



Further Objection Number 153

Neil Thomason

1 page

Objection to the Augmented Electoral Commission's Proposal

Redistribution Secretariat
Australian Electoral Commission
GPO Box 9867
Melbourne Victoria 8060



Dear Committee Members,

As a Victorian registered voter in the Federal Electorate of Calwell, I wish to strongly object to the proposed splitting of the suburb of Craigieburn via the main road of Craigieburn (Craigieburn Road West) into two separate Federal Electorates being Calwell and McEwen.

I wish to point out that Craigieburn is one town, one community and that it should not be divided by electoral boundaries. This will split our community into two.

Key reasons for this objection include:

1. A Federal Member of Parliament provides a voice for the community in the Australian Parliament. Craigieburn residents should be represented by one voice, whether they live north or south of the main road.
2. Craigieburn is a growing urbanised community and to ensure we receive adequate infrastructure that grows as the community does, we need one voice representing our views.
3. Craigieburn is a historically significant town that has had recent community work to bridge older Craigieburn with newer areas of this growing town. Your proposed division takes a sledgehammer to the work of our community volunteers working to unite our town.
4. Craigieburn is one suburb, one community, and dividing it would be very detrimental to our neighbourhood, our sense of pride and our community spirit.
5. Craigieburn is a growing urbanised community and including part of it in the predominantly rural electorate of McEwen would result in McEwen having two extremely different communities, with differing needs, within one single electorate (urbanised and rural).

I ask that the commission return to its original decision published on the 30th of July 2010 to place the entire suburb of Craigieburn into the new Federal Victorian Electorate of Burke with other geographically and demographically similar suburbs of Roxburgh Park, Sunbury, and South Morang. Failing that, I ask that the entire suburb of Craigieburn be returned to the electorate of Calwell.

Name NEIL THOMASSEN
Signed N. Thomassen
Of 217 CRAIGIEBURN RD
CRAIGIEBURN.