



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NORTHERN TERRITORY**

Suggestion 4

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5 pages

Submission

into the proposed redistribution of

Commonwealth Electoral Divisions

in the Northern Territory

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Disclaimer: Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the data provided in this submission, there may be unintended instances of calculation or raw data errors. As the author, I make no attempt to deliberately mislead the reader, nor for the reader to draw incorrect conclusions should any error of calculation be found in this submission. I have performed all calculations in good faith, assuming my work to be 100% correct.

Revisiting the Projections from 2015-7 Redistribution

In my opinion, the greatest flaw with the current Redistribution process is its reliance on Projected Enrolment numbers.

As my submissions to other Redistributions have consistently shown, the accuracy of these projections has been proven to be totally unreliable. These projection errors contribute to significant variations from average by the Projection Day.

The same is true of the previous NT Redistribution.

The table below lists the enrolment numbers at the commencement of the previous Redistribution, the Projected enrolment numbers as published at the conclusion of the previous Redistribution and the last published enrolment by Division, some 38 days prior to Projection Day.

Enrolment by Division closer to the Projection Day was not made publicly available due to other issues which I suspect related to the 2020 Determination.

	2016 Redistribution		Projection Day		Actual Enrolment		Growth		
	15/10/2015	Variation	7/08/2020	Variation	30/06/2020	Variation	Projected	Actual	Error
Total Enrolment	126,891	From Avg.	138,486	From Avg.	140,780	From Avg.			
Avg per Division	63,445.5		69,243.0		70,390.0				
Lingiari	61,872	-2.48%	67,024	-3.20%	71,268	1.25%	5,152	9,396	82.38%
Solomon	65,019	2.48%	71,462	3.20%	69,512	-1.25%	6,443	4,493	-30.27%

The actual enrolment for the entire Northern Territory on 31/7/20 was 142,314.

This was 3,828 more electors than projected.

Projected growth was 15,243 electors.

Actual growth was 19,251 electors.

The Projection underestimated growth for the entire NT by almost 25%.

Based on the last published enrolment figures some 38 days prior to Projection Day:

Lingiari grew 82.38% **more** than was projected

Solomon grew 30.27% **less** than was projected.

What assurances do we have that the Projected Enrolment numbers for this Redistribution are going to be any more accurate?

Determining the new boundaries.

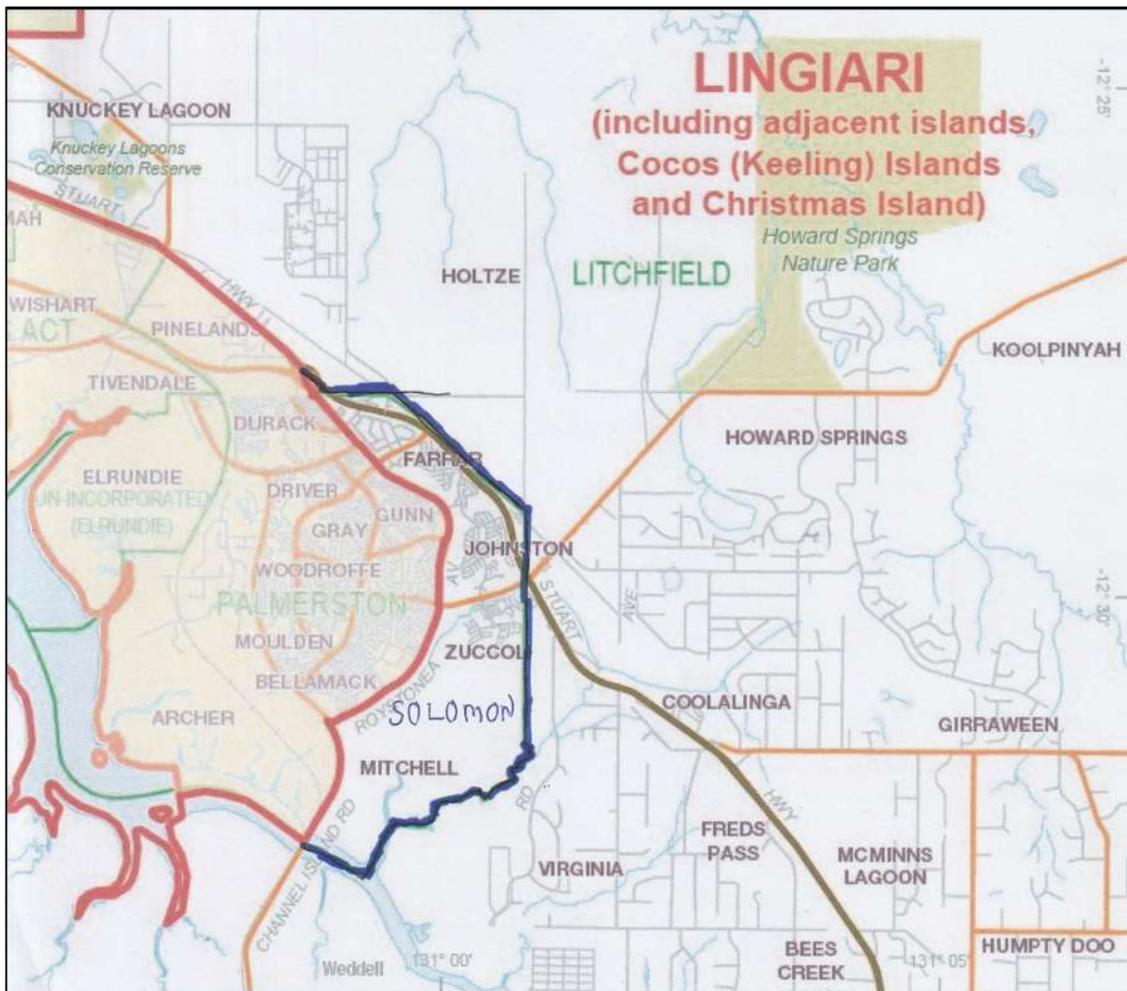
With over a decade of Redistributions experience at both Commonwealth and State/Territory levels behind me, identifying ideal new boundaries has become easier.

The most glaringly obvious change to make to bring both Divisions within both current and projected tolerances was to transfer the balance of electors within the Palmerston LGA to Solomon.

Provided the numbers worked – which they did!

Given the Projections at the previous Redistribution underestimated Lingiari's growth and over estimated Solomon's growth; having more electors in Solomon would probably mean both Divisions would remain within +/-3.5% through to the Projected Date.

Image of proposed Divisional boundary



Proposed Solomon – Lingiari CED boundary aligning with the Litchfield – Palmerston LGA boundary.

(AEC Map of Lingiari 2017)

Table of Transfers

Division	Component	Current	Projected
Lingiari		81,119	88,951
To Solomon	Palmerston - North SA2 balance	-1,050	-1,148
To Solomon	Palmerston - South SA2 balance	-3,911	-6,257
To Solomon	Howard Springs SA1 102 all	-54	-58
New Total		76,104	81,488
Variation		-0.78%	-2.31%
Division	Component	Current	Projected
Solomon		72,278	77,887
From Lingiari	Palmerston - North SA2 balance	1,050	1,148
From Lingiari	Palmerston - South SA2 balance	3,911	6,257
From Lingiari	Howard Springs SA1 102 all	54	58
New Total		77,293	85,350
Variation		0.78%	2.31%

