendigo in 2006, total 95022.

Electorate of McEwan.

Remove the Murrindindi Shire to Indi. (9659 voters in 2006, and 9425 voters in 2002).
Add portion of MRSC proposed to Bendigo. (5868 voters in 2006, and 5592 voters in 2002).

Voters in McEwan in 2002, total 85297.
Voters in McEwan in 2006, total 92847.

Electorate of Indi.

Remove proposed portion of Moira Shire to Murray.(922 voters in 2006, and 885 voters in 2002).
Remove proposed portion of Strathbogie Shire to Murray. (7261 voters in 2006, and 7170 voters in 2002).
Add Murrindindi Shire from McEwan. (9659 voters in 2006, and 9425 voters in 2002).

Voters in Indi in 2002, total 88720.
Voters in Indi in 2006, total 92188.

Electorate of Murray.

Remove proposed portions of Loddon Shire to Bendigo. (5462 voters in 2006, and 5514 voters in 2002).
Add Moira Shire from Indi (922 voters in 2006, and 885 voters in 2002)
Add Strathbogi Shire from Indi, (7261 voters in 2006, and 7170 voters in 2002).

Voters in Murray in 2002, total 89375.
Voters in Murray in 2006, total 93501.