



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES

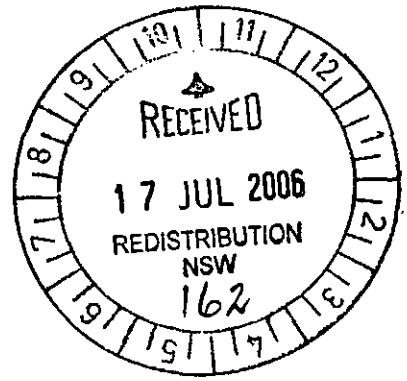


Public Objection Number: 162

Name: Mrs Maree WEBSTER

Page(s): 1

Redistribution Committee of NSW
PO Box 20014
WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002



7 July 2006

Dear Sir/Madam

Objection to Proposed Abolition of Seat of Gwydir

I hereby strongly object to the proposed abolition of the Federal Seat of Gwydir.

The new "super seat" of Parkes, which is to cover 47.3 per cent of NSW, will be five and a half times the size of Tasmania which is guaranteed five House of Representative seats.

This places an unrealistic expectation on the incoming member and will require them to be "superman" just to cover the electorate. The member cannot be expected to address his constituents' issues.

It will result in every NSW voter having less of a voice in Canberra and gives the bush just 28 per cent of the State's voting power in Federal Parliament.

The Australian Electoral Commission argues that the decision is based on the latest population statistics, however rural areas with small populations still need a voice for local matters to get the required attention. Rural areas are losing what voice it has by being represented with very few seats, which has a detrimental affect on farms and the services provided to them.

If all the members are based on the coast, rural areas are vulnerable to the whim of what will affect coastal areas, rather than those with direct impact on rural areas.

Again, I strongly object to the proposed abolition of the Federal Seat of Gwydir.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mrs Maree Webster".

Mrs Maree Webster
15 View Street
GUNNEDAH NSW 2380