



Objection 365

David McGinness

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Australian Electoral Commission
Redistribution Committee

Re: Objection to the proposed redistribution of the Federal electorate of Corangamite.

As an export business located in Geelong we have several concerns with the proposed redistribution of current federal electorate Corangamite.

The bulk of our export product is sourced from sawmills in Colac and forests in the Otway ranges. We receive product by road on a 24/7 basis. We have common interests with our suppliers in relation to trade policy, ports and transport infrastructure, in particular.

At present we are able to bring these issues to the attention of our local federal member in a unified manner. The member for Corangamite has an office in Geelong and Colac making access easy for our suppliers and ourselves.

Under the proposed boundary redistribution Colac would be removed from the Corangamite electorate. Issues with supply could require us to make representation to the Wannon member who would be located in Hamilton which is over three hours away. We would, in most cases, have to discuss issues with two representatives which would mean additional time and resources and invariably lead to time delays in decision making.

In summary we believe that Colac should not be isolated from its close ties to its east with communities in and around Geelong, the Surf Coast and the Otways. Timely access to our local member is important and is highly valued.

We trust that you will give these concerns due consideration.

David McGinness
Softwood Plantation Exporters