

# Transcript of proceedings

## Public inquiry of the augmented Electoral Commission for South Australia

Conducted in Adelaide, Thursday 7 June 2018 at 9.30am

Before:

**Mr Tom Rogers**

(Electoral Commissioner, Australian Electoral Commission)

**Mr David Kalisch**

(Australian Statistician and member of the Australian Electoral Commission)

**Mr Martyn Hagan**

(Australian Electoral Officer for South Australia)

**Mr Michael Burdett**

(Surveyor-General of South Australia)

**Mr Andrew Richardson**

(Auditor-General of South Australia)

1 MR ROGERS: Good morning everybody and welcome to the augmented  
2 Electoral Commission for South Australia's inquiry into  
3 objections. I would like to begin by acknowledging the  
4 traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today  
5 and pay my respects to the Elders both past and present.

6 My name is Tom Rogers. I am the Australian  
7 Electoral Commissioner and I am chairing this inquiry  
8 today. The other member of the Australian Electoral  
9 Commission present today is Mr David Kalisch on my right,  
10 who is the Australian Statistician. The other members  
11 who make up the augmented Electoral Commission are  
12 Mr Andrew Richardson, the Auditor-General of South  
13 Australia on my left. To my far right is Mr Martyn  
14 Hagan, the Australian Electoral Office for South  
15 Australia and to my far left is Mr Michael Burdett,  
16 Surveyor-General of South Australia.

17 Part 4 of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* sets  
18 out the requirements to be followed in conducting  
19 redistributions. This redistribution of South Australia  
20 is required because South Australia's entitlement to  
21 seats in the House of Representatives has decreased from  
22 11 to 10.

23 In accordance with section 66 of the Electoral Act  
24 the Redistribution Committee for South Australia has  
25 prepared a proposal for the redistribution of South  
26 Australia into ten federal electoral divisions. The  
27 proposal, together with written reasons for the proposal,  
28 required by section 67 of the Electoral Act, was released  
29 by the Redistribution Committee on Friday 13 April this  
30 year.

31 In accordance with section 68 of the Electoral Act,

1 interested individuals and organisations were invited to  
2 make written objections to the proposed redistribution  
3 and to provide written comments on those objections. A  
4 total of 321 objections and 42 comments on objections  
5 were received within the required timeframes.

6 The augmented Electoral Commission is required by  
7 sub-section 72(1) of the Electoral Act to consider all  
8 objections lodged in relation to the redistribution  
9 proposal and all comments on objections. The inquiry  
10 here today provides the opportunity for members of the  
11 public to make submissions about those objections.

12 The Electoral Act specifies how the redistribution  
13 process is conducted and which factors are taken into  
14 account. Sub-section 73(4) of the Act states that the  
15 primary consideration for the augmented Electoral  
16 Commission is that each electoral division meets certain  
17 numerical requirements in the form of the current  
18 enrolment quota and the projected enrolment quota and  
19 acceptable tolerances around those two quotas.

20 Subject to an electoral division satisfying those  
21 numbers, sub-section 73(4) also requires that we have  
22 regard to communities of interest within electoral  
23 divisions. That's economic, social and regional  
24 interests. We have to have regard to means of  
25 communication and travel within electoral divisions, and  
26 the physical features and areas of electoral divisions.  
27 The boundaries of existing electoral divisions are also  
28 considered, although that is of lesser importance.  
29 Boundaries may change, often there has to be compensating  
30 adjustments to make sure the electoral divisions are  
31 within those numerical tolerances.

1           The inquiry today will be recorded and transcripts  
2 of proceedings will be made available as part of the  
3 augmented Electoral Commission's report, and therefore  
4 will be on AEC's website once the report has been tabled  
5 in Parliament.

6           I'd also like to draw your attention to the fact  
7 that we may have some members of the media present today.  
8 If so, I'd ask them to observe similar rules to what  
9 would occur at a parliamentary hearing to ensure that the  
10 reason we're here today, and that's to focus on the  
11 opportunity for speakers to have their say, and for the  
12 proceedings to run smoothly. So should the media have a  
13 question, I'd ask that they speak to Nicole, wherever  
14 Nicole is, just identifying herself, and take those  
15 questions outside the hearing room.

16           We'd ask people making submissions to come to the  
17 table in front once you're called and please state your  
18 name for the purposes of the transcript and then commence  
19 your presentation and then after the inquiry we'll  
20 deliberate. We'll endeavour to make a public  
21 announcement as soon as we possibly can.

22           And we'd also ask speakers to be as concise as  
23 possible, I think people were told that we're trying to  
24 stick to around ten minutes. What we'll do is that I'm  
25 presuming Nicole will give you a nine minute warning in a  
26 very loud voice. That is not designed to throw you off  
27 your game, it's just to provide an indicator that you're  
28 coming to the end and around about the ten minute mark  
29 we'll ask you to politely finish.

30           Just to let you know though, it's not a court room  
31 today and we're not here to debate your evidence or ask

1           you questions about the evidence that you give. The only  
2           time a member of the augmented Commission will ask a  
3           question is if we genuinely don't understand what you've  
4           said and we'd like you to explain that a little more and  
5           as I'm sure you'll understand, ladies and gentlemen, nor  
6           are we here to answer your questions or to justify the  
7           decisions of the Redistribution Committee itself.

