



# Objection 314

Andrew Beischer

2 pages

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Higgins redistribution objection  
**Date:** Wednesday, 26 June 2024 7:24:47 AM

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Subject: Objection to the Abolition of the Federal Electoral Seat of Higgins

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I am writing to you from [REDACTED], with a heart full of concern and a mind burdened by the recent proposal to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. My name is Andrew Beischer, and I feel compelled to articulate my strong objections to this decision, drawing inspiration from the eloquence and investigative flair of George Orwell.

Higgins, an electorate with a storied history, has long been a bastion of community identity and local pride. The AEC's proposal to merge Higgins into neighbouring electorates like Chisholm, Hotham, Kooyong, Macnamara, and Melbourne is not just a matter of redrawing lines on a map; it is a profound disruption to the very fabric of our community.

Firstly, the abolition of Higgins would undoubtedly dilute the voice of its residents, particularly those in Stonnington. The unique needs and concerns of our community, which have been meticulously represented and advocated for over the years, risk being overshadowed by the broader and potentially divergent priorities of the neighbouring electorates. This dilution of representation is not merely a theoretical concern; it is a tangible threat to the tailored advocacy and attention that Higgins residents have come to rely upon.

Moreover, Higgins is not just an electoral boundary; it is a community with a rich tapestry of history and identity. The proposed changes threaten to unravel this tapestry, splitting our community and absorbing it into electorates with different priorities and challenges. The sense of belonging and shared purpose that has been nurtured over decades could be lost, leaving residents feeling disconnected and disenfranchised.

The disruption of established political relationships is another significant concern. Our current MP has built strong, effective relationships with the residents of Higgins, advocating for our needs and championing local causes. The proposed abolition would sever these relationships, leading to a loss of continuity and potentially impacting the delivery of services and advocacy that our community depends on.

Electoral confusion is an inevitable consequence of such a drastic change. Voters, particularly those who have been long-standing residents of Higgins, will face uncertainty regarding their new electorates, polling places, and representatives. This confusion could lead to decreased voter engagement and participation, undermining the democratic process.

Finally, the impact on local projects and initiatives cannot be overstated. Higgins has been the cradle of numerous local projects, from community development initiatives to infrastructure improvements. These projects, which are tailored to the specific needs of our community, may lose momentum or be deprioritised under new representatives who are

unfamiliar with the intricacies and priorities of the Higgins community.

In conclusion, I implore the AEC to reconsider the decision to abolish the federal electoral seat of Higgins. The unique identity, established relationships, and ongoing projects within Higgins are too valuable to be disrupted. Maintaining the current electoral structure is essential for the continued representation and advocacy of Higgins residents.

Thank you for considering my objections. I trust that the AEC will take into account the profound impact this decision would have on our community and act in the best interests of the residents of Higgins.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Beischer

[REDACTED]

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