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Timothy Bosanquet

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Hello

I would like to object to the proposal to move Mackellar's boundaries west to include St Ives and St Ives chase.

These are my reasons:

St Ives is up on the Upper North Shore, while Mackellar is down on the Northern Beaches. They're totally different areas with their own councils, sports scenes, schools, shopping spots, and transport setups.

Geographically, they're separated by the Garigal and Ku-ring-gai National Parks, plus Cowan and Middle Creeks, which have been natural dividing lines recognized by the AEC for ages.

Right now, getting from St Ives to the rest of Mackellar by public transport is pretty tricky. There aren't any direct routes to places like Frenchs Forest or the southern parts of Mackellar.

The Redistribution Committee thought it made the most sense to keep Mackellar completely within the Northern Beaches Council area. The Mayor of Ku-ring-gai Council also pointed out in their submission that it's better for St Ives folks to stay under Ku-ring-gai.

Even though I have a soft spot for the Upper North Shore where I grew up, my team and I have talked to lots of Mackellar locals who just don't see it as a good idea to tack on a piece of the Upper North Shore to Mackellar. They think it would isolate that area because of distance, geography, lack of good public transport, different councils, and unique local interests like sports, shopping, and businesses.

The Northern Beaches is a tight-knit community with a special vibe shaped by beach and bush life. It's all about surf clubs, schools, community groups (like the RFS), sports, and essential services.

When the AEC changes boundaries, they should bring communities together, not split them apart.

Yours sincerely Tim Bosanquet