



The Federal Redistribution 2011
South Australia



**Comment Number 3
On Public Suggestions**

**Andrew Southcott MP
Federal Member for Boothby**

5 pages



20 May 2011

Redistribution Committee of South Australia
9th Floor
Origin Energy House
1 King William Street
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Committee Members,

I write to you concerning the suggestions to the Redistribution Committee with regard to the 2011 South Australian Redistribution.

Please find attached a copy of my comments in relation to the suggestions presented to the committee with a specific focus on the boundaries of the Division of Boothby.

I would welcome the opportunity to appear before the Redistribution Committee or to provide any supporting material which you may require.

Yours Sincerely



ANDREW SOUTHCOTT MP

Federal Member for Boothby

Encl. Ref: AJS/RAP



Boothby

Aberfoyle Park and the Onkaparinga Reservoir Statistical Local Area

I agree with the suggestion that in order to bring the Division of Boothby within the tolerances of the projected enrolment criteria, the best solution is to transfer electors from the Division of Mayo to the Division of Boothby. I also agree with the suggestion that the Redistribution Committee (“the Committee”) focuses on the Statistical Local Area (“SLA”) of Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir to find additional electors for Boothby.

It is worth mentioning that in 2003, both the Liberal Party and the ALP in their submissions made suggestions that Aberfoyle Park had a common community of interest with Flagstaff Hill and the metropolitan Division of Boothby, and that the transfer of electors in Aberfoyle Park from the Division of Mayo to the Division of Boothby could be well supported on community of interest grounds. I believe these arguments still apply.

It is also worth observing that in comments on the metropolitan part of Mayo the 2003 Redistribution Committee accepted ‘the desirability of uniting the Aberfoyle Park/Flagstaff Hill areas’¹ but the overall needs of the 2003 Redistribution required the transfer of electors from the Divisions north of Boothby.

As at 12 January 2011 there were 9,847 electors in the Onkaparinga Reservoir SLA currently within the Division of Mayo and this is projected to rise to 10,281 by 21 January 2015.

Within the Mayo portion of the Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir SLA are the suburbs of Aberfoyle Park, Coromandel Valley and a small portion of Chandlers Hill.

The Mayo portion of Coromandel Valley currently contains 1,307 electors and is projected to rise to 1,405 by the projection date.

The transfer of Aberfoyle Park from Mayo to Boothby would involve a transfer of 8,540 electors and a projected 8,876 electors rather than the 10,300 voters which the ALP are proposing in their suggestion.

The ALP’s proposed boundary of Manning Road, Happy Valley Drive, Chandlers Hill and Main Road includes a portion of the suburb of Happy Valley which goes further than their suggestion of just adding Aberfoyle Park. It involves the transfer of more electors (approximately 10,300 projected electors) than would be required by the movement of the suburb of Aberfoyle Park alone.

The addition of Aberfoyle Park would only bring Boothby to 106,370 electors with a projected 108,949 by the projection date. This would be over the maximum number of electors at the projection time. As a result if the Committee determines to transfer

¹ The Report of the Redistribution Committee, 2003, p.9,
<http://www.aec.gov.au/Electorates/Redistributions/files/2003/sa/report/SARreport.pdf>

the entire suburb of Aberfoyle Park from Mayo to Boothby, Boothby will have to transfer voters to another division.

Ascot Park and Edwardstown

Hindmarsh is under quota and will require the transfer of voters from either Port Adelaide, Adelaide or Boothby.

The existing boundary between Adelaide and Hindmarsh of South Road represents an obvious boundary and a major arterial road. As such it is difficult to easily transfer electors from Adelaide to Hindmarsh and still have a more obvious boundary than the existing boundary of South Road.

The portion of South Road between Cross Road and Daws Road is a continuation of this major arterial road and is also the boundary between the Mitcham LGA and the Marion LGA. It would be a more obvious boundary between the division of Hindmarsh and Boothby than the existing boundary of the Adelaide-Noarlunga Railway line.

There is an obvious area which could be transferred from Boothby to Hindmarsh, which is the area between the Adelaide- Noarlunga Railway line, Daws Road and South Road, which was transferred from Hindmarsh to Boothby in the 2003 Redistribution.

As identified in the Liberal Party's suggestion, the Committee should consider the Marion (C) – north portion of Boothby which currently includes part of the suburbs of Edwardstown and Ascot Park. The majority of the suburbs of Edwardstown and Ascot Park lie in the Division of Hindmarsh and these electors were only added to Boothby to meet the numerical criteria of the 2003 Redistribution. This would involve the transfer of 1,509 electors or 1,534 at the projection time.

