



Objection 298

Craigburn Farm petition of 87 people

9 pages

Karen Hockley



May 1, 2018

The Electoral Commission
Attn Redistribution Secretariat
GPO Box 344
Adelaide SA 5001

To The Electoral Commission (Redistribution Secretariat)

Re: Mayo/Boothby

I have reviewed the proposed federal electorate boundaries redistribution that was released on Friday 13 April 2018 and I would like to lodge an objection to the adjustment of the boundary between the electorates of Mayo and Boothby that would see the suburb of Craighburn Farm transferred into the electorate of Mayo.

The grounds for my objection are as follows and I request that the draft boundary redistribution be reviewed to ensure that the suburb of Craighburn Farm remain within the electoral district of Boothby.

1. Community of interests, including economic, social and regional interests—

Craighburn Farm is part of the Mitcham Hills community and it has strong links with community groups, sporting and other recreational groups that will remain within the electorate of Boothby under the proposed redistribution.

Sporting and recreational clubs that serve the area are located in the proposed electorate of Boothby. This includes clubs such as the Blackwood Football Club, Blackwood Players, Coromandel Cricket Club (located in Blackwood), Sturt Lions Football Club (Soccer), Blackwood Bowling Club, Woods Panthers Netball Club, Blackwood Tennis Club, Southern Districts Car Club and Blackwood and Hills Calisthenics (to name but a few). Nearby recreational facilities include the Blackwood Memorial Hall and the Blackwood Community Recreation Centre, which both service the wide ranging recreational and sporting interest of voters living in Craighburn Farm.

Residents of Craighburn Farm are served by a number of community groups that centre around Blackwood, including the Blackwood, Belair and District Community Association, the Blackwood Action Group, Totally Locally Blackwood, Blackwood Hills Inc, and the Blackwood Circle of Friends.

Each of these sporting and community groups will be represented by the Member for Boothby and the proposal that Craighburn Farm residents should be represented separately from their organised sport and community groups will result in these residents being disenfranchised and marginalised.

The shopping precinct located nearest to Craighburn Farm is in Blackwood. Residents are also well serviced by a variety of shops and facilities in the Pasadena Green and Mitcham Square Shopping Centres. A larger variety of goods and services can be found at Westfield Marion. Most residents commute either within Mitcham or north towards the Adelaide CBD and suburbs for their employment and may avail themselves of the convenience of shopping on the way. Accordingly the economic interests of voters living in Craighburn Farm rests within the surrounding metropolitan areas rather than in the more remote regional centres that serve the constituents of Mayo.

Similarly, and according to the 2016 census data, the residents of Craighburn Farm are much more likely to be involved in industries such as Health Care and Social Assistance, Education and Training and Professional, Scientific and Technical as opposed to those that dominate in Mayo, including Horticulture, Viticulture and Tourism.

The area is zoned for Blackwood High School and most students either attend there or go to other schools, such as Scotch College, Urrbrae or Mitcham Girls. All of these schools are and will remain within the proposed seat of Boothby. The Member for Mayo will not be able to support the needs of students and families living and studying in these suburban settings while also focussing on the vastly different needs of students in a rural setting.

Craighburn Farm and the Mitcham Hills are served by two local publications, the Blackwood Times and the Messenger Hills and Valley Weekly. These publications carry news relevant to the residents of Craighburn Farm, including the activities and commentary of their local federal member for Boothby and the state member. They do not contain news or commentary from the federal member for Mayo but focus instead on Blackwood and the surrounding suburbs within the Mitcham Hills. Areas within the rural electorate of Mayo are served by The Courier, which is not delivered into Craighburn Farm nor is it available from any of the local newsagents or supermarkets.

Voters living in Craighburn Farm will be separated from and have limited or no access to their Federal Member as a result of the proposed boundary redistribution. Electors will need to overcome significant transport barriers in order to access the Mayo electorate offices located in the regional centres of Goolwa, Mt Barker and Victor Harbour. The closest and main office can be accessed by public transport, however it is a journey requiring travel on three separate busses and one train over approximately an hour and forty-five minutes. By comparison travel to the Boothby electorate office can be achieved entirely on the metropolitan train system in about half that time. There are no public transport links to enable residents of Craighburn Farm to access the electorate offices in Victor Harbour and Goolwa.

