



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



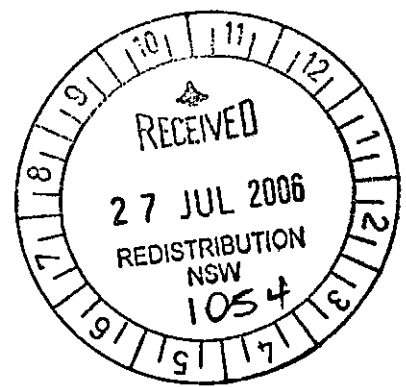
Public Objection Number: 1054

**Name: TULLIBIGEAL & DISTRICT PROGRESS
ASSOCIATION Inc**

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To The Australian Electoral Commission
From Tullibigeal Progress Association
Subject : Electoral Redistribution.

2 pages including cover page.



THE TULLIBIGEAL & DISTRICT
PROGRESS ASSOCIATION Inc.
Representing the Community

PO Box 29
Tullibigeal 2669

Redistribution Committee for NSW
Australian Electoral Commission (NSW)
PO Box 20014
WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002

To whom it may concern

As secretary of the above organization, I write to express the concerns of our community with regard to the proposed redistribution in which the seat of Gwydir would be abolished, and in large, merged with the seat of Parkes. This would create a seat five times the size of Tasmania in comparison to the Sydney electorate of Wentworth, which has an area of just 26 square kilometres.

This proposed seat, covering 379,474 square kilometres, 47% of the state, and covering 19 local government areas, would be impossibly difficult to represent adequately. As a result, rural people will be severely disadvantaged, their voice being effectively reduced in Federal Parliament at a time when it is essential that a strong rural voice be heard in Cabinet to ensure balanced national development.

It appears that little effort has been put into the consideration of communities of interest and that legislative requirements for the size of electorates have been ignored.

The principle of one vote, one value must be preserved and protected. Gwydir is only one of 23 seats under the population quota. It would seem more sense to adjust the many Sydney seats marginally, rather than to create such a monstrous rural seat.

Road travel for the sitting member would take up a huge amount of precious time, better spent in representing their constituents. Airline connections are far too sparse to be a satisfactory way of getting around.

There seems some suspicion that this decision has been made at a time when the sitting member for Gwydir is about to retire. It would be sad to think that this could have influenced the redistribution proposal.

The Tullibigeal Progress Association urges the redistribution committee to rethink their proposal, to consider the effect their decision will have on the rural communities in this area, and look for a fairer way.

Yours Sincerely

J. Worland

Jean Worland (Hon Sec)
"Hillgrove"
Tullibigeal

