



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



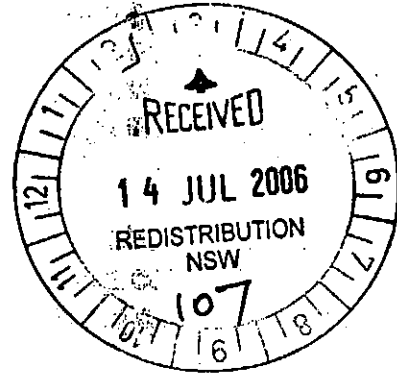
Public Objection Number: 107

Name: Mrs Yvonne LEDINGHAM

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Monday 10 July 2006

Redistribution Committee of NSW
P.O. Box 20014
WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002



To whom it may concern,

As residents of the current electorate of Gwydir we put forward this submission to encourage the Australian Electoral Commission to redraft the proposed boundaries for NSW to retain the seat of Gwydir.

As residents of Gwydir and rural NSW, we need and deserve adequate representation and do not believe that our communities would be best served as part of a mega-seat, as proposed in the draft boundaries, released Friday 30 June 2006.

We need and deserve a local member who is easily accessible and does not have to cover an area of 379,474 square kilometres. We do not believe that one member can adequately cover this area, spending enough time in each community to fully understand and be able to fight for all of our concerns.

The draft boundaries and abolishment of the seat of Gwydir does not provide fairness and equity for our community. One Member of Parliament can not provide fair and equitable representation to each of the 19 local government areas included in the proposed seat of Parkes.

As residents of the Warialda district, we have NO community of interest with those at Cobar or Lake Cargelligo.

Country NSW is a special place and the issues and problems that are experienced here are quite distinct from any other area, and are certainly very different from the issues and concerns of

metropolitan NSW. We must have a local member who lives in rural NSW and can deal with rural issues, to represent us.

For rural NSW to lose a vote in parliament will have devastating effects on our communities. We do not believe that we are second-class citizens, so why is our vote less valuable than that of city residents?

If we are to grow as a rural community, we must be encouraged to develop our local industries and encourage people to move to our regional towns. We believe this will be discouraged if we are not provided with adequate representation in Parliament and our concerns are not heard or addressed.

None of the major parties put forward the abolishment of the seat of Parkes in their initial submissions to the Australian Electoral Commission. On this basis, we can not understand why this decision has been made.

You DO have other choices when drawing the boundaries for NSW and abolishing a NSW seat. It would be far less disruptive for a Sydney seat to be abolished and redistributed amongst surrounding electorates than it would be to create a mega-seat.

We urge you to redraft the boundaries of the NSW electorates and ensure fair and equitable representation for north-western NSW.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs) Yvonne Ledwith

ARAMAC

WARRIALDA 2402