8           So that said, why don't we get underway. The first  
9           person I have listed here is Anton van Bavel. Good  
10          morning.

11 MR VAN BAVEL: Good morning.

12 MR ROGERS: If you can say your name and start your evidence.

13 MR VAN BAVEL: Good morning. My name is Anton van Bavel and I  
14          appear for the Australian Labor Party. Thank you very  
15          much for the opportunity to appear. We appreciate the  
16          opportunity to make an oral submission to this inquiry,  
17          Commissioner, gentlemen. This morning's submission is  
18          related primarily of three points that have been raised  
19          throughout the redistribution process, the Division of  
20          Port Adelaide boundaries and the Division of Boothby and  
21          the naming of Division of Spence.

22          The Australian Labor Party continues to express its  
23          preference that the Division of Port Adelaide be  
24          retained. We recommend our original submission that the  
25          Division of Sturt be absorbed into neighbouring divisions  
26          and we are of the view that under our original suggestion  
27          this would result in less electors being moved than under  
28          the proposed redistribution and therefore less disruption  
29          to the public.

30          However, we note that if the Commission is not  
31          minded to alter the proposal to give effect to this, the

1 Australian Labor Party does support the boundaries that  
2 have been proposed. If the Commission decides not to  
3 reinstate the Division of Port Adelaide the Australian  
4 Labor Party accepts the decision to give the Division  
5 that includes the locality of Port Adelaide the name of  
6 Hindmarsh.

7 The Australian Labor Party recognises that raising  
8 objections through the redistribution process is an  
9 important part of this process and we support the right  
10 of electors to do so. However, whilst members of the  
11 House of Representatives may legitimately publicise the  
12 redistribution process to electors, we do not believe it  
13 is appropriate for submissions drafted by a local member  
14 that individuals then put their name to be recognised as  
15 individually drafted submissions and we have called these  
16 'Robo submissions' and have made these points in our  
17 objection and in comments.

18 We believe the Commission should consider all  
19 submissions and objections within the legislative  
20 framework and am sure that you will do so. On the  
21 specifics of objections received around Aberfoyle Park,  
22 Flagstaff Hill and Happy Valley in particular, the  
23 Australian Labor Party believes that the disruption that  
24 would be caused by relocating some 18,000 electors into  
25 Boothby if it were to re-absorb these localities compared  
26 to what has been proposed by the Redistribution Committee  
27 would be hugely significant for other Divisions.

28 In the event that this volume of electors was moved  
29 into a different Division from the one proposed by the  
30 Redistribution Committee, the Australian Labor Party  
31 would expect the objections and comments process to be

1 reopened, delaying the final determination of boundaries.  
2 We see it as being natural that electors particularly  
3 located on a boundary may wish to be located in an  
4 adjacent electorate and it is often going to be the case  
5 that electors located close to a boundary may have a  
6 preference for travel into a neighbouring electorate.

7 But as the Commission is well aware, the boundary  
8 must be drawn somewhere and the Commission does so  
9 balancing a number of criteria, as the Commissioner has  
10 outlined. In this instance with the proposed boundaries  
11 of Boothby, particularly relating to these suburbs and  
12 the adjoining boundary with Kingston as proposed, the  
13 Australian Labor Party believes that the Committee got it  
14 right. In particular, we note that level of consistency  
15 throughout the proposed redistribution for the use of  
16 local government boundaries.

17 We believe this is a good and fair indication of  
18 location for proposed boundaries and that is applicable  
19 in this instance as an identifier of communities of  
20 interest. Finally, for the reasons outlined in our  
21 objection and comments on objections the Australian Labor  
22 Party continues to prefer the retention of the name  
23 'Wakefield' for the Division that has been proposed to be  
24 named 'Spence', notwithstanding the good reasons given by  
25 the committee for using the name 'Spence' and we note a  
26 number of objections that were received making that  
27 point. I thank the Commission.

28 MR ROGERS: Thank you very much for coming in. Next I have on  
29 the list is Gary Johanson. Good morning.

30 MR JOHANSON: Good morning. And that was very polished, I feel  
31 quite humble to sit there after that. Mine might be a

1 little bit rambling because as Mayor I do many things and  
2 I didn't have a lot of time to prepare at short notice.  
3 I'd like to thank the Committee here this morning for  
4 listening to me. This will come from the heart. This  
5 will be for the people of the area.

6 My name is Gary Johanson and I have been Mayor of  
7 Port Adelaide for 12 years. We're the third largest  
8 council in the state. We represent 126,000 residents.  
9 We have over 8,000 businesses in the area. I'm just  
10 trying to set my watch so that I don't talk for too long.  
11 I've come here today to speak of our community's passion  
12 for all things Port Adelaide.

13 My background, just to give you a bit of an idea  
14 because the people of Port Adelaide all have interesting  
15 history, not dissimilar to mine. My background, my great  
16 grandfather arrived in Port Adelaide 1845. Our family  
17 has been involved in the Port ever since. I'm a local  
18 business person. For 17 years I was a very strong member  
19 of the Liberal Party and a matter of fact I was the  
20 strongest member in the western suburbs and introduced to  
21 John Howard on numerous occasions as such.

