

## The Federal Redistribution 2006 **NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Public Objection Number: 1801** 

Name: Murrumbidgee Shire Council

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## Murrumbidgee Shire Council

Council Chambers - 21 Carrington Street, Darlington Point NSW 2706 ABN 61 072 078 726

Your Ref:

Our Ref: PLW:TC

Contact Person:

Phillip Wells

Australian Electoral Officer for New South Wales Level 1 24 Campbell Street HAYMARKET NSW 2000

Dear Sir,

Telephone: (02) 6968 4166
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July, 2006

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## New South Wales Federal Electoral Redistribution Proposal

Murrumbidgee Shire Council strongly opposes the proposed change in the Federal electoral boundaries whereby the Shire of Murrumbidgee will be excised from the Riverina electoral division and placed within the Federal electorate of Farrer in which the ratepayers (residents) have little in common.

The Murrumbidgee River is, and has been a common bond between the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area and the Coleambally Irrigation Area. The changing of the electoral boundaries would see the Murrumbidgee River become a divide between these two irrigation farming districts and would be detrimental, not beneficial to the residents of Murrumbidgee Shire.

Boundaries must take into account communities of interest and I suggest our community has a vast interest in the towns and cities in the Shires to the north and north-east within the Electorate of Riverina.

Griffith, Leeton, Narrandera and Wagga Wagga are towns of community interest for the residents of Murrumbidgee Shire as these are centres where residents source a large amount of their services and commodities such as banking, fuel, fertiliser, business expertise, tax advice, telecommunications expertise, the buying and selling of livestock and the sale of produce produced within the Murrumbidgee Shire in the electoral boundary.

Education, especially for secondary tertiary school children is provided for at various major schools in Griffith, Leeton, Narrandera and Yanco as well as Charles Sturt University at Wagga Wagga.

I would suggest Murrumbidgee Shire has strong commonality with our northern and north-east neighbours within our Federal electorate of Riverina and strongly support the retention of Murrumbidgee Shire within the electorate of Riverina.

Yours faithfully,

PL Wells Mayor

Correspondence to: The General Manager, PO Box 5, Darlington Point NSW 2706