Both the New South Wales Redistribution of Electoral Districts 2013 and the Tasmanian 2016-17 Legislative Council Boundaries Redistribution noted and recognised the importance of including

the whole of Local Government Areas in one Federal electorate where ever possible so as to reflect the existing communities of interest. Craighburn Farm, along with all of the other suburbs of the Mitcham Hills, are within the Local Government Area of the City of Mitcham. As demonstrated above there are significant communities of interest within the Mitcham Hills, including Craighburn Farm, and also stretching into the more northern areas of the City of Mitcham.

South Australian government departments and agencies use a consistent set of boundaries to define 12 administrative regions in the state. The boundaries help government partners develop and improve reporting, planning and service delivery and they also relate to the targets in South Australia's Strategic Plan. The use of uniform regions promotes improved collaboration, planning and greater consistency through Local and State government agencies. The provision of uniform regions across all Departments also provides a basis for improving timely and transparent decision-making. Craighburn Farm is included with the whole of the City of Mitcham in the South Australian Government's metropolitan Southern Adelaide Region. This demonstrates a clear perception within government that the whole of the City of Mitcham, including Craighburn Farm, is to be considered to be part of the metro south area of the metropolitan Adelaide, with development plans and targets reflecting its nature as a metropolitan suburb. The proposed federal electorate of Mayo consists mainly of the South Australian Governments Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island and Adelaide Hills Regions.

2. Means of communication and travel within the proposed electorate—

There are no direct public transport links or major road links between Craighburn Farm and district centres within Mayo. Public transport and road links from Craighburn Farm focus on travel routes within and towards the electorate of Boothby and beyond into the Adelaide CBD.

Travel to the nearest shopping precinct within the proposed division of Mayo requires motorists to travel via a circuitous country road route for 20 minutes before finally joining the South Eastern Freeway and travelling onto Stirling or beyond. Alternatively residents of Craighburn Farm can undertake a public transport journey further into Boothby before a change of bus is required to travel out again via the South Eastern Freeway. This public transport journey can be expected to take up to approximately 2 hours in a one way direction. Conversely travel to the closest shopping precinct, which is within the proposed division of Boothby, is a straight forward journey of approximately 5 minutes by car or by bus.

Census data for 2016 shows that residents in the City of Mitcham, including Craighburn Farm, generally travel in a northerly direction as they commute to their workplaces. Around 50% travel within the City of Mitcham and into the City of Adelaide, while another (approximately) 20% travel to the Unley, Marion or West Torrens Local Government Areas. Only around 2% of residents travel to the regional Council areas of Adelaide Hills and Mt Barker.

Craighburn Farm residents are serviced by and have a common interest in a number of arterial roads that they use for their daily commute. This includes the Main/Belair/Unley Road corridor including (new) Belair Road from Belair to Mitcham, the Fullarton Road corridor, including Main Road and Old Belair Road and Shepherd's Hill Road to South Road and Goodwood Road towards

the north and to Sturt Road to the coast. All of these road networks are and will remain within the federal electorate of Boothby.

Craigburn Farm residents share an interest in common with other residents in Mitcham Hills and Boothby more broadly to ensure that these roads are adequately maintained to service the population. More specifically there is a shared interest in ensuring (funding for) improved and safe access for cyclists as well as a reliable and safe road network to enable egress from the Mitcham Hills in the case of an emergency, such as a bushfire.

Voters and family members living in Craigburn Farm also have good access to the Belair passenger rail service. The local railway stations, Coromandel and Blackwood, are within walking distance for many and can also be reached either by a car or bus journey of around five minutes. The passenger rail line travels through the Mitcham Hills and the more northern suburbs in the federal electorate of Boothby and on into the Adelaide railway station. It provides a very important commuter link for those participating in the workforce and those in education who seek efficient and reliable travel into the Adelaide CBD and the intervening suburbs. The service is also highly utilised by others for recreational and other purposes. This rail service does not extend into the existing federal electorate of Mayo and terminates in Belair. Craigburn Farm residents share an interest in common with other residents in the Mitcham Hills and Boothby more broadly to ensure that the Belair passenger rail service is well maintained and funded to ensure that the services continue to meet the needs of the community.