22 Therefore it's strange I'm sitting here to try and  
23 protect Labor's probably safest, most iconic federal seat  
24 in Australia. This is what adds to the moment today I  
25 think. I helped run Simon Birmingham's campaign when he  
26 ran for the seat of Hindmarsh. I'm well aware of the  
27 seat of Hindmarsh, with part of the suggestion is we'd  
28 become Hindmarsh.

29 I helped run campaigns for the Liberals for the  
30 state and federal seats of Port Adelaide, unsuccessfully.  
31 I've run as an independent three times, twice myself,



1 once in Port Adelaide, once in the seat of Lee which  
2 takes in part of Port Adelaide and once for (indistinct)  
3 for Port Adelaide. So I have been involved in the area  
4 for a long time electorally and I think it's renowned as  
5 the Labor seat, the federal seat of Port Adelaide.

6 The first time I met Kevin Rudd when he was elected  
7 Prime Minister I went up and introduced myself to him in  
8 Canberra and I said, 'I'm mayor of Port Adelaide Enfield,  
9 my name's Gary.' He grabbed my hand and shook it, patted  
10 me on the back and said, 'Welcome comrade.' Little did  
11 he know I had the Liberal Party card in my pocket at the  
12 time, but such is the acknowledgement of Port Adelaide,  
13 around Australia, electorally and certainly overseas now,  
14 particularly around the Defence Department and that adds  
15 to the Port and its opportunities going forward.

16 I think this is just an amazing thing to think that  
17 we could lose the federal seat of Port Adelaide. In  
18 terms of marketing, how good is it in a marketing point  
19 of view both here, around Australia and overseas? What  
20 is a Spence? What is a Hindmarsh? The members here  
21 would know, but you go outside this room, very few people  
22 would know, unfortunately. But what is a port?

23 Everyone in the world knows what a port is and they  
24 can normally find their nearest port even if they're many  
25 miles inland. So the Port itself is a name that conjures  
26 up things in peoples minds of shipping and times gone by,  
27 romances and all sort of things, sailors enjoying  
28 themselves. So therefore it is a very key component of  
29 the future of the Port and indeed its history.

30 But members, I come here today to plead the case for  
31 the long suffering people of Port Adelaide. They are the

1 ones that are often not heard. They are unfortunately  
2 some of the poorest socio-economic groups in Australia,  
3 therefore they're much at risk. Our ratios in that  
4 regard are some of the worst in Australia, yet they  
5 remain strong as a people to this day. Their strength  
6 though is wavering.

7 For over 40 years the heart and soul of the Port has  
8 suffered since the introduction of containerisation and  
9 the resultant loss of thousands of jobs in the Port, not  
10 just the wharfies, the ongoing businesses and throughout  
11 this time the people have soldiered on and they have  
12 withstood many hardships by virtue of the name of the  
13 area being Port Adelaide. It gives them strength,  
14 strength to carry on and to think that times can get  
15 better.

16 We're slowly starting to see a change in the Port  
17 and once again they get hit with something by the very  
18 government that should be representing them and I don't  
19 disagree with what is proposed in terms of the boundary.  
20 What I'm looking to see is a change from the name of  
21 'Hindmarsh' to the name of 'Port Adelaide'. When I was  
22 elected as mayor around about 11 years ago the state  
23 government came to me and said Gary, we know you're a  
24 Liberal, which I was at the time, but you're doing a  
25 great job down there as the State Government see a need  
26 to join the Council of Port Adelaide Enfield, Charles  
27 Sturt and West Torrens together, to bring the Port  
28 together with the airport to strengthen the state.

29 It will be something that will actually build to  
30 stay. That is not dissimilar to what would happen or  
31 what is proposed through this amalgamation of the various

1 areas and Port Adelaide going with Hindmarsh, for  
2 instance. But what the State Government did when they  
3 proposed in their wisdom that Port Adelaide would be the  
4 call. After all, Port Adelaide was where most of the  
5 people came through when they settled in the state, such  
6 as their family's continuing involvement.

7 If you've ever worked in the Port or lived in the  
8 Port, if you've ever had a relative in the Port, you'll  
9 always be a member of the Port. You'll remember it with  
10 pride, emotion, inclusiveness, the people at the Port  
11 will give the shirt of their back. We have a very large  
12 concentration of Aboriginal people, the largest of any  
13 metropolitan council in the state. Their connection to  
14 Port Adelaide is very, very strong.

15 People don't understand sometimes that the  
16 Aboriginal people are very focused on their Parliaments,  
17 their Governments, their federal, their state, their  
18 local government and from the richest to the poorest of  
19 our community they acknowledge that this federal seat at  
20 Port Adelaide is something that gives them strength,  
21 pride and a chance to perhaps better, not perhaps their  
22 lives, but their families.

23 I must admit I do feel very passionate about it and  
24 as you can understand, I see the best and the worst of  
25 it. We have the highest levels or some of the highest  
26 levels of abuse in the nation, that's in terms of  
27 gambling, alcohol, drugs. Everything that can be done  
28 needs to be done for our community to get it strength to  
29 go forward and build for the sake of all of Australia.  
30 Therefore, the federal seat of Port Adelaide carries a  
31 lot more significance than just a vote come voting time

1 when people go down to their local church or school or  
2 whatever. To the people of the Port they need everything  
3 they can to get better. The businesses, you know,  
4 talking to business owners, they feel very let down.

