



## Comment on suggestions 55

Dr Kerry Wardlaw

From:
To: FedRedistribution - VIC

Subject: RE: Keep Casey as a separate electorate.

Date: Friday, 8 December 2023 2:05:09 PM

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Dear Sir/Madam.

I wish to formally reject the proposed abolishment of the Electorate of Casey. I live in the Dandenong Ranges. This is a unique area. The National Park of temperate rainforest that is environmentally important not only to Melbourne and Victorians, but to the whole of Australia and the world. The forest is also a vital draw card for tourists from all corners of the world, nationally and statewide.

The thought that our region would be incorporated with urban suburbs of Melbourne makes no sense. Those areas do not have the same needs that the environmentally sensitive areas of the Yarra Ranges have. Our region requires specialist understanding of the needs of established settlements within this vital forest environment, and of our risks to fire danger and storms.

Would the Blue Mountains or Daintree Forest be consigned to similar abolishment and redistribution to urban suburban electorates? What purpose is being served by this abolishment?

What is required here is the support by Members of Parliament who understand the region. The proposed abolishment means that our very sensitive area would be lost and probably overlooked within urban electorates. We will be impacted more and more severely by climate impacts so we need a representative who understands the specifics facing forested areas and farmlands.

Please reconsider this abolishment and leave the Electorate of Casey intact.

Yours sincerely

Dr Kerry Wardlaw

Resident of the Dandenong Ranges