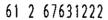


## The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES

**Public Objection Number: 1794** 

**Name: Mrs Annette Cross** 

Page(s): 1



14 Burindi Avenue TAMWORTH NSW 2340

28 July 2006

Australian Electoral Commission Redistribution Commission for NSW PO Box 20014 WORLD SQUARE NSW 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to register the strongest possible objection to the proposal to abolish the federal seat of Gwydir.

It is unrealistic to expect that one member could adequately represent 47 percent of the State given the vast distances involved. It is also grossly unfair to people in that region when the remaining 53 percent of the State has a total of 48 representatives.

While I understand the decision is based on numbers (which is legislated), I also believe there are electorates in Sydney that could be targeted without any impact on the level of representation people would receive.

The fact that the numbers are diminishing in the Gwydir and Parkes Electorates is due to Government decisions (both State and Federal) that have contributed to people leaving the area to find work or education, and even sometimes to receive adequate health care.

Surely the situation can only get worse if people don't have an adequate voice in Government, or are denied the opportunity to convey their concerns to their elected representative due to the tyranny of distance.

It could be argued that modern technology negates the need for person to person contact — well, sadly the technology in the bush leaves a lot to be desired (unlike the city) and that's another reason to retain the seat of Gwydir.

I plead for sanity in this decision even though I am not affected. It's an equity issue and people who choose to live in the bush deserve the same level of representation as anyone else – not significantly less as proposed.

Yours sincerely

(Mrs) Annette Cross

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