5 They have heard so many promises about the valley of  
6 debt being overcome, that things will be better, there  
7 will be 1,000 jobs created at Techport. We're not seeing  
8 that. Just yesterday a seven year old business in Port  
9 Adelaide failed, went into liquidation and they are down  
10 to 13 staff. That is at the very heart of the Port and I  
11 know that person was very significant in the lobbying of  
12 work for the defence industry to create jobs in the Port  
13 and we've lost that person as a great ambassador for the  
14 area.

15 How many more can we afford to lose? We need to  
16 start building. We need this as an opportunity to say  
17 we're losing a federal member but we'll help make up for  
18 the loss of that federal member and what they represent  
19 to the people as a state by ensuring that the seat that  
20 takes its place takes up the slack and takes up that lost  
21 seat as iconic as possible, that the name is memorable,  
22 that people can associate with it throughout the state,  
23 throughout Australia, throughout overseas.

24 I know that the French Mayor of Cherbourg comes to  
25 us in great anticipation of what Port Adelaide can  
26 deliver to help his area, his country and his industries.  
27 What will he feel next time he comes and finds he's  
28 dealing with the federal member of Hindmarsh? Very hard  
29 to get a submarine or frigate up the road to Hindmarsh.  
30 I just say to you this is an opportunity that is not a  
31 loss to the state by losing a federal member. This is a

1 chance to reinforce this state, reinforce it with  
2 passion, with commitment and use marketing to our  
3 advantage, use a name that will carry the area through  
4 for generations to come, a name that will continue to be  
5 well known, a name that can produce a very good outcome.  
6 I thank you for listening.

7 MR ROGERS: Thank you very much for coming. Next is Nicolle  
8 Flint. Good morning.

9 MS FLINT: Good morning. I'm Nicolle Flint, I'm the federal  
10 Member for Boothby. Thank you for the opportunity to  
11 address the Commission this morning. I have a couple of  
12 broad points and then more specific points about the  
13 draft boundaries. Broadly, Commissioner and  
14 representatives, I sincerely hope that all submissions  
15 provided to the Electoral Commission are afforded equal  
16 weight and given equal consideration, particularly where  
17 members of the Australian community, whether it's in  
18 South Australia or in any other jurisdiction undergoing a  
19 redistribution process, have personally taken the trouble  
20 to provide the Commission with a submission, or an  
21 objection.

22 I think in Australia we tend to suffer from a  
23 general lack of interest in democracy and our democratic  
24 processes and what's happening in federal, state and  
25 local government and I would be overall, and I'd be  
26 deeply disappointed, if we were to send signals to the  
27 community, individual members of the community, that  
28 their voice did not count and that when they have taken  
29 the trouble to contact a government department or a  
30 member of parliament, or local government representative  
31 that their voice wasn't going to be listened to.

1           Specifically, in relation to the draft boundaries  
2 and objections, I'm here on behalf of those members of my  
3 community who have contacted me or contacted the  
4 Commission stating that they don't want to be moved from  
5 the federal electorate of Boothby. There are a large  
6 number of people from the affected suburbs of Flagstaff  
7 Hill and Craighburn Farm in particular who contacted my  
8 office and I know made submissions to the Commission  
9 objecting to the draft boundaries and being moved out of  
10 the electorate of Boothby.

11           I understand why. There are a variety of reasons  
12 why. Firstly, Flagstaff Hill has for the most part since  
13 1977 been part of the federal electorate of Boothby.  
14 Craighburn Farm and that area before it was renamed  
15 Craighburn Farm or named the suburb of Craighburn Farm has  
16 been within the electorate of Boothby since 1934. For  
17 all of the affected suburbs that are on the draft  
18 boundaries to be removed from Boothby the following  
19 points apply.

20           Generally speaking, people flow north and north-west  
21 from these areas. They don't head south so they head  
22 north to get to the city. They head north to get to  
23 Blackwood, whether they're Aberfoyle Park, Happy Valley,  
24 Flagstaff Hill, Craighburn Farm. Blackwood is very much a  
25 focal point in the area. They head north, north-west to  
26 get to Marion, that's Adelaide biggest suburban shopping  
27 centre at Marion.

28           It's also the location of our Olympic Standard SA  
29 Aquatic Centre as well, along with a range of shopping,  
30 community activities and offerings that take place around  
31 the Marion area. People also head when they need medical

1 support to Flinders Medical Centre which is our largest  
2 suburban medical centre as well which is just on the edge  
3 of Flagstaff Hill, Aberfoyle Park, Happy Valley and just  
4 down the hill from Craighburn Farm.

5 In terms of roads, I think this is another critical  
6 point as well. People in the Flagstaff Hill, Aberfoyle  
7 Park, Happy Valley areas use Happy Valley Drive and  
8 Flagstaff Road to get either north, north-west or head  
9 straight north to the city or they go through along Main  
10 Road through Blackwood on Main Road to head down the hill  
11 to get to the city as well.

12 For Craighburn Farm this is more, even more of a  
13 significant point. They can't get out but to go through  
14 Blackwood. So that is a, as I said, a significant, I  
15 suppose really for Craighburn Farm, a natural  
16 environmental boundary as well, but they are strongly  
17 connected to the Blackwood area and excising them from  
18 Boothby and from Blackwood which is right next to them is  
19 strange, I would say.

