



The Federal Redistribution 2006  
NEW SOUTH WALES



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**Public Objection Number: 1021**

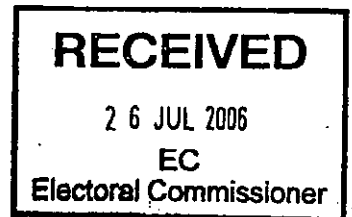
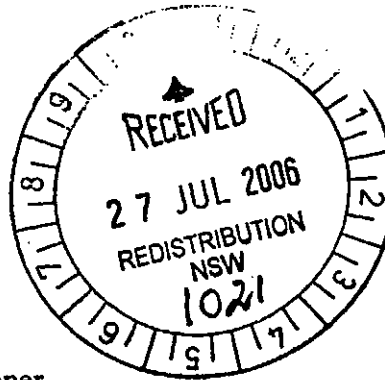
**Name: Mr Geoff O'CONNOR**

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21 July 2006

261 Duff Street  
BROKEN HILL NSW 2880

Mr. Ian Campbell  
Australian Electoral Commissioner  
P.O Box 6172  
KINGSTON. ACT 2604



Dear Mr. Campbell

**RE: THE REDISTRIBUTION OF THE FEDERAL ELECTORATE OF PARKES**

I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the boundary as I believe it overlooks the fundamental criteria of the regulations for redistribution.

I agree that the commission may have the numbers right, but the **Communities of Interest**; efficient communication, travel, physical boundaries and existing boundaries has not been addressed correctly.

The Electoral Commission has overlooked the commercial and social association between the communities of Parkes, Forbes and Dubbo, and Broken Hill and Dubbo and state in their determination that Wentworth has a commercial consideration with Broken Hill because it has a road between the two towns, when in fact Wentworth and Mildura have the association. Wilcannia, Menindee, Tibooburra and Milparinka do all their business with Broken Hill. Wilcannia and Menindee have daily bus services to Broken Hill, which are subsidised by Maari Ma Aboriginal Health Services.

70% of the Broken Hill population has never been to Albury and I would imagine that the same could be said for the population of Albury visiting Broken Hill. These are not communities of interest. There is no efficient travel between the centres.

I understand NSW needs to lose a seat to Queensland, but when I look at the population east of the Great Dividing Range, I don't see too many places where people living in an electorate have never visited the major centre in their electorate. I would therefore urge the Commissioner to consider eliminating a seat in a more densely populated area of the state.

Thank you for allowing me to lodge this objection and I await your final decision.

Yours truly,

Geoff O'Connor