

The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES

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Name: Balranald Shire Council

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BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL

ALL COMMUNICATIONS MUST BE ADDRESSED TO THE GENERAL MANAGER

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6th April 2006

Australian Electoral Commissioner Redistribution Committee for New South Wales P.O. Box 20014 WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002

Dear Commissioner,

Re: NSW Electoral Redistribution

Balranald Shire Council wishes to comment on a number of the public suggestions regarding the proposal to reduce the current 50 electoral divisions in NSW to 49.

In particular, Council is concerned by suggestions from the ALP and Nationals to transfer the majority of Balmanald Shire from the electoral division of Farrer to the division of Parkes.

Whilst the majority of Balranald Shire is in the Western Division of NSW the southern boundary of the Shire is the Murray River and as such maintains a strong community of interest along the Murray with towns on both the NSW and Victorian side of the border. This region which is covered by the Farrer electorate has a strong community of interest and a strong focus on many common cross border issues.

The residents of Balranald Shire gravitate south for all services and community activities. The community of Balranald Shire has no links at all to the north and north east of our area and to be incorporated with the electorate of Parkes would significantly diminish our current representation.

Council considers that an appropriate adjustment between the Farrer and Riverina divisions which have similar community of interests would serve the interests of this region far better.

Yours faithfully,

Don Cooper

GENERAL MANAGER