



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 1740

Name: DARLING RIVER ACTION GROUP

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Darling River Action Group

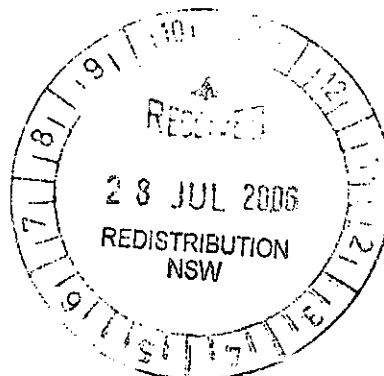
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Australian Electoral Commission
Redistribution Committee for NSW
PO Box 20014
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NSW 2002
18.7.2006



001740

Dear Commissioners

Objection to the inclusion of Broken Hill in Farrer Electorate.

The Darling River Action Group is based in Broken Hill, Menindee and Wilcannia. All three population centres have an intimate connection with the Darling River and with each other. We object in the strongest terms to the exclusion of Broken Hill from the proposed Parkes electorate with which most of its affinities lie. Broken Hill has no affinities with most of the proposed Farrer electorate, i.e. the majority of the electorate which lies east of Wentworth. Our objections are based on the following:

1. Broken Hill's water supply and major recreation resource is the Menindee Lakes and Darling River. Our group is fighting for improvements in the management of the Darling River. We wish to be part of the electorate that covers the Darling River upstream from Menindee. If the river is in another electorate, our very considerable interest in the river, and dependence on the river is likely to be ignored in favour of irrigators.
2. Our main transport routes to the east pass through Dubbo (road and air) and Parkes (rail). Although we have a frequently-used road connection with Wentworth-Mildura, we have no common interest with the areas further east along the Murray River.
3. Regional connections of government departments based in Broken Hill are predominantly with Dubbo-Orange-Bathurst, not with areas to the south.
4. Broken Hill is the hub for the Tibooburra-White Cliffs-Wilcannia area to the north and east; these areas should not be split off into another electorate.
5. Broken Hill and Cobar are two mining towns with much in common; they should be in the same electorate.
6. There is nothing linking towns like Albury with Broken Hill. In an electorate which includes Albury, Broken Hill's interests are likely to be badly neglected.

Yours Sincerely

Brian Stevens
Secretary