



Objection 331

Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative

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From: Ebony Hickey
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC; "Sarah.henderson.mp@aph.gov.au"](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Corangamite Electorate - Cultural Consultation needed.
Date: Friday, 4 May 2018 11:59:12 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to you on behalf of Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-operative in the role of Community Development Officer about the Australian Electoral Commission's redistribution proposal for the Corangamite electorate including changing the name to Cox.

I as a Community Development worker in the Aboriginal space find it important when potentially changing a country or in this case countries narrative in a significant way may affect the engagement of the local Aboriginal Communities and the way they vote, learn and participate in this community. I can't speak on behalf of Traditional Owner Groups, Waddawurrung and Eastern Maar as it's not within my delegation or attached to my role but I urge you to make contact with these groups as key stakeholders of Cultural significance of the name within the current Corangamite electorate about the proposal of a name change.

To the best of my knowledge as a Gulidjan woman the name Corangamite it derived from two words significant to Gulidjan Country of the Eastern Maar Nation which begins west of the Barwon River in Winchelsea, these words are Corrangara and Mitj, Corrangara again through oral history was more than likely a tribe, locality or family name in what's now known as the Robinson's Hill area between Colac (Kolakgnat) and Cororooke, the Waddawurrung and Gulidjan Languages are quite significantly different and I not being a Waddawurrung (Kulin Nations) woman are not familiar with cultural or oral stories east of the Barwon River nor do have Cultural speaking rights to talk about their land or country.

I would urge you to consider making time to meet with both Eastern Maar <http://easternmaar.com.au/contact/> and Wada Wurrung <https://wadowurrung.org.au/contact-us> before making changes to a name. If you were wanting a space to meet with the Eastern Maar I am more than willing to open up the Colac Aboriginal Gathering Place – Caracaramigen House at 4 Miller Street, Colac for this to be possible at any time.

Yours sincerely

Ebony Hickey

Community Development Officer – Koolin Balit Colac Mapping Project

Caracaramigen – The Colac Aboriginal Gathering Place.

Gulidjan Woman: Colac Region

> PO Box 402 | North Geelong 3215

 (03) 52 929 826 or [REDACTED] |  (03) 52 784 123

I take great pride in acknowledging the Wathaurong, Gulidjan, Gadabanud, Djargurd Wurrung and Girai Wurrung people who's lands I work on. I pay my respects to Elders both past and present and all First Nation's people of this country. I look forward to working with you to create stronger opportunities for our communities, families and future generations.

