



The Federal Redistribution 2006  
NEW SOUTH WALES



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**Public Comment Number: 3**

**Name: Malcolm MACKERRAS**

**Page(s): 4**



Malcolm Mackerras  
<m-mackerras@adfa.edu.a  
u>  
30/03/2006 01:27 PM

To nsw.redistribution@aec.gov.au  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Mackerras Submission  
Classification  Unclassified

Dear Marie Nelson

Thank you for your letter of 28 March. While it is clear from your letter that you do not expect a reply from me I thought you may be interested that I do reply.

Of course I am glad that you should include my submission as a comment.

I am surprised that the mails are so slow that my letter did not get to you by the deadline. Since my interest is academic only I was not moved to ensure rapid delivery - hence my missing the deadline.

Oddly enough my submission actually reads better as a comment. While I had heard on the grapevine that the Labor submission recommended the abolition of both Riverina and Reid that was not known to me as a fact when I wrote my letter.

Anyway, as you can see, I object to the abolition of Riverina on one ground (see page 1) and I object to the abolition of Reid on a quite different ground (see page 2).

Of the two cases my objection to the abolition of Riverina is the stronger. That is why I pointed to the possibility that Riverina be left almost unchanged. That is why I noted the fact that the mere addition of Harden Shire to Riverina would create a very sensible new map, fully meeting the criteria of the legislation.

In order to do that I have proposed entirely sensible new maps for Farrer, Hume and Parkes.

So - I thank you for your consideration and I look forward with interest to reading your reports when they are published.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Mackerras  
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Malcolm Mackerras  
Visiting Fellow in Political Science  
School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
University of New South Wales  
Australian Defence Force Academy  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Tel: + 61 2 6268 8858  
<http://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/hass/staff/mackerras.html>

Malcolm Mackerras AO  
35 Creswell Street  
Campbell ACT 2612  
Tel: (02) 6248 8396  
22 March 2006

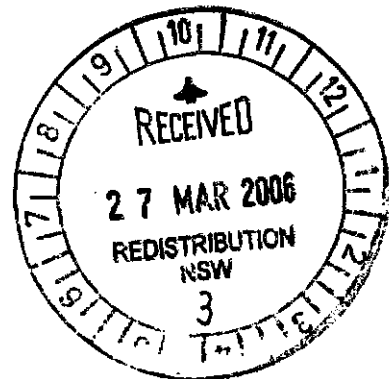
Redistribution Committee for New South Wales  
Level 4  
Roden Cutler House  
24 Campbell Street  
Haymarket NSW 2000

Dear members of the Committee

Recently various people have asked me what I think about this federal redistribution for New South Wales. Having given some thoughts in private conversation I thought I should place these on paper.

First, none of these Divisions should be abolished because they are Federation names.

Cowper  
Eden-Monaro  
Gwydir  
Hume  
Hunter  
Macquarie  
Newcastle  
New England  
North Sydney  
Parkes  
Parramatta  
Richmond  
Riverina  
Robertson  
Wentworth  
Werriwa



Second, none of these Divisions should be abolished because they are Aboriginal names.

Bennelong  
Berowra  
Calare  
Warringah

Third, none of these Divisions should be abolished because they are called after Prime Ministers.

Barton  
Chifley  
Cook  
Hughes  
Page  
Reid  
Watson

The question, then, is which seat should go. My suggestion is Lindsay, the name of which lacks historic interest. So lacking in historic interest is that name there is not even a Canberra suburb of Lindsay!

In my opinion the commissioners should not abolish a country seat. For that reason I propose to give a broad outline of the way country NSW might be re-mapped to achieve the above.

I begin with the south of the state which is the part I know best. Here I have a specific proposal for Riverina and broad outlines for the rest.

For Riverina I propose that the entire existing Division be retained on the new map. That accounts for 87,423 electors. If the shire of Harden be added (2,776 electors) that would make for a thoroughly sensible new map as well as the numbers being right. Riverina would then have 90,199 electors.

Parkes is way down on numbers at present. I propose that the shires of Wentworth and Balranald be added from Farrer. In addition Young should be added from Hume. If the numbers are still not right then a number of electors from Calare should be transferred to Parkes as would make the numbers correct.

Farrer, having lost Wentworth and Balranald to Parkes, would need to be built up. My proposal is that Yass shire be transferred from Hume to Farrer. If that still does not make the Farrer numbers right then such extra electors as are needed should be transferred from Hume to Farrer. The current north-western part of Eden-Monaro should also be added to Farrer. Here I am referring to the thousand or so Eden-Monaro electors who were in the Yarrowlunla shire in 2000 when transferred from Hume to Eden-Monaro. Under my proposal, therefore, Farrer would adjoin the ACT for the first time.

The effect of all the above is that Hume and Calare would need to be moved towards the Sydney urban area. For reasons stated above neither Hume nor Calare should be abolished.

In moving Calare towards Sydney electors would need to be transferred from Macquarie and Lindsay into Calare.

This is the area where I think a seat should be lost.

If, in abolishing a Division in this area, there is created a seat being composed of electors from both Lindsay and Macquarie it may be that there are more electors from Lindsay in the new Division.

In such an event, however, I think the name Macquarie should be retained and Lindsay lost. The reason I say that is simple. Macquarie is a Federation seat.

Another possible seat which could be abolished is Macarthur. If, in abolishing a Division in south-west Sydney, there is created a seat being composed of electors from both Macarthur and Werriwa it may be there are more electors from Macarthur in the new Division.

In such an event, however, I think the name Werriwa should be retained. Werriwa is both a Federation seat and also of Aboriginal name. Werriwa should, therefore, not be abolished.

Yours sincerely



Malcolm Mackerras