



Objection 174

Colac & District Chamber of Commerce & Industry

5 pages

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Electorate Redistribution Objection Against The Move of The Corangamite Electorate to The Electorate of Wannon
Date: Monday, 30 April 2018 4:18:34 PM
Attachments: [Objection Letter to AEC Regarding Electoral Boundary Changes 300418.docx](#)

Redistribution Secretariat for Victoria,
Australian Electoral Commission,
GPO Box 768
Melbourne VIC 3001

We attach our Letter of Objection on behalf of The Colac Chamber of Commerce Inc. and thank you for the opportunity to put our case.

Yours sincerely

Peter Shaw

Business Support Officer
Colac & District Chamber of Commerce & Industry
[REDACTED] (PO Box 343) Colac VIC 3250

E admin@colacchamber.com.au

W <http://colacchamber.com.au/>



"Please consider the environment before printing this email."



COLAC
& DISTRICT
CHAMBER of
COMMERCE
& INDUSTRY

linking business together

GET IN TOUCH

PO BOX 343 COLAC VICTORIA 3250

admin@colacchamber.com.au

www.colacchamber.com.au

03 5219 3901

30th April 2018

Redistribution Secretariat for Victoria,
Australian Electoral Commission,
GPO Box 768
Melbourne VIC 3001

Electoral Redistribution Objection – Movement of The Corangamite Electorate into The Electorate of Wannon

Dear Sir or Madam,

The electorate of Corangamite in South West Victoria, the name having aboriginal origins, was one of the 65 original divisions created in 1901 almost 120 years ago.

Colac is arguably the oldest settled inland place in Victoria.

With that history it is a given to understand the relationships, projects, commonality in topography and demographic, related infrastructure, medical, educational, tourism partnerships and the numerous other links forged over such a long period.

For example, the recent water pipeline enabling Colac and Geelong to have sustainable water supply. With Colac's burgeoning industry, the improvements in transport linkages to Geelong ports and other distributing points such as Melbourne enabled by the almost complete dual lane highway from Colac to Geelong. Colac is 60 kilometers from Western side of the City of Geelong but almost 200 kilometers from Hamilton, the central point of the Wannon Electorate.

Most initiatives, existing and future projects have an influence in Colac Otway and the Geelong Regions. An example of long developed Alliances is the Geelong Region Alliance (G21) which is the formal alliance of government, business and community organisations working together to improve the lives of people within the Geelong region across five municipalities – Colac Otway, Golden Plains, Greater Geelong, Queenscliffe and Surf Coast.

G21 works as a forum to discuss regional issues across interest groups and municipalities resulting in better coordinated research, consultation and planning.

G21 supports the delivery of projects that benefit the region across municipal boundaries and is a platform for the region to speak with one voice to all levels of government.

President | Ernie Andres | [REDACTED]

Vice President | Alex McKenzie | [REDACTED]

Secretary | Heather Reid | [REDACTED]

Treasurer | Darren Milverton | [REDACTED]

G21 is also the official Strategic Planning Committee for the G21 region and is responsible for leading the development and implementation of the region's strategic plan.

In this role, G21 works closely with, and provides advice to, Regional Development Australia (RDA), the Regional Management Forum (RMF) and the state and federal governments on the region's needs and priorities.

The G21 alliance is made up of more than 300 community leaders and specialists who are passionate about the future of the G21 region and who volunteer their time to be involved in G21 as directors, Pillar members and within working groups.

As a not-for-profit organisation, the majority of G21's financial support comes from the five municipal council members, its broader membership base and occasional government or community foundation grants.

The above brief synopsis of the G21 whose future and long-term planning includes the Colac Otway Shire shows how closely our region needs are intertwined with Geelong and are so close by location.

The majority of the Great Ocean Road is in the Colac Otway Shire and hence the electorate of Corangamite. A close working relationship exists between the Colac Otway Shire and Great Ocean Tourism Ltd, where we have local representation of the Board of Directors. Tourism is clearly seen as emerging industry in Colac and District with the near completion of the dual highway to Melbourne, Colac has become the preferred gateway to the Otway's and Great Ocean Road.

The overriding reason for our objection is that our past and more importantly our future lies being strongly connected with the Geelong region, an undeniable 120-year relationship. The profile of our region has drifted away from the mainly wool growing area of Hamilton and the Wannon electorate in general. Our Industry segments are growing and mainly facing East.

With the Colac Otway Shire and the electorate of Corangamite being part of one of the main growth areas of Victoria, with Industry, tourism, population growth, closeness to large centers of Geelong, Melbourne and Ballarat, all closer to Colac than Hamilton any change of electorate can only harm both electorates.

If Colac was to become part of the Wannon electorate, to continue its development and growth such as it currently is, our Region would warrant a continued strong level of funding and representation, this is an unknown at this point as to what the future holds for us with the obvious needs of the Hamilton District.

In summary with the heart of the Corangamite shire being Geelong 60 kilometers away, 120 years of collaboration, partnerships and shared infrastructure, passenger and goods train links with Geelong, Melbourne and their Ports, large transport firms located here with depots in Melbourne and conjoined vision with Geelong, the case for Colac staying in the Corangamite electorate is compelling.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this objection.

Ernie Andres

President – Colac District Chamber of Commerce Inc

President | Ernie Andres | [REDACTED]
Vice President | Alex McKenzie | [REDACTED]

Secretary | Heather Reid | [REDACTED]
Treasurer | Darren Milverton | [REDACTED]