

**NOTICE OF PARTY REGISTRATION DECISION  
APPLICATION TO CHANGE THE REGISTER OF POLITICAL  
PARTIES REFUSED  
LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

**Notice of decision under s 134(8)(a) of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* ('Electoral Act') and Statement of Reasons**

1. I am writing in accordance with s 134(8)(a) of the Electoral Act to notify you of the determination of the application to change the Register for Liberal Democratic Party ('the Party') in the *Register of Political Parties* ('the Register').
2. I am authorised to determine this application for a change to the Register ('the Application') under Part XI of the Electoral Act as a delegate of the Electoral Commission.

**Decision**

3. I have decided to refuse the Party's Application on the grounds that the application has been withdrawn.

**Materials I have taken into account**

4. In making this decision, I had regard to:
  - the objection lodged under s 134A of the Electoral Act ('s 134A Objection') by the registered officer of Liberal Party of Australia on 9 November 2021
  - the s 134A Objection being upheld by a delegate of the Electoral Commission on 23 November 2021
  - the Party's application to change its name and abbreviation in the Register, received by the Australian Electoral Commission ('the AEC') on 22 December 2021
  - written particulars objecting to the Application received from persons named 'Greg' and 'Aaron';
  - the request by the same three members of the Party who made the application to withdraw the Application, received by the AEC on 22 March 2022;
  - Part XI of the Electoral Act;
  - the Register and the Register of Political Parties of each Australian State and Territory; and
  - the AEC's *Guide for maintaining party registration*.

**Findings of Fact and Consideration**

5. The Application, lodged with the AEC on 22 December 2021, met the procedural requirements of ss 134(1)(b) and 134(2) of the Electoral Act.
6. On 14 February 2022, a Notice of the Application was published on the AEC website in accordance with s 132(1) of the Electoral Act. On 18 February 2022, the notice was advertised in 10 major newspapers. The closing date for the submission of written particulars objecting to the Application was 14 March 2022.
7. The request to withdraw the Application, received on 22 March 2022, was made by the same three members of the party who made the application, was in writing and provided sufficient evidence to show that the Applicants intended to withdraw the Application.

8. As such, the Applicants' withdrawal of the Application to change the Party's name and abbreviation in the Register is effective.

### **Conclusion**

9. As the Application has been withdrawn, I have determined that the Application should be refused.

### **Your Review rights**

10. Under s 141(2) of the Electoral Act, a person (including an organisation) affected by the decision who is dissatisfied with the decision may make a written application to the Electoral Commission for internal review of this decision within 28 days after the day on which the decision first comes to the notice of that person. There is no fee payable for requesting an internal review.
11. Requests for review of this decision should be addressed to Mr Tom Rogers, Australian Electoral Commissioner, and emailed to [commission.secretariat@aec.gov.au](mailto:commission.secretariat@aec.gov.au) or posted to Locked Bag 4007, Canberra City ACT 2601.

#### How do I request an internal review?

12. In accordance with ss 141(2) and 141(3) of the Electoral Act, an application for review must:
- be in writing;
  - specify the name of the applicant;
  - specify an address of the applicant; and
  - set out the reasons for making the application.
13. If you wish to apply for additional time beyond the 28 days to make an application for review of the delegate's decision, please also include the reasons for the application for additional time.

#### Who conducts an internal review?

14. The Electoral Commission, which is comprised of three members, the Electoral Commissioner, a judicial member and a non-judicial member, conducts internal reviews.
15. Under s 141(4) of the Electoral Act, the Electoral Commission shall review an application and make a decision to either:
- affirm the decision under review;
  - vary the decision under review; or
  - set aside the decision under review and make a decision in substitution for the decision set aside.

#### What can I do if I disagree with the outcome of an internal review?

16. If an internal review decision has been made by the Electoral Commission a person whose interests are affected, and who is dissatisfied with the decision made by the Electoral Commission, may apply to the AAT for an external merits review of the decision. More information on how to apply to the AAT and any applicable fees can be found on its website: [www.aat.gov.au/applying-for-a-review/how-to-apply](http://www.aat.gov.au/applying-for-a-review/how-to-apply).

Freedom of Information

17. Under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* ('the FOI Act') any person has the right to request access to documents held by the AEC. For more information about access to documents under the FOI Act please visit the AEC's "Access to AEC information" webpage at: [www.aec.gov.au/information-access/index.htm](http://www.aec.gov.au/information-access/index.htm).
18. Should you have any queries regarding party registration, please contact the AEC on 02 6271 4552, visit [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au) or email [fad@aec.gov.au](mailto:fad@aec.gov.au).

*(signed)*

Joanne Reid  
Assistant Commissioner  
Delegate of the Electoral Commission  
1 April 2022