



Objection 484

Hepburn Shire Council

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28 June 2024

The Australian Electoral Commission
(Attn: Redistribution Secretariat)
via online objection submission

Re: Victorian federal redistribution

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback to the proposed redistribution of federal electoral divisions in Victoria. I write in relation to the Ballarat and Bendigo divisions, and the impact on Hepburn Shire.

We are concerned by the proposal, which effectively would result in a very small proportion (both size, and population) of Hepburn Shire being included in the Bendigo division.

We note that only 865 electors are proposed to be moved from the current Ballarat division into the Bendigo division. For a small rural Council like Hepburn Shire, the addition of another seat is a substantial burden for our municipality in terms of effective advocacy and representation. For such a small number of voters, we don't consider that this burden is justified, and request that the existing boundary be maintained with all electors of Hepburn Shire remaining in the Ballarat division.

We thank you in anticipation of your consideration of our letter. Should you have any queries do not hesitate to contact Rebecca Smith, Manager Governance and Risk,

Yours sincerely,

Bradley Thomas
Chief Executive Officer