

COMMENT ON OBJECTIONS

The Federal Redistribution 2009
NSW



Comment on Objections Number 25

by

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2 Pages

Re; Boundary Redistribution

I write to register my concerns at the draft boundary redistribution affecting the Southern Highlands where I live.

The draft boundary, as presented, has the Southern Highlands in the seat of Throsby, a predominantly metropolitan seat. As such this has implications for the residents of the Southern Highlands.

The Wingecarribee Shire LGA has almost always been included in a regional / rural configuration and has been well served by the arrangement.

As part of Gilmore previously and then Hume, it has identified with issues of commonality with those regions. Attaching the LGA to Throsby would create a conflict of interests between a rural / regional area and a metropolitan area.

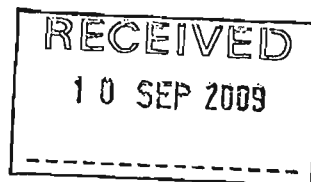
Clearly there are disparities and it serves neither the residents of the suburban areas with those of the semi urban areas. Our interests would be best served under a totally rural / regional based constituency.

Given that we were partially covered by Gilmore in the previous redistribution before Hume, it would be a far preferable arrangement to that proposed. It was an arrangement that worked well and it is my belief that many residents would share this sentiment.

For example, both the Shoalhaven and Wingecarribee share common media networks. i.e. Radio 2ST and the print media of Rural Press. News items tend to be commonly shared as does the wider television network.

There is a commercial liaison between the Shoalhaven and Wingecarribee with many tradesmen sharing both regions. The people of the Southern Highlands see themselves more closely identifying with country values rather than city values.

The Wingecarribee LGA area is naturally connected to the Shoalhaven through the village of Kangaroo Valley along the Moss Vale Road. It is a well traversed route between the two areas.



So the heart of my objection runs along the natural affiliation of residents from both areas as identifying themselves as rural / regional as opposed to metropolitan that Wollongong and its environs represents.

I am of the view that the proposed Throsby boundaries would be far too biased to a city based constituency to the detriment of rural residents.

I urge the Commission to give serious deliberation to the wants and needs of these residencies. We definitely do not want to be included in a Wollongong biased constituency.

Kind regards

Danette Jones.

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