Myrtle Bank and Fullarton

The ALP have made several arguments in their suggestion to support their proposal to transfer the electors of Myrtle Bank and Fullarton from Boothby to Sturt. I would like to respond to several of these assertions.

Firstly the ALP have proposed the transfer of electors from Sturt to Adelaide in the Walkerville LGA using the principle of keeping a small metropolitan council within the same Division where possible, and have then ignored this principle in proposing the transfer of the Boothby portion of the Unley East SLA from Boothby to Sturt.

Secondly to support the community of interest arguments, the ALP have said that the majority of the area bounded by Fullarton, Cross and Glen Osmond Roads are within the Glenunga International High School zone. It is worth pointing out that most of Myrtle Bank lies in the zone of Unley High School which is in Boothby.

Thirdly the ALP have made some comments about the nature of Fullarton and Myrtle Bank which are not substantiated with any facts. The Mitcham Shopping Centre is the nearest cinema for residents of Myrtle Bank and Fullarton and both these

suburbs fall within the main catchment area of the Mitcham Shopping Centre. There are several supermarkets which are closer to Myrtle Bank or Fullarton than the Burnside Shopping Centre.

Fourthly, the area bounded by Fullarton, Cross and Glen Osmond Roads has been transferred between the State Electorates of Waite and Unley and the Federal Electorates of Boothby and Adelaide in recent State and Federal Redistributions. It has not previously been part of the Division of Sturt.

Lastly, much of the ALP's suggestion rests on the transfer of more electors between Divisions than is necessary. It is possible for the Committee to meet the numerical criteria required by the Electoral Act by transferring fewer voters and minimising the disruption from voters changing Divisions.

Alternative suggestion for Onkaparinga Reservoir SLA

I would like to offer an alternative suggestion for the Committee to consider. Several suggestions identify that the Onkaparinga Reservoir SLA is the obvious place to find the additional voters that the Division of Boothby requires. As Aberfoyle Park is a large suburb with almost 9,000 electors it would be very difficult to transfer all of Aberfoyle Park in this redistribution while achieving the objective of a Redistribution, which minimises unnecessary disruption to voters. By using CCDs in the Onkaparinga Reservoir SLA as building blocks for the Redistribution, there is a lot of flexibility for the Committee to transfer electors from Coromandel Valley and Aberfoyle Park to meet the numerical criteria for the redistribution and produce boundaries which are at least as obvious as the existing boundaries of Manning Road, Black Road and Main Road, Coromandel Valley.

In giving consideration to preparing a redistribution which keeps changes for electors to a minimum, the Committee could consider transferring from Mayo the two CCDs of Coromandel Valley and 12 CCDs from Aberfoyle Park north of Taylors Road, Homestead Drive and Oakridge Road. This would involve the transfer of a projected 6,736 electors from Mayo to Boothby. (Note this figure is based on the CCD 4080409 being split between Boothby and Mayo and an estimated 300 electors being transferred from Mayo to Boothby within this CCD*).

SLA	CCD	Suburb	Enrolment	Projected Enrolment
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080204	Aberfoyle Park	427	429
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080205	Aberfoyle Park	261	295
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080208	Aberfoyle Park	348	350
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080209	Aberfoyle Park	772	795
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080210	Aberfoyle Park	509	509
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080406	Aberfoyle Park	456	466
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080407	Aberfoyle Park	439	448
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080409	Aberfoyle Park	580	300*
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080411	Aberfoyle Park	459	489
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080412	Aberfoyle Park	518	542
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080414	Aberfoyle Park	311	317
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080415	Aberfoyle Park	385	391
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080503	Coromandel Valley	736	778
Onkaparinga (C) – Reservoir	4080510	Coromandel Valley	571	627

Such a transfer involves transferring 5,331 electors in Aberfoyle Park and 1,405 electors in Coromandel Valley from Mayo to Boothby.

I propose a new boundary between Mayo and Boothby which continues with Happy Valley Drive, along Taylors Road and Oakridge Road in Aberfoyle Park. The new western boundary with Kingston is next to the Happy Valley Reservoir and is clearly identifiable. The new eastern boundary is the threshold between the densely populated metropolitan populations of Coromandel Valley and Aberfoyle Park and the sparsely populated peri-urban area. Taylors Road, Homestead Drive and Oakridge Road remain the most obvious east-west boundary if the Committee determines to transfer some but not all electors in Aberfoyle Park from Mayo to Boothby.

In view of the difficulty of transferring a suburb of almost 9,000 electors between Divisions I believe this is a practical way for the Redistribution Committee to achieve its numerical criteria while taking account of the community of interest criteria. Such a change would require fewer consequential changes from other Divisions.