



# Objection 135

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2 pages

18<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

Subject: Objection to Redistribution of Higgins Electoral Boundaries

Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

I am writing to formally lodge an objection regarding the proposed redistribution of electoral boundaries for the Higgins electorate. Having carefully reviewed the proposed changes, I believe they do not adequately represent the interests and communities within the electorate, and therefore, I wish to outline my concerns as follows:

1. **Community Cohesion:** The proposed boundaries disrupt established community ties and cohesion. Higgins has historically been characterized by a strong sense of community identity, which the current boundaries reflect. Redrawing these boundaries risks diluting this cohesion and may lead to disenfranchisement among residents who identify strongly with their current electorate.
2. **Impact on Representation:** The proposed changes may result in reduced representation for certain demographic groups or communities of interest within Higgins. It is crucial that electoral boundaries facilitate fair and effective representation for all constituents, and the current proposal may not achieve this goal.
3. **Practical Considerations:** There are practical implications to consider, such as accessibility to polling stations, local government areas, and the ability of elected representatives to effectively serve their constituents. The proposed changes should be evaluated not only on demographic criteria but also on these practical grounds to ensure efficient governance.
4. **Alternative Proposals:** I propose that alternative boundary configurations be considered that better preserve community integrity and ensure effective representation. This may involve adjusting boundaries to better align with natural community divisions or considering feedback from local stakeholders.
5. **Transparency and Consultation:** It is essential that the redistribution process be transparent and inclusive. I urge the Commission to provide detailed rationale for the proposed changes and to engage in meaningful consultation with affected communities and stakeholders before finalizing any decisions.

In conclusion, I request that the Australian Electoral Commission carefully reconsider the proposed redistribution of boundaries for the Higgins electorate in light of the concerns raised. It is imperative that electoral boundaries reflect the interests and needs of the communities they serve, and that any changes are made with due consideration to maintaining effective representation and community cohesion.

Thank you for considering my objection. I look forward to your response and further opportunities to engage in this important process.

Yours sincerely,

Jennifer Erdos,  


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