

Ian Ruecroft
42 Brinkley Cct
Palmerston
ACT 2913

Re: Changes to ACT Legislative Assembly electoral boundaries proposed by the Augmented ACT Electoral Commission August 2007

Dear Mr Green,

Having considered the available information, related to the changes proposed by the Augmented ACT Electoral Commission to the ACT Legislative Assembly electoral boundaries; I would like to lodge an objection to the proposal.

I believe that the proposal is a considerable improvement to the option put forward by Redistribution Committee on the 31st May 2007. However, the Gungahlin suburb of Nicholls is still in the electorate of Ginninderra, whilst the remainder of Gungahlin is in the electorate of Molonglo. This division of Gungahlin into two electorates continues to disadvantage a community that has been politically neglected for a considerable amount of time. This neglect has resulted in the lack of provision of services and facilities comparative to other areas of the ACT.

I believe that any system which perpetuates disadvantage to a section of the community is fundamentally flawed and requires correction. The ACT Electoral Commission has many options that could be explored to provide flexibility for future growth within electorates.

Communities of common interest are clearly identified within the ACT. A strategy to reconfigure ACT Legislative Assembly electoral boundaries is required to stabilise electoral boundaries and provide geographically practical electorates, which recognise communities of common interest as an identified consideration.

I strongly recommend that the Redistribution Committee/ Augmented ACT Electoral Commission reconsider the current proposal and work toward a comprehensive solution. I further recommend that the committee evaluate current legislation with a view to developing strategies to provide a practical solution to the issues related to current ACT Legislative Assembly electoral boundaries. If legislative changes are required; these should be drafted for consideration.

Yours sincerely

Theodore Ian Ruecroft
10th August 2007