This road and rail network provides for and reinforces the existing communities of interest within the current federal electorate Boothby, including Craigburn Farm.

3. The physical features and area of the proposed electorate—

Craigburn Farm is a metropolitan suburb, perhaps the most metropolitan in the Mitcham Hills area. It has all bitumen roads, formal drainage systems, including concrete guttering on every road and paved footpaths on every street. Block sizes are exclusively of modern metropolitan sizes, including down to approximately 400 square metres, and the whole suburb is lit with modern street lighting.

Residents of Craigburn Farm enjoy daily deliveries of Australia Post mail and newspapers direct to their homes and also have access to regular public transport by bus to the local shopping district in Blackwood and to the local Blackwood railway station for travel into the city and the suburbs in between. Residents also enjoy weekly rubbish collections, including the three bin system, from the curb outside of their homes.

Conversely most areas within the proposed electorate of Mayo have much less access to formal infrastructure, such as footpaths, lighting, drainage and bitumen roads. Households may not enjoy local public transport or deliveries of Australia Post mail and newspapers and rubbish collections to their driveway.

It makes sense for voters living in the metropolitan suburb of Craigburn Farm to be represented by a federal member who represents other constituents living in the metropolitan area, rather than being an adjunct to a rural electorate where the federal member has a focus on issues

affecting those living in a rural or country environment.

4. The boundaries of existing state electorates

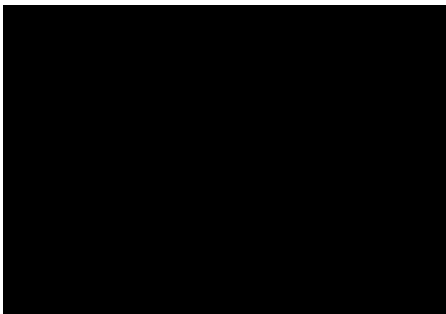
As previously discussed Craighburn Farm is contained within the City of Mitcham, which itself has been wholly contained within the federal electorate of Boothby. Further, Craighburn Farm is wholly contained within the state electorate of Waite.

The City of Mitcham is largely contained within the boundaries of the state electorate of Waite, which includes other Mitcham Hills suburbs such as Eden Hills, Blackwood, Hawthorndene, Glenalta and Belair and suburbs further north, such as Torrens Park, Mitcham, Kingswood, Netherby, Springfield and Urrbrae.

Residents living in Craighburn Farm will have their interests served more effectively when they share state and federal representation with their community in the Mitcham Hills, rather than being separated off into the proposed federal electorate of Mayo.

I trust that you will give consideration to the objections raised and will review the proposed federal electoral boundaries to ensure that residents of Craighburn Farm can be represented, along with their community, by the Federal Member for Boothby.

Yours sincerely,



Petition to: The Australian Electoral Commission (Redistribution Secretariat)

We, the undersigned, object to the proposed federal boundary redistribution that would see the suburb of Craighburn Farm absorbed into the federal seat of Mayo. We are in full agreement with the objections presented by Karen Hockley in her letter dated 1 May 2018 and lodged with the Australian Electoral Commission. We consider that we live in the metropolitan area and have interests in common with other residents of the Mitcham Hills and suburbs towards the north who will be represented by the Member for Boothby under the proposed redistribution.

Please reconsider the proposed federal boundary redistribution to ensure that Craighburn Farm remains within the federal electorate of Boothby.

Name (first and surnames)	Address (in full)	Signature
Craig Smithson		
MICHAEL MATIC		
Mitchell RAC		
Steve Stouppos		
Vanessa de Jong		
Chris St John-Sweetry		
NORMA ST JOHN-SWEETRY		
Janet Taylor-Hughes		
Michael Hughes		
Kellee Kam		
Julie Smith		
Stephen BOWEN		
Michelle Gillies		
Louise Matthews		
Paul Matthews		
Sophie Matthews		
Ridha Anand		
Chrisea Hocking		
ARAVIND SHIVASAMI		
TANYA WADHAM		
Marna Madan		
KEVIN SEANARD		
MIKE OSWALD		
ANDREW WATSON		

