

COMMENT ON PUBLIC SUGGESTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009
NSW



Comment on Public Suggestion Number 3

by

Commins Hendriks PTY LTD

2 Pages

From: Wendy Jennings [Wendy.Jennings@comminshendriks.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 May 2009 11:37 AM
To: NSW Redistribution
Subject: Comment on submission re: Electoral boundaries

Our Ref: WJT:WJ291581

13 May 2009



Redistribution Committee for New South Wales
PO Box K406
HAYMARKET NSW 2000

By Email: nsw.redistribution@aec.gov.au

Dear Sirs,

RE: SEAT OF RIVERINA

In light of Mrs Kay Hull MP's official submission to the AEC (http://aec.gov.au/pdf/Redistributions/2009/nsw/public_suggestions/nsw0107_mrs_kay_hull_mp.pdf), I would like to make the following comments:

Our firm is one of the largest legal firms in country New South Wales and we are very proud the fact that we have full time offices in smaller communities such as Junee, Coolamon, Ganmain, Henty and head office at Wagga Wagga. We service a large percentage of the seat of Riverina and like to support the maintenance of all country seats in New South Wales subject to boundary adjustments and ask that the Committee abolish a city seat.

We ask that you take into account the following factors:

- a. The seat of Riverina is based around the regional cities of Wagga Wagga and Griffith and the outlying rural areas have experienced major drought conditions for up to eight years and it is crucial that drought-affected small business', communities and farmers have access to their local Federal politician. The location of Electoral Offices in Griffith and Wagga Wagga contribute towards this representation.
- b. The voters of the Electorate identify with the district of Riverina and are proud of their seat.
- c. I travel widely throughout the Electorate for appointments at places such as Griffith and find that from an OH&S perspective travelling in excess of 2-3 hours on a regular basis is manageable but longer distances affects productivity and raises safety issues. We submit that the representative of the Riverina has a large geographical area but a manageable geographical area and therefore the boundaries should not change.
- d. Riverina has a diverse cross-section of small business, tertiary and secondary industry, military, agriculture, people from varying nationalities who identify geographically, business-wise and culturally with the region. There are State Government groups, Local Government groups, community groups that have similar boundaries to the seat of Riverina and the Federal Seat complements this arrangement.

Yours faithfully
COMMINS HENDRIKS PTY LTD

Bill Thompson
Legal Practitioner – Director

Contact Email: coolamon@comminshendriks.com