



Objection 378

B. Gino Salvo - 1

3 pages

From: Gino Salvo
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: objection to the AEC proposed boundaries - Mallee
Date: Friday, 4 May 2018 3:48:54 PM
Attachments: [objection to the AEC proposed boundaries - Mallee.pdf](#)

Please accept the attached objection for your consideration.

Thank you.

Regards

Gino Salvo

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4th May 2018

Redistribution Secretariat for Victoria
Australian Electoral Commission
GPO Box 768
Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear Sir,

Re: Objection to the redistribution of boundaries of the Electorate of Mallee

I wish to lodge an objection to the AEC's proposed boundaries for the Mallee electorate.

The AEC's proposal would mean that Stawell and Halls Gap would no longer be considered part of the Mallee electorate, going to the electorate of Wannon. And, the inclusion of the Loddon and Central Goldfields municipalities in the former Murray, Bendigo and Ballarat Electorates would increase the Mallee electorate from approximately 74,000 sq. km to approximately 82,000 sq. km.

It appears that while the electorate of Mallee continues to suffer from a decline in population, the redistribution process will continually force the electorate's expansion to the detriment of its communities and residents.

I therefore suggest that the Redistribution Committee take exception to the process under the Electoral Act and evaluate the circumstances that are peculiar to the Electorate, before adopting the proposed changes including;

- The physical area of the electorate including its makeup and size
- The number of municipalities and the increase under the proposal, making it more difficult to prioritise communities, amenities and services
- The number of regional centres/towns in each of the municipalities and the distances between them
- The varying population and the demographics of those municipalities
- The vast distances that some residents need to travel for services
- The agricultural and economic differences within the electorate and the impact on these centres, often impacted by either drought or flood
- The social and lifestyle differences throughout the electorate from remote rural living to urban villages and towns/regional centres
- Due the distance between many of the communities there is a dis-connect between and throughout the electorate. Immediately, this will be felt more so with the communities being added under the proposal given they were, in comparison, a short distance from Bendigo and Ballarat, with the elected Member for Mallee located in Mildura
- Public transport services are not readily available in most parts of the electorate and travel for residents can be costly with travel for example from Maryborough to Mildura being some 400kms and taking over 4 hours by car
- Communication across such a vast electorate is an issue also with mobile black spots and unreliable internet, adding to the daily cost

And, not to mention the enormous task the elected Member already has to service and represent all the constituents of the Mallee electorate.

Despite the rural communities' resilience, and as a resident of one of these communities, I see its representation, socially and economically, continue to be diluted under the redistribution process.

Unfortunately, the redistribution of the boundaries of the Mallee electorate being applied under the Electoral Act are compounding these issues and alienating its communities.

Yours sincerely,

B. Gino Salvo

████████████████████
████████████████████