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SUBMISSION 8

DEREK McINTOSH

Inquiry into the 2007 Federal Election

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY STATEMENT

Allowing citizens to vote without an acceptable form of identification makes a mockery of the whole process.

If you believe that no people voted more than once in the 2007 Federal Election you obviously believe in Father Christmas. John Howard's constituency must have had many, many multiple voters.

SUPPORTING COMMENTS

I moved here from South Africa in 1981. Quite by chance I was there in 1994 when they held their first democratic elections. What a masterly operation it was!

All the Australian electoral officials have to do is to copy the South African model, and in one simple step we will have an up to date system that will not permit illegal voter registration and/or voting. A fundamental aspect of this was the satellite link from every polling station. This will be necessary, but with wireless internet links, this should not be too complex or expensive to develop.

The other fundamental aspect of the South African elections is bar coded Identity Cards. Clearly the sooner we get an Australia Card the better. There is sufficient acceptable means of identification that will make an almost fail-safe voter record at the polling booths. Clearly this does not prevent multiple voting, but will be a serious deterrent – a satellite/wireless linked system is required for this.

In addition to where I voted in Balgowlah, I drove to three of the polling stations in my area. I went up to the formal/legal entrance of the polling station to see what was happening that I could see. All were the same. People walk in, announce their name, discussion ensues that of course I was not party to, a mark is made in the Roll by the electoral officer, and the voter is handed the ballots. I could have voted four times had I wished to.

Prepared by me: Philip Derek Douglas McIntosh Date: 3rd April, 2008.

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