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# Comment on suggestion 68

Jason

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**Subject:** Mackellar Redistribution  
**Date:** Friday, 10 November 2023 9:46:37 AM

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Dear Commissioners

I write to you in my capacity as a member of the Mackellar community, but I was also the former member for Mackellar.

I have been prompted to make a submission by a number of social media posts by Teal members of Parliament and some of their front groups seeking to astro turf your deliberations.

I note that a number of the submissions to expand the boundaries of Mackellar include some wild ideas that seem designed to increase particular electoral outcomes rather than improving the representation that our community should enjoy. The proposal to include Freshwater within Mackellar while maintaining the divide in the suburb of Frenchs Forest and Forestville and leaving the people of Killarney Heights isolated violates the principles contained in the legislation.

The commissioners have the opportunity to unite the suburbs of Forestville and add Killarney Heights, which is a peninsula and is separated from other communities in Warringah by a national park.

The problem of adding Curl Curl and Freshwater to Mackellar is that it would cut the current Council ward in half, a point made by Zali Steggall. Further most community organisations do not cut across the suburbs, for example Dee Why has a surf club and North Curl Curl has one. People living in Curl Curl look toward Manly as a centre for shopping and work and transport not Dee Why. The suburb of Dee Why is medium density the suburbs of North Curl Curl and Freshwater are typically detached housing there is little commonality between the areas.

If you need to expand Mackellar it would make more sense to include the rest of Frenchs Forest suburb within Mackellar which is currently cut in half, this would also mean that almost three of the five wards of Northern Beaches council would be encompassed within one Federal electorate rather than dividing two wards in Curl Curl and Forest.

Yours sincerely

Jason