20 In terms of local shopping, I've covered that in the  
21 sense that in the sense with the Marion side of things as  
22 well, but Blackwood as I have noted is very much a hub, a  
23 shopping hub for the area, Aberfoyle Park shops and  
24 shopping as well, Marion or the city. So I hope I've  
25 outlined that really, for in very practical terms,  
26 whether it's work, whether it's shopping, whether it's  
27 transport, people flow north and north-west, they don't  
28 flow south.

29 My residents in this area have very little reason to  
30 head south and I just wanted to come and pass on those  
31 views to the Commission this morning on their behalf.

1 Thank you very much for you time.

2 MR ROGERS: Thank you very much for coming. Hugh Sutton. Good  
3 morning.

4 MR SUTTON: Good morning. How are you?

5 MR ROGERS: Very good.

6 MR SUTTON: Thank you for affording me the time. I will only  
7 be brief. I live in Kings Park on the southern side of  
8 the Division of Adelaide.

9 MR ROGERS: Sorry, did you say the southern side?

10 MR SUTTON: Yes, so Kings Park, so it's wedged in between in  
11 the corner of Goodwood Road and Cross Road. So Cross  
12 Road is actually (indistinct) so Cross Road is obviously  
13 the southern boundary of the current Division of  
14 Adelaide. So my view is that as a person who lives in  
15 Kings Park I'd like to stay within the Division of  
16 Adelaide because Cross Road is the boundary for the  
17 Division of Adelaide, as well as the Division of Unley in  
18 the state, as well as the Unley LGA.

19 So I have only ever voted in the Division of  
20 Adelaide and the Division of Unley so it is essentially,  
21 to be very brief, my view that Kings Park stays within  
22 Adelaide as we are in Unley and the Unley LGA. Thank  
23 you.

24 MR ROGERS: Thank you very much. Helen Ronson.

25 MS RONSON: Good morning.

26 MR ROGERS: Good morning.

27 MS RONSON: Good morning and thank you for this opportunity to  
28 speak to you. I have written to you previously.

29 MR ROGERS: If you could just say your name perhaps for the  
30 transcript.

31 MS RONSON: Sorry. Helen Ronson.



1 MR ROGERS: Thank you very much.

2 MS RONSON: Thank you. And again, thank you for this  
3 opportunity. I have lived and worked in Boothby for the  
4 last 20 years. I am currently the office manager of the  
5 Waite Electoral Office so state boundary, the state seat  
6 office and I've been a JP in that office for the last  
7 three years. So I wrote to you initially to ask you if  
8 you would consider putting the City of Holdfast Bay into  
9 Boothby, so that's what I'll be talking about today.

10 I asked you that, you know, requested that that  
11 would be a very - it would make a connection in Boothby  
12 to have the City of Holdfast Bay in the boundary  
13 redistribution so we'd be pleased to see that. Two of my  
14 major concerns is the boundary, the proposed boundary  
15 change with Hawthorndene and Craighburn Farm being in the  
16 seat of Mayo.

17 I only just want to bring it back to my work in  
18 Waite, which is, Waite is the seat that covers the  
19 Mitcham Hills, so that whole area. We are centred in  
20 Central Blackwood. So Central Blackwood is really the  
21 focal point for the whole of the Mitcham Hills including  
22 Hawthorndene and Craighburn Farm and like for example, I  
23 saw 20 people on Monday for JP. Most of them were from  
24 the local area and a number of them were also from  
25 Flagstaff Hill and Aberfoyle Park but I'll get to that in  
26 just one moment.

27 So the point being is that I feel that Blackwood is  
28 the centre point for the Mitcham Hills. Everyone who  
29 lives there will say yes, I live in the Mitcham Hills, I  
30 live close to Blackwood. It is very much part of that  
31 and if we disconnect Hawthorndene and Craighburn Farm out

1 of Boothby then we're sort of disconnecting them out of  
2 the area to a certain degree.

3 One of my concerns for the people of Hawthorndene  
4 who are part of my MP's electorate and Craighburn Farm is  
5 that if they need federal representation they need to  
6 drive at least 15 to 20 minutes to get to the freeway and  
7 then probably another 15 to 20 minutes to get to Mount  
8 Barker. It's a significant inconvenience, whereas the  
9 natural sort of movement of those people would be more  
10 towards Marion, which is where the Member for Boothby  
11 resides.

12 So I just feel that from a community point of view  
13 that the natural boundary would include Hawthorndene and  
14 Craighburn Farm. From a community perspective, but also  
15 from a representation perspective, and I as the office  
16 manager, I sit on a front desk and I JP and I meet  
17 everyone who comes through the door and our office is  
18 very much like the centre hub.

19 We have people coming and telling me all sorts of  
20 news and that includes anything from there's a power  
21 cord. You know, they like to come and report all sorts,  
22 or everything that happens in the area, yes, all the  
23 news. I just feel that my connection with the Boothby  
24 office is to - so when people come in with Centrelink,  
25 NDIS and immigration matters and I get a number of those  
26 inquiries because people really don't know where to go,  
27 I'm able to immediately direct them to the office of  
28 Boothby and then I communicate with the office of Boothby  
29 to make that we - and we resolve many, many matters  
30 through that way and it's quite simple and straight  
31 forward.

