



# Objection 179

Dr Paul Rival

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Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the opportunity to provide further comments in the Objection phase of the proposed Federal Redistribution in Victoria. Both my original submission and subsequent Comments on Submission were based on my local knowledge of the eastern suburbs (including gained through the care of my patients), and I intend to use the same insight here.

Broadly, I believe that that boundaries you have drawn as they relate to the Mitcham area (where I live) are excellent. I am pleased to see some of my suggestions for the eastern suburbs of Melbourne have been adopted, specifically:

1. Transferring electors from Heathmont, Bayswater North and Kilsyth South and Ringwood south of Canterbury Rd currently in the electorate of Deakin to Aston;
2. The transfer of Park Orchards, Donvale and Warrandyte South into Deakin. In particular I again agree with one commenter who said with reference to Donvale, Park Orchards and Warrandyte South (S.50), "These areas are simply more suited to Croydon and Ringwood than they are to Doncaster and Box Hill";
3. The transfer of the remainder of Mitcham and Nunawading into the Deakin electorate.

Overall, I believe the proposed draft boundaries more appropriately carve up residents in Manningham, Maroondah and Whitehorse into the communities of interest they are naturally clustered.

While council boundaries can at times be indicative of communities of interest, in this case uniting Park Orchards and Donvale with North Ringwood in the Deakin electorate makes complete sense on a communities of interest basis. Donvale is primarily connected to the centres of Mitcham and Ringwood, while Park Orchards is almost exclusively connected to Ringwood (and Croydon to a lesser extent).

Whether it's education, health services, sport or shopping and essential government services – Donvale and Park Orchards – belong with Ringwood, Mitcham and Croydon.

Again, as a resident of Mitcham, it is encouraging to see Mitcham again united into a single electorate and joined with Donvale and Nunawading in a single electorate. However, I question the inclusion of territory west of Springvale Rd (parts of Blackburn and Blackburn North) in Deakin. I believe this redistribution offers a good opportunity to create a strong western boundary for Deakin at Springvale Rd. This would be, in my view, the best way to optimise the very excellent draft boundaries as they relate to my community in Mitcham.

Given the limits of what could be changed by the AEC, given the loss of area south of Canterbury Road to Aston, but no further losses, these additions are very natural and are the best that I can see being possible.

Overall, I am encouraged by the general direction of movement of Deakin in the north and will watch with great interest the direction of future redistribution boundaries. I am grateful for the opportunity to submit my opinion on this important matter.

Yours sincerely

Dr Paul Rival

