



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 1735

Name: Councillor Greg MATTHEWS

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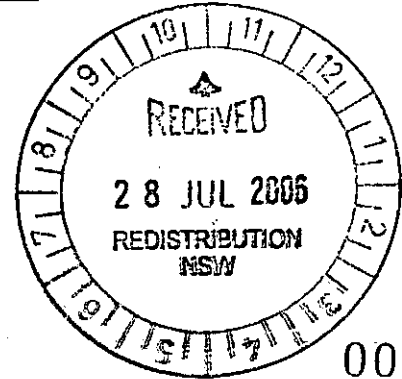
"Greg Matthews"
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28/07/2006 12:41 PM

To <nsw.redistribution@aec.gov.au>
cc
bcc
Subject Parkes redistribution
Classification Unclassified

9 Douglas Mawson Road

Dubbo 2830

25th July 2006-07-25



Australian Electoral Commissioner

PO Box 6172 Kingston

ACT 2604

Dear Sir,

I view with great concern your proposal to merge the Gwydir and Parkes federal electorate to create an electorate five and a half times the size of Tasmania.

While distance could be a problem for the member in covering this electorate effectively what really concerns me is the financial difficulty facing the Parkes constituents should they wish to meet with their member.

Telephones, faxes and emails have made it easier for communication however there are still parts of this huge electorate who still don't have effective email.

There are times when face to face contact with the local member is necessary.

I envisage people will be forced to travel in excess of six hours to meet with the member. The trip from one end of the electorate to the other would take 12 hours and according to my experience much of that travel would be on gravel roads.

The two electorates are large enough now. To double the size seriously reduces people's ability to have contact with their member of parliament.

I urge you to seriously reconsider your recommendation

Yours sincerely

Councillor Greg Matthews