



The Federal Redistribution 2006  
NEW SOUTH WALES



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**Public Objection Number: 1718**

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 28/07/2006 02:57 PM

To nsw.redistribution@aec.gov.au

cc

bcc

Subject Calare and Macquarie seats

Classification  Unclassified

I am writing to voice my objection to the proposed redistribution. I am against the loss of a country seat and against combining an outer metropolitan area of Macquarie with a regional/rural area of Calare. I am also against dividing Bathurst into two federal electorates.

There are numerous metropolitan seats in close proximity with similar needs and demography. I do not have a proposal for amalgamating metropolitan seats but am certain that this could be done. Having lived in Sydney for most of my adult life and now in Bathurst, I can recognise the different needs of our area - eg, transport, education, health, the environment, tourism and telecommunications. How could one member possibly represent both constituencies (ie, metropolitan and regional/rural)??

This is another example of the total disregard of the needs of country people and this frightens me. Having one local member in an area the size of Germany is a serious concern both for the constituents and the local member. It is not an exaggeration to say that the people who devised this redistribution are too Sydney-centric and have no desire to meet the needs of the poor people who live in "the bush". We are treated too often like second-class citizens and need to remind the powers that be that we have as much right to proper representation as a person who lives in Sydney.

Though many people are too lazy or disinterested at this point in the topic of the redistribution, I believe there would be a backlash when the next federal election is called and people realise what they have lost. If regional and rural interests are of any value to this country, it is critical that no current seats in these areas be lost.

Sue Jones



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