



Objection 216

Robert G Charles OAM RFD

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AEC VIC SO 02 MAY 2018

27 April 2018

Submission to AEC re boundary changes to Corangamite Federal Electorate.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed boundary changes to the Corangamite Federal Electorate. Whilst I agree with the rationale with which you have formulated this plan, it is not the only way to achieve the required outcome for the number of electors in the federal electorates.

I am writing to provide reasons why the whole Colac Otway Shire should remain in the Corangamite electorate. The first and foremost argument is that it is creating an ongoing complication dividing the shire between two electorates. This means that whenever interaction with a federal member is required, two have to be engaged with. To complicate this further, they quite likely will represent opposing political parties which could make the issue requiring attention a "political football", thus lengthening or likely stalemating the resolution of the issue. Meanwhile the rate payers aren't provided the solution required.

Colac is linked eastward to Geelong in many ways. There are historical, social, and regional ties between Colac and Geelong as well as strong links in the areas of education, health services, communications, and the very important links for business to the commercial centre and port of Geelong. This applies to both primary and secondary industry. The linkages westward aren't nearly as strong.

Colac is connected to Melbourne, through Geelong, by both passenger and freight carrying railway and by the new dual highway further improving the connectivity Eastward towards Geelong and Melbourne.

The natural terrain from Colac to Geelong includes predominately the coastal Otway Ranges and the inland volcanic Plains, providing a similar natural backdrop for the whole area in question, therefore needing a singular approach to land and catchment management across the Corangamite Electorate.


The eastern shore of Lake Corangamite is an excellent natural feature to be the western boundary of the electorate as are the existing boundaries of the Colac Otway Shire.

If this boundary is maintained the name Corangamite is entirely suitable to continue as the name of the electorate. I say this for three reasons.

1. Lake Corangamite is a large natural feature on the Victorian Landscape.
2. Corangamite is an indigenous word that is pleasant off the tongue.
3. Corangamite is an original Federal Electorate and therefore should be retained as a link with the creation of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Please consider this submission favourably as it represents the opinions of many people in this district.

Yours Faithfully


Robert G. Charles OAM RFD
Partner, Turnberry Partnership (Sheep and Cropping enterprise)

