



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 1809

Name: Mr Bill Gates

Page(s): 7



"Bill Gates"
<wgates@ix.net.au>

27/07/2006 10:55 PM

Please respond to
<wgates@ix.net.au>

To <nsw.redistribution@aec.gov.au>

cc

bcc

Subject NSW-Redistribution-Objection

Classification Unclassified

The Commissioners,

Dear Sirs,

I have included my objection to this redistribution as an attachment.

The same document is in two forms. One is a word document and the other is a pdf document. The documents are identical.

Regards

Bill Gates

Post: PO Box 604 Bathurst, NSW

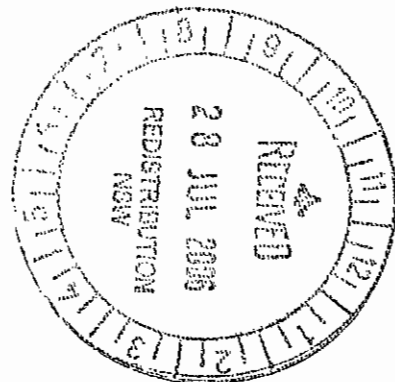
Email: wgates@ix.net.au

Phone 0409 157 144



NSW-Redistribution-Objection.doc NSW-Redistribution-Objection.pdf

001809



To

The Redistribution Committee for the Proposed Redistribution of New South Wales into Electoral Divisions.

Objection to the section of the proposal dealing with the proposed changes to the electorates of Macquarie and Calare.

From: WS Gates ATCS, BA, Litt.B, MA Lecturer in Spatial Information Systems at Charles Sturt University (Retired).

Contact: PO Box 604 Bathurst, NSW, 2795

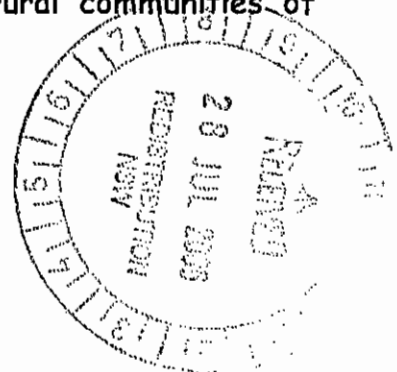
Email: wgates@ix.net.au

Mobile: 0409 157 144

Since my retirement I have involved myself in local government matters and am an active member of the Bathurst Ratepayers' Association. I must point out that though members of the Association have discussed this proposed redistribution that this submission is not formally from the association.

I have studied the proposals which have been put forward to the redistribution committee from various individuals and political groups and following discussion with a number of colleagues I have formed the view that the reduction in the number of distinctly 'rural' seats is not warranted especially as the Committee's proposals will produce a huge unwieldy electorate covering a very large area of the State which would be a physical impossibility for any one person to effectively represent and that a significantly rural electorate of Calare will be split so that one part will become a part of an outer metropolitan seat with the remainder being added to another rural electorate.

I have formed the view that the proposal put forward by the present member for Calare, Mr Peter Andren, represents a more balanced viewpoint than that proposed by the Committee because it makes a sound attempt at representing more effectively what I might term 'rural communities of interest'.



Splitting of Bathurst Regional Council Area.

One of the most unacceptable items in the Committee's proposals was the splitting of the Bathurst Regional Council Area into two. One part to be attached to the proposed Calare electorate and the other part to be attached to the proposed Macquarie electorate.

Increasingly local government has to deal not only with State instrumentalities but with Federal ones as well. To have one local government area dealing with two separate representatives is seen as being both inefficient and unacceptable.

Water Interests

The whole matter of water control and management relates to catchment areas which all drain to the West and into the Murray Darling Basin. The commonality of interest demonstrated by this management of an increasingly scarce resource clearly shows that an electorate with a largely rural basis would be more satisfactory for the Bathurst region than one which is based on an outer metropolitan area which drains to the Warragamba area and essentially supplies Sydney. There is no commonality of interest in this respect!

Local Government.

The local government areas of Bathurst, Cabonne, Orange, Blayney, Wellington and Cowra, and to a marginal extent that of Lithgow have many areas of commonality of interest and, since the amalgamation efforts of some years ago have begun to cooperate more. In so doing their areas of commonality of interest are being developed. There is little need to develop close ties with councils in areas further to the East as the interests each represents to the East are quite distinct and different from those of the councils listed above, to the West.

Conclusion:

Commonality of interest for the Bathurst Region lies to the West, not to the East. This commonality of interest has been described in the areas of Water, Catchment Management, Bushfire Management, Local Government, and in the unbalanced distribution of voters the majority of whom have a metropolitan focus with the clear minority of rural voters being essentially cut off from their enjoyment of effective representation.

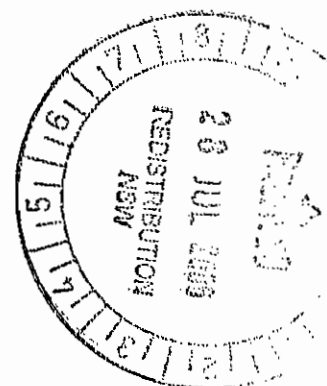
I would urge the Commission to very strongly support the proposal put forward by Mr Andren. I chose Mr Andren's proposal as being fair and capable of representing rural interests which, the proposals from the major political parties, in my view were unable to effectively support.

I would be pleased to discuss these matters more fully with the Commission.

Yours faithfully

WS Gates,
28th July, 2006

By email to
nsw.redistribution@aec.gov.au
Copy to
Peter Andren's Office, Bathurst.



Supplementary Paragraphs to the submission by WS GATES.

EDUCATION.

Government Education in this region is controlled from Bathurst and Orange where the offices of education are located. The community of interest in education is in the rural areas to the West and definitely not to the Blue Mountains and further East.

HOSPITALS

The Bathurst region has good hospitals. Further specialist treatment is referred to Orange Base Hospital and sometimes to Dubbo.

It is only serious, mainly life threatening cases that are referred to Sydney. No referrals are made to hospitals at Hillgrove or further East.

Bathurst Region community of interest for hospitals lies in the rural areas to the West and not to the East.

WS Gates

Friday 28th July 3:30 pm

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