1           It's not that it's impossible to do with another  
2 office. It just works. It streamlines. The whole  
3 community knows where we are and we can streamline  
4 straight into the Boothby office. As for Flagstaff Hill  
5 and Aberfoyle Park, I feel it would be a shame if they  
6 weren't in Boothby. They already are at the northern end  
7 of their council area so the council area is the City of  
8 Onkaparinga which is based in Noarlunga and it's a  
9 significant geographical distance.

10           I think if we then sort of push that boundary south  
11 it's again pushing those people south and really they  
12 connect more into the Mitcham Hills community. I've  
13 lived and worked in Boothby for the last 20 years and  
14 first in St Marys and in the last 15 years in the  
15 Blackwood area, all my children have played netball,  
16 football, tennis, basketball, everything in the area.

17           I know lots and lots of people and many, many people  
18 from Flagstaff Hill and Aberfoyle Park come into the  
19 Blackwood area to do their business, where the children  
20 play the sport, go to the dance school, et cetera, et  
21 cetera. In fact, when they come to me for JP, I say do  
22 you realise there's a JP in Aberfoyle Park, they say I  
23 never go there, I always come here. So they feel very  
24 connected again. Flagstaff Hill and Aberfoyle Park in  
25 particular feel very connected to the Blackwood  
26 community.

27           I just feel that, and as I said in my submission,  
28 we've all grown up in this area together, all our  
29 children have, we shop at Marion, we shop in the  
30 Blackwood area, we socialise in Glenelg. I think the  
31 community works, the sort of south western community

1 works very well in the boundary. It would be a shame to  
2 push those people into a southern area, the Flagstaff  
3 Hill, Aberfoyle Park people and it would be a shame to  
4 move Hawthorndene people and Craighburn Farm people  
5 electorally I understand into Mount Barker.

6 So just from my point of view and my work and what I  
7 do and how I try and serve the community as the office  
8 manager at Waite I feel that the connections would be  
9 better placed if those suburbs, and particularly those  
10 four, were still included in the Boothby area.

11 MR ROGERS: Thank you very much.

12 MS RONSON: Thank you.

13 MR ROGERS: Ladies and gentlemen, it looks like that's it so on  
14 behalf of the augmented Commission can I tell you - I  
15 apologise, we do have a couple now that we need to read  
16 in. We get some submissions by email or post and as part  
17 of the Act we need to read them into the public record.  
18 So one of our staff will now do that and I'll ask Nicole  
19 to go through that process.

20 MISS TAYLOR: Nicole Taylor, National Redistributions Manager.  
21 The first submission I'll read is from Blake Watson.

22 *The fact that Coromandel Valley is also going to*  
23 *be effected by the Boothby redistribution, keeps being*  
24 *overlooked. It is not just Hawthorndene and Craighburn*  
25 *Farm, it includes a huge portion of Coromandel Valley.*  
26 *All the information I have seen on this issue to date*  
27 *has been very misleading.*

28 The second submission I'll read is from Yvonne Riddell.

29 *The suburbs of Flagstaff Hill, Aberfoyle Park*  
30 *and Happy Valley are currently in the federal*  
31 *electorate of Boothby. That's where we want them to*

1           *stay.*

2           *Our community identifies more with the Mitcham*  
3 *Hills and Adelaide Plains areas, which include suburbs*  
4 *like Blackwood and Marion, than it does with the far*  
5 *southern suburbs such as Noarlunga, Christies Beach,*  
6 *Hackham West and Morphett Vale in the federal*  
7 *electorate of Kingston.*

8           *In our area we share much more community, retail*  
9 *and transport infrastructure with the rest of Boothby*  
10 *than we do with residents in the federal electorate of*  
11 *Kingston. We use Happy Valley Drive, Flagstaff Road,*  
12 *Marion Road and South Road to get to the city, or*  
13 *shopping precincts at Westfield Marion. We use Main*  
14 *Road through Blackwood to get to the city as well.*

15           *I feel a change of boundary would be stretching*  
16 *things too far to keep our interest at heart. I do*  
17 *not see this as progress, politicians per capita*  
18 *should allow for things to change as is.*

19           *Concerned resident of Boothby.*

20           The next submission I'll read is from Martin Gordon.

21           *Involvement to date: During this redistribution*  
22 *process I have put forward a suggestion, comments on*  
23 *suggestions and comments on objections.*

24           *As I was overseas at the suggestion stage my*  
25 *submission was narrative in style and I have taken*  
26 *account of accurate subsequent elector projections.*

27           *I am amongst the 93 per cent of Australia's*  
28 *population that are not residents of the fine state of*  
29 *South Australia (although I am formerly from there).*

30           *I am constantly reminded at these redistributions*  
31 *process that apparently my view, my value, my*

1           *consequence counts for less than residents of the*  
2           *jurisdiction's residents. Why is this so?*

3           *Naming of Spence and Hindmarsh: I welcome the*  
4           *adoption of the name 'Spence' as the new divisional*  
5           *name. It is disappointing to lose 'Wakefield', who*  
6           *was more consequential to the history of South*  
7           *Australia or Australia than Grey, Barker or Boothby*  
8           *(who was a mere electoral official!)*

