



**THE FEDERAL
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NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 665

Southern Villages Group

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Southern Villages Group

Incorporating the community associations of
Bundanoon, Canyonleigh, Exeter, Penrose, Tallong, and Wingello

Thursday, 5 November 2015

To the Australian Electoral Commission,

The Southern Villages Group (SVG) of community associations would like to express strong concerns about the proposed changes to the electoral boundaries of Hume. The SVG believe it is more advantageous for our communities to remain within the boundaries of Hume, for the following reasons:

- There is a distinct advantage of continuity of representation with our local member, who already has demonstrated extensive knowledge of the area and its issues. Should there be a future redistribution of the boundaries, it is very likely that we would experience a reversion of this situation again causing disruption to our representation.
- Our area has much more in common with the rest of the Hume electorate than it does with the Throsby electorate. Hume is an electorate characterised by smaller villages such as our own. Throsby is dominated by the larger metropolitan area of Wollongong, the industrial complex of Port Kembla and a coastal urban environment, none of which relate closely to the issues and environment in which we operate.
- There is a significant difference in proximity to the electorate offices; Goulburn is 40 minutes of easy driving down the Hume Hwy and Wollongong is 90 minutes away, down the Robertson pass.

Leaving Bundanoon, Penrose and Wingello in Hume is unlikely to effect the seat tolerance as the total population is very small. Should this be an issue, it could easily be addressed by relocating Appin at the other end of the electorate.

In addition to the above, our group petition the AEC to consider extending the Hume boundary to include the whole of the village of Exeter so that it is no longer divided in two.

Please feel free to contact me regarding your availability or if you have any questions.

Elizabeth Ellis
SVG Coordinator,