



The Federal Redistribution 2008 Tasmania



Public Comment Number 3

**West Coast Council
Peter Harder**

4 Page(s)

> Public Suggestions



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02/05/2008 12:46 PM

To <Tas.redistribution@aec.gov.au>

cc

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Subject Public Suggestions

Please find attached the West Coast Councils comments of support in regards to the submission lodged by MLC Ruth Forest and the Cradle Coast Authority.

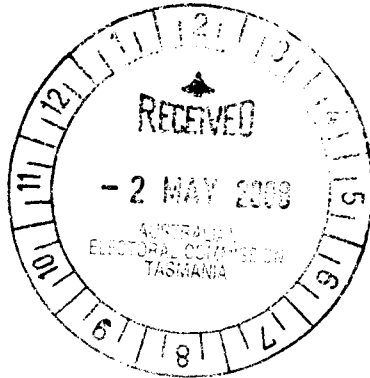
Please acknowledge receipt of these comments?

Please contact me if you need further information or the comments need to be formatted differently.

Regards

Peter Harder

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Letter of support to Submission - Braddon 2008.pdf

Redistribution Committee for Tasmania,
2nd Floor, AMP Building,
86 Collins Street,
HOBART 7000

West Coast Councils letter of support for the Cradle Coast Authority and MLC Ruth Forest submissions for the West Coast Electorate to be moved from the Lyons electorate to the Braddon electorate.

Preamble:

Since the Murchison highway was installed from the West Coast to the North West Coast in the early 1960's, a substantial shift in socio-economic ties has strengthened between the Braddon area and the West Coast municipal area. This is, and has been, enhanced by the equally diminishing socio-economic ties of the West Coast to the Southern and Eastern geographic areas of Tasmania.

Over the last fifty (50) years since the Murchison highway opened it has been the catalyst to shift the West Coasts economic, social, community interests and focus to the North West Coast and to the Braddon area due to easy access and substantially lower in travelling time and distance than other main centres in the sprawling Lyons area.

Governance of the West Coast has also shifted from Hobart to the North West Coast for many Government Departments, agencies and private firms.

Criteria for Redistribution Consideration.

(i) Community of interests etc:

The following organisations have their governance or jurisdiction now centred in the Braddon area for administration of the West Coast –

Tasmania Police
Department of Health and Human Services
Forestry Tasmania
Tasmanian Fire Service
Department of Education
Dental Services
State Emergency Service
Tasmanian Ports Corporation
Crown Land Services

Department of Economic Development
Parks and Wildlife Service
Banking and Automatic teller Services
Australia Post Services
Magistrate Court
Telstra Services
Aurora and Transend
Centrelink
NWFA & Darwin Football Associations
Cradle Coast Authority
64 Telephone Directory area
R.S.P.C.A.
Home and Community Care
Petroleum Services & Delivery
LPG Delivery & Services
West Coast Freight Companies
Service companies i.e.: Electrical, Refrigeration, Heating, Hydraulic, Appliance mechanics, Tyre & Battery Services

(ii) Means of Communication and Travel etc:

(a) As you would be aware the West Coast area is within the 64 telephone area and all West Coast residents and businesses are listed within the yellow and white pages of the North West and West Coast phone directory.

(b) The West Coast Council's legal requirements of advertising are normally carried out via the 'Advocate' newspaper which services the North West and West Coasts.

(c) The 'Advocate' reports all West Coast news and in addition provides a supplement called 'The Western Herald' as an insert that contains West Coast local and community news along with West Coast advertisers.

(d) West Coast Tourism interests are contained within the Cradle Coast Tourism brochure which publishes all nine member councils of the Cradle Coast Authority and distributed widely.

(e) Also under the item of communication we feel it is important to mention our lines of communication with our political representatives. No political representative lives on the West Coast and our Lyons representatives both State and Federal live in Hobart or Launceston, or on the east of the Midlands Highway apart from one member who lives in New Norfolk. These members are approximately 150 km or an extra 1 ½ hours away than our potential Braddon members. It should also be noted that when the State upper house seat of Gordon was abolished we were moved north into the seat of Murchison.

(f) Travel is substantially easier and shorter to the main centres of Braddon than the centres of Lyons, as mentioned before some 1 ½ hours or 150 km shorter.

(g) Almost all of the West Coast produce is railed or freighted out via the Braddon area. No rail link with Lyons exists. The West Coast produce of aquaculture, trawl fish, lobster, abalone etc is all transported north through to Braddon sea and airports. Our timber and mineral wealth is also transported to Braddon ports for export.

(h) Communication with transport to the outside world is normally by Wynyard and Devonport airports or via the sea ferry from Devonport. These exit points mentioned are far cheaper in cost and time to access than any Lyons exit points.

(i) The greater percentage of 'drive in drive out' workers in the booming West Coast mining industry also come from the Braddon area due to close proximity of the West Coast.

(iv) The Physical Features etc:

(a) The Braddon and West coast Municipal areas have many geological commonalities that make a connection. The Mt Read volcanic belt encompasses both areas as does the many mountain ranges that traverse both areas. These mountain ranges also have rivers and streams emanating from them that run north, northwest and west. Mineralization via the Mt. Read belt gives the region its mines and mining history.

(b) The Franklin Wild Rivers National Park, the Cradle Mountain World Heritage Area and the South West National Park are all interconnected and with the proposal for a Tarkine Wilderness Area the region will have the greatest concentration of connected wilderness areas. The Western Explorer road is also a connector of these wilderness areas and values.

(c) A Mining Heritage Trail from the North West to the West is also proposed by the Cradle Coast Authority to promote the regions mining history which is an affinity the West Coast has with the North West and nowhere else.

Conclusion:

We believe we have put forward a compelling argument for consideration by the Committee for our West Coast area to be re-admitted into the Braddon Electorate. The voter numbers on the West Coast are small so that it would appear that radical boundary adjustments will be unnecessary and only minor adjustments or massaging of other areas may be necessary. Other evidence can be supplied if required.