9           *I would urge the retention of 'Wakefield' and*  
10          *possibly the abolition of a name such as 'Grey'*  
11          *instead. I was aware of Wakefield's impact in terms*  
12          *of the establishment of South Australia. In fact,*  
13          *the Museum of Australian Democracy even refers to him*  
14          *and the impact of the different free settlement*  
15          *leading to the number of significant firsts in South*  
16          *Australia (relative to the rest of Australia and also*  
17          *the reset of the world). Women's suffrage and other*  
18          *electoral processes (and other things) came from South*  
19          *Australia first.*

20          *I would urge the retention of 'Wakefield' and*  
21          *possibly the abolition of a name such as 'Grey'*  
22          *instead.*

23          *Retaining Hindmarsh as a name as a near*  
24          *Federation and in recognition of Hindmarsh's role in*  
25          *the establishment of South Australia should be*  
26          *recognised. 'Port Adelaide', as I have previously*  
27          *pointed out, clashes with a state District name, is a*  
28          *qualifying name, and does not have the historical*  
29          *significance of Hindmarsh.*

30          *I also note that Port Adelaide was formed out of*  
31          *what was Hindmarsh when the Division was created in*

1           1949. The name 'Port Adelaide' has ceased to have the  
2           key geographical justification which is evident in the  
3           existing from the Division which includes significant  
4           areas of Salisbury and Playford.

5           I agree with the abolition of Port Adelaide as a  
6           Division and as a name.

7           The choice - remediation or redrawing: I wish  
8           to highlight that there are two choices for the  
9           Commissioners to follow. The first is a remediation  
10          of the current Commissioners' proposals.

11          The modifications I suggest are as follows:

- 12           • Return Aldinga Beach, Port Willunga and  
13           Sellicks Beach to Kingston (this increases  
14           Kingston enrolment and retains areas with a  
15           better community of interest with the rest  
16           of Kingston);
- 17           • Retain sufficient areas of Aberfoyle Park  
18           and Happy Valley and Kingston to keep  
19           Kingston within quota;
- 20           • Return areas such as Flagstaff Hill to  
21           Boothby;
- 22           • Move some areas of Boothby such as Belair  
23           and Blackwood to Mayo (the Liberal Party  
24           has suggested a split of Mitcham Hills  
25           which is workable and should be seriously  
26           explored).

27          The rearrangement I suggest is a remediation  
28          strategy for the Commissioners proposals. It is not  
29          my ideal or preferred approach but one which would  
30          work without unpicking changes further afield.

31          Having said this, I note some highly desirable

1 features of what the Commissioners have proposed, but  
2 I have issues with the final solution of the  
3 Commissioners.

4 The Liberal Party has suggested the use of Cross  
5 Road, Stonehouse Avenue and Morphett Road in place of  
6 the Holdfast Bay and Marion Council boundary and  
7 Glenelg tramline. This is frankly a sounder and more  
8 easily recognised boundary.

9 'The Gawler choice' (redrawing?): The title I  
10 have used is no surprise if you look at my earlier  
11 contributions.

12 The placement of Gawler (the cause) has  
13 significant flow on effects to every Division in South  
14 Australia. I recognised this early on in the  
15 examining of options, having looked at the placement  
16 of Gawler in an urban or regional electorate. I  
17 recognise that Gawler in a regional Division (in my  
18 instance Barker) meant far less disruption of other  
19 existing Divisional boundaries (and far less elector  
20 movement) than what the Commissioners propose.

21 The following questions arise from the placement  
22 of Gawler:

- 23 • boundary of the proposed Division of  
24 Boothby;
- 25 • electoral divisions in which the suburbs of  
26 Aberfoyle Park, Flagstaff Hill and Sellicks  
27 Beach are located;
- 28 • electoral divisions in which the suburbs of  
29 Aldinga Beach, Port Willunga and Sellicks  
30 Beach are located;
- 31 • electoral divisions in which the City of



1                   Unley is located;

- 2                   • electoral divisions in which the suburbs of  
3                   Craigburn Farm and Hawthorndene are located.

4                   All of these derive ultimately from where Gawler  
5                   is placed. I think the Commissioners have made an  
6                   epic mistake and as a result it has generated these  
7                   objections in a part of Adelaide far away from Gawler.

8                   I would refer the Commissioners to my earlier  
9                   submission at the comments stage which includes a map  
10                  and which shows how much less change is needed  
11                  (compared to the Commissioners).

12                  In summary:

- 13                  • abolition of Port Adelaide, agreed.  
14                  • boundary of the proposed Division of  
15                  Boothby, remediation as above.  
16                  • electoral divisions in which the suburbs of  
17                  Aberfoyle Park, Flagstaff Hill and Sellicks  
18                  Beach are located, remediation as above.  
19                  • electoral divisions in which the suburbs of  
20                  Aldinga Beach, Port Willunga and Sellicks  
21                  Beach are located, remediation as above.  
22                  • electoral divisions in which the City of  
23                  Unley is located, use of Cross Road,  
24                  Stonehouse Avenue and Morphett Road.  
25                  • electoral divisions on which the suburbs of  
26                  Craigburn Farm and Hawthorndene are located,  
27                  remediation as above.  
28                  • name of the proposed Division of Hindmarsh,  
29                  unchanged and  
30                  • name of the proposed Division of Spence,  
31                  unchanged but retain 'Wakefield' by