Send to FedRedistribution-sa@aec.gov.au by 5 pm on 11 May 2018

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Name (first and surnames)	Address (in full)	Signature
TRUCEA RUSTON		
ADAM BLAND		
sophie King		
Deb Tromp		
LISA DOWN		
Rebecca Waddingham		
Adam Bland		
Chris Hockley		
Liam Hockley		
Mick Beverland		
Cory Sinclair		
Yael Nitz		
Megan Hintz		
IGNACIO SANTOS		
Dorothy Briggs		
Dameca Scottney		
Angela Hills		
ELISA MAY		
ROBERT JOHN'S		
J. Anderson		
CHRISTINE LIME		
Bayley Law		
Wendy Thomas AM		
Charlene Campbell		

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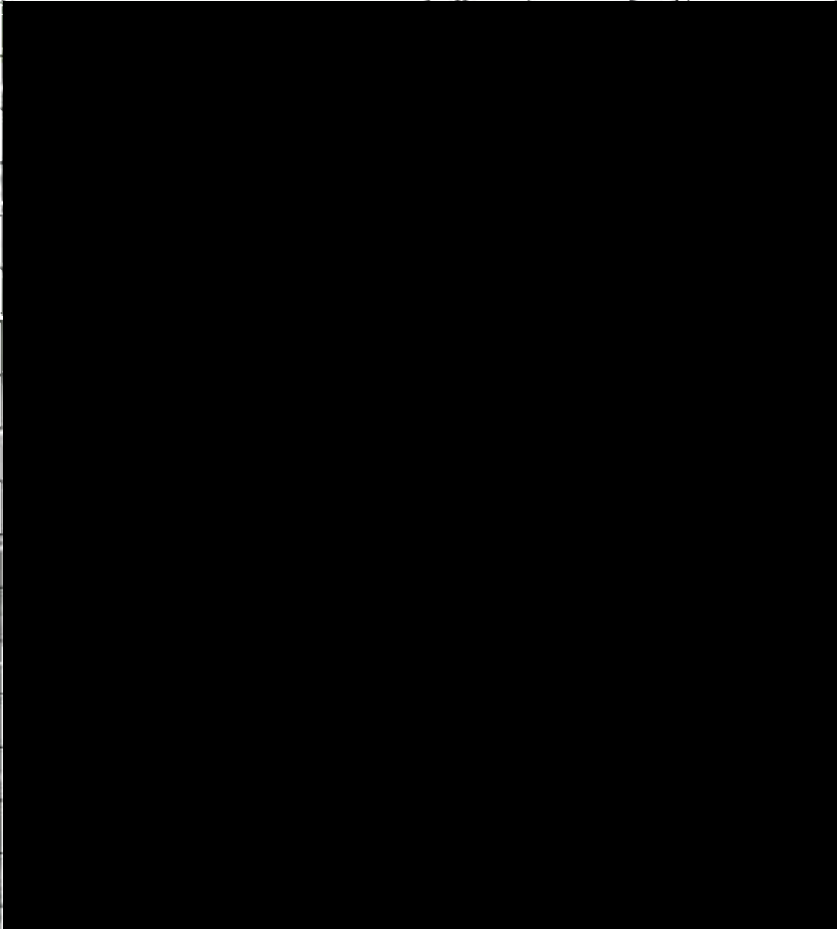
Name (first and surnames)	Address (in full)	Signature
Riche Rewal		
RICK BENOIST		
Vicki Tuck		
Heather Holmes-Ross		
Karen Blanchette		
Karen Wright		
Julie Smith		
Rob Smith		
Peta Salier		
Cylie Quinn		
AMY STABURY		
CHRISTINE STANBURY		
Sanjith Christopher		
Jennie Hall		
NO		
BARRY BURTON		
NAN DAVIS		
Logan Long		
Robert Long		
Heather Woodroffe		
Emma Hildebrandt		
Doris Nickalson		
Vicki Staudle		
Andrew SAMM		

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Name (first and surnames)	Address (in full)	Signature
Katie Juries		
Dylan Song		
Liss Head		
Michelle McShane		
Jodie Louca		
Jane Howlett		
Catherine Hunter		
Dane Sayers		
Tara Dimitrakis		
Glen Sammelidis		
Laila Gray		
Karen Curtis		
DOUG KEMP		
EWEN FORBES		
Michelle McElroy		
Nicole Hocking		

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