



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Submission OB387

Kathleen Turnbull

Australian Electoral Commission
Adelaide SA 5000

Submission regarding AEC proposed redistribution and renaming of the Electorate of Grey

- Proposed Increase to the size of the Electorate of Grey

I am writing to register my strong opposition to the proposed expansion of the Electorate of Grey. I know you are fully aware of all the facts of the large size of this electorate - one that covers 92% of South Australia - and the number of constituents within this area

It is not fair on the Federal Member who represents this electorate. Even as it is at present, the distance the Federal Member travels each year to meet in person with his constituents, is enormous. It often includes days and sometimes weeks away at a time for the member to cover the area from the SA/WA border, to the SA/NT border including the APY Lands, Outback SA, then the Eyre Peninsula, York Peninsula & the Mid North, then also the cities of Port Lincoln, Whyalla, Port Augusta, & Port Pirie, then all the smaller towns and centre's in between!

This area of Grey covers a large and diverse section of South Australia including – farming, mining, fishing, indigenous communities, airports, highways and outback roads plus all the similar issues the city counterparts deal with as well. It is such a diverse range of issues, the Member for Grey already deals with, without having more voters from the fringe areas of Adelaide added to what they have already.

It is not fair on the constituents as well.

I would challenge a Federal Member from metropolitan Adelaide to attempt to cover this amount of area, to have nights away from their home and family, and driving on their own over these long distances, sometimes with lack of phone and internet.

In contrast, many of the other Federal Members can see their constituents in person or the constituents can speak to their member face to face, within a short distance or short time.

Please let common sense prevail by taking these points into consideration instead of it just being a number game.

- Name Change Proposal

Even though Lowitja O'Donoghue is a worthy person to have an electorate named after her, I do not think it is the right time for this to happen.

With the current economic climate and stress on households, I believe it is an unnecessary waste of money to be spending considering what it entails with changing a name of an electorate unnecessarily.

I am sure Dr. O'Donoghue's legacy can be and will be recognized in some way in the future.

Please leave the Grey Electoral name as it is. It is a well-known established electorate for the last century and well recognized in Australia because of its unique size and population.

Yours sincerely,

Kathleen Turnbull


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