1                    *abolishing 'Grey' or*

- 2                    • *a substantial redrawing of the map of South*  
3                    *Australia placing Gawler in a regional*  
4                    *Division.*

5                    The next submission is from Karen Hockley.

6                    *I refer to my objection to the boundary*  
7                    *redistributions dated 1 May 2018. It was my intention*  
8                    *that my objection be treated and considered as an*  
9                    *individual objection to the suburb of Craighburn Farm*  
10                    *being incorporated into the federal Division of Mayo*  
11                    *for all of the reasons contained within the objection*  
12                    *itself.*

13                    *A number of my neighbours and others within the*  
14                    *community have agreed with the details of my objection*  
15                    *and decided to support my submission by signing a*  
16                    *petition to indicate their desire for Craighburn Farm*  
17                    *to remain within the federal Division of Boothby.*  
18                    *While both of these documents were delivered to the*  
19                    *Electoral Commission at the same time, it was intended*  
20                    *that they be treated as and given consideration as*  
21                    *separate documents.*

22                    The next submission is from the Honourable Neil Andrew  
23                    AO.

24                    *My comments are not intended to detract in any*  
25                    *way from the valuable contribution that Catherine*  
26                    *Helen Spence made to the implementation of educative*  
27                    *and electoral reform. The essential changes she*  
28                    *passionately fostered were, by any measure, overdue.*  
29                    *I would simply contend that her campaigns were much*  
30                    *more South Australian centric and should be recognised*  
31                    *by having, for example, a State electorate named in*

1           her honour

2           *The reforms to trading tariff arrangements which*  
3           *both Sir Charles Hawker and the Honourable Bert Kelly*  
4           *worked to implement, are now seen as having had a*  
5           *unique role in underwriting our present economic*  
6           *prosperity, and are of extraordinary national*  
7           *significance. Post-Federation, the criteria for*  
8           *trading arrangements have always been matters of*  
9           *national and international concern. Furthermore, the*  
10          *reforms sought by both Sir Charles Hawker and Mr Kelly*  
11          *were opposed by the Government and the Opposition for*  
12          *decades. Like most reformers, theirs was a lonely and*  
13          *courageous battle.*

14          *As I mentioned in my original submission, it is*  
15          *difficult to see the name of 'Kelly' being used for a*  
16          *Parliamentary seat because of the bushranger*  
17          *connotations instantly associated with that name. A*  
18          *reintroduction of the non-Federation name of 'Hawker'*  
19          *could be considered.*

20          *My contention is simply that the pivotal work of*  
21          *both Mr Hawker and Mr Kelly is synonymous with the*  
22          *seat of Wakefield. It is difficult to identify any*  
23          *other Federal electorate with two representatives who*  
24          *have had such a positive impact on our future as an*  
25          *exporting nation.*

26          *Furthermore, Wakefield is a 'Federation' seat*  
27          *named in recognition of the colonial land subdivision*  
28          *concepts created by Edward Gibbon Wakefield. Once*  
29          *adopted, these proposals were acknowledged at*  
30          *Federation as having made a huge contribution to the*  
31          *egalitarian society that is extraordinarily 'ours'.*

1           Our indebtedness to Wakefield, Hawker and Kelly should  
2           not be diminished.

3           This submission is from Robert Prest.

4           I wish to register my anger at the prospect of  
5           being forced into an electorate which I rarely enter  
6           and one that bears little to no demographic or socio-  
7           economic similarity to my current electorate.

8           If I am to actively engage with the electoral  
9           process, I prefer to engage on issues of importance  
10          with my local members or candidates for the seat. My  
11          experience in Boothby has been positive for the most  
12          part. I have a voice. There are enough people with  
13          similar concerns to gain a hearing.

14          The overwhelming majority of my professional and  
15          social life is spent north of Kingston. Through my  
16          employment, I have at various times had conversations  
17          with the incumbent Member for Kingston and her  
18          predecessors and found that they are articulate  
19          advocates for ideas that are not important to me and  
20          disinterested in issues that are important to me.  
21          This is hardly surprising since there is little  
22          demographic relevance for them in my concerns.

23          This is not the case in Boothby. If the  
24          redistribution goes ahead as planned, I will in effect  
25          be rendered unrepresented in parliament. It will not  
26          be worth my while even going to the polling booth.  
27          This is a concept that to me is abhorrent. It is  
28          however, the situation in which I will be placed. I  
29          resent being considered a simple statistic to move to  
30          balance numbers in preference to having things that  
31          are important to me taken into consideration.

1                    *I recognise that not everything I value will be*  
2                    *considered, but to know that nothing to which I*  
3                    *attach significance will ever be considered is a*  
4                    *bitter pill to swallow. Frankly, if I were not even*  
5                    *on the electoral roll I would be no worse off.*

6 MR KALISCH: Sorry, what area was he in, it wasn't clear from  
7                    the submission?

8 MISS TAYLOR: His subject line does refer to redistribution  
9                    from Boothby to Kingston. He hasn't indicated a suburb  
10                    here.

11 MR KALISCH: Right.

12 MR ROGERS: All right. That concludes proceedings, ladies and  
13                    gentlemen, and these mere electoral officials thank you  
14                    for coming.

15 END OF PROCEEDINGS