



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



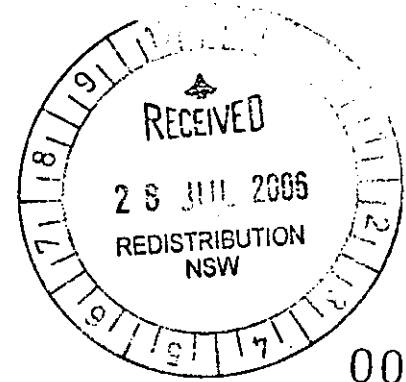
Public Objection Number: 1699

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001699

26TH July 2006

Redistribution Committee for NSW
PO Box 20014
World Square NSW 2002

Dear Committee Members

It is with regret that I have to put pen to paper, however I am strongly opposed to the AEC's plan to abolish the Federal seat of Gwydir as part of the latest redistribution of NSW Federal electorates. Surely your present proposal is a ploy aimed at getting people out of that complacent attitude that appears to have developed.

I recently had the need to contact all Federal members on a policy matter and to my astonishment, the most common reply was if I was a 'member of their electorate', then they would be able to help. Would not this have been fun under your plan, if I needed to call on the local member as I was able to under the present arrangement.

We currently are able to receive close attention from our local Federal MP, and don't believe that this would or could continue if the seat of Gwydir is abolished. The seat will more than double in size to 380,000 square kilometres, which will make it incredibly difficult, if not near impossible, for a single member of Parliament to properly service the constituents of the new area. For anyone who has travelled these roads, the tyranny of distance will be a deterrent to regular face to face contact.

The redistribution submissions put forward by Labour, Liberal or the National Parties did not propose the abolition of Gwydir and as these parties along with individual constituents represent the major stakeholders in the electoral redistribution process, these submissions should be adhered to where possible.

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