

## The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES



**Public Objection Number: 1731** 

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## Rabbi Pinchus Feldman OAM

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24 July 2006

Mr Ian Campbell
The Electoral Commissioner and Chair of the Committee
Redistribution Committee for New South Wales
Level 1, Roden Cutler House
24 Campbell Street
Haymarket NSW 2000



Dear Mr Campbell,

I write to you in my capacity as Dean and Spiritual Leader of the Yeshiva Centre, Honorary Life President of the Rabbinical Council Of NSW and head of the Chabad movement in NSW since 1968.

I express my disappointment that there is a proposal to remove the north ward of Randwick, an area with a proud Jewish identity, from the Wentworth Electorate. The area is home to the following leading Jewish organisations; new Montefiore Home, JewishCare Burger Centre, Emanuel School and Moriah Preschool.

Wentworth's Jewish community is the heart and soul of Sydney Jewry. When our family and friends from around the world visit Sydney, they all comment on the "special Jewish community in Wentworth".

In the last three years, the Chabad movement in Wentworth has grown at a phenomenal rate, assisted by recent Jewish immigration from South Africa, Israel and the exodus of large numbers of Jews from the North Shore. The reason why these Jews have moved to Wentworth is because of the area's close-knit and established Jewish community. They want to have access to Wentworth's excellent Jewish infrastructure including; the Yeshiva Rabbinical College, the Mikvah, the new Kollel, Jewish Day Schools, Kosher restaurants and the Eruy.

We are looking for new buildings to house our rapidly growing Chabad congregations. Currently, we have thriving communities in Wentworth at:

CHABAD LUBAVITCH BONDI 25 O'Brien St, Bondi

CHABAD DOUBLE BAY
The Adler Synagogue, Kiaora Rd, Double Bay

YOUNG ADULT CHABAD 36 Flood St, Bondi

ISRAELI TOURIST CHABAD HOUSE 1/52 Hall St, Bondi Beach.

YESHIVA SYNAGOGUE 36 Flood St, Bondi

DOVER HEIGHTS SHULE cnr Blake & Napier streets, Dover Heights

To put it in context, our vast social, educational and spiritual activities impact over 30,000 people per year.

Of particular note, we have seen an increase in our activities in the north ward of Randwick, with recently enhanced programming for the vibrant Jewish community there.

We therefore ask that this area of Randwick, which includes four vital Jewish organisations and an energetic Jewish population, remains in Wentworth to maintain the Electorate's unique and united Jewish community.

However you decide on the matter, may G-d bless you and all Australia's public servants for maintaining Australia's unique commitment to multiculturalism that makes ethnic communities proud to call Australia home.

Warm regards,

Rabbi Pinchus Feldman OAM