

# OBJECTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009  
NSW



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Objection Number **44**

by

Dr Sue Rosen

**1** Pages



20 August 2009

The Redistribution Committee For NSW,  
Level 4,  
Roden Cutler House,  
24 Campbell Street,  
Haymarket, NSW 2000



Dear Committee,

As a former resident of the Reid electorate and as an historian and heritage consultant I expressed my concerns in March 2006 regarding the possible abolition of Reid as an electorate. I am dismayed that despite its long history and heritage significance the recent draft redistribution has recommended the abolition of Reid. Has a heritage assessment of the electorate as an electoral entity under the seven heritage criteria used in State and Federal legislation been undertaken by an appropriately qualified specialist to inform the decision making process?

The electorate, which was established in 1922 and named in honour of Australia's 4th Prime Minister, Sir George Reid, the only PM to sit in the Colonial, Commonwealth and Westminster Parliaments. He had distinguished career, receiving many honours here and in Great Britain. He is listed in the National Dictionary of Biography for the UK.

Aside from the historical association with the honouring of our 4<sup>th</sup> PM, the Reid electorate encompasses suburbs such as Granville, Auburn, and Berala which have strong inter-social and community links, as well as commonalities of experience in terms of demographic and socio-economic groupings. As a personal example, while living in Granville, I worked in Auburn, Granville and Merrylands, as did my husband for a time. We both, at one time or the other were involved in community committees such as the Granville Multi-Cultural Centre, and the Francis Fisk Child Care Centre, and as volunteers at the Sydney Children's Museum, Merrylands. Our children attended child care in both Auburn and Granville. The lives of many of our work colleagues and neighbours were similarly focussed in the electorate and around electoral concerns and campaigns. For many the electorate has social significance, as defined under heritage assessment criteria by both state and federal governments.

To abolish this particular electorate is a loss to political and social history and the heritage of the area, undermining cultural bonds that have been in place for generations. I am deeply concerned by this outcome.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sue Rosen'.

Dr Sue Rosen