



**The Federal Redistribution 2006  
NEW SOUTH WALES**



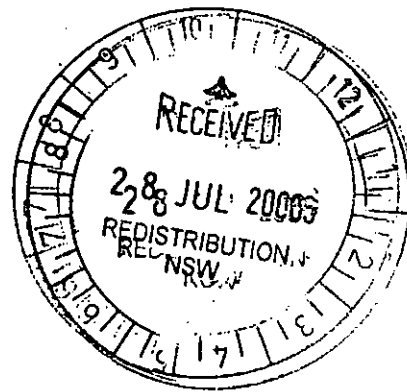
---

**Public Objection Number: 1819**

**Name: Mr Warren Grzic**

**Page(s): 1**

Australian Electoral Commission  
FAO Redistribution Secretariat  
Roden Cutler House  
24 Campbell Street  
HAYMARKET NSW 2000



001819

27 July 2006

Dear Sir

I write to state objections to elements of the proposed electoral redistribution in NSW. My objections are to the proposed abolition of the division of Gwydir, the apparent failure to rename any divisions, and the removal of the Parramatta business district from the division of Parramatta.

Regarding the abolition of Gwydir, I did state in my original suggestions to the Redistribution Committee that abolishing an urban division was preferable to a rural one, simply because it's less likely to bother urban voters than rural ones. Since hearing of the abolition, I've seen and read reactions from people in or connected with the bush (and even city folk as well), and I can only say, "I told you so." True, Gwydir is the furthest below average projected enrolment for the years ahead. But it has existed since Federation and has a name of Aboriginal nature, and as the Electoral Commission aims to preserve divisions fulfilling both bits of 'criteria', I am surprised that the Committee would go against Commission objectives here.

In objecting to abolishing Gwydir, I can only reiterate my suggestion that one of two urban divisions, Lindsay and Prospect, be abolished instead – neither of these seats is named after any person or place of major significance. If preserving Gwydir means redrawing divisions off line from boundaries of local government areas (and lots of divisions boundaries are aligned with LGA boundaries), then so be it – after all, having examined the maps of the proposed redistribution, I note that many divisions boundaries previously aligned with LGA boundaries are no longer so. That argument does not wash as such.

In relation to renaming divisions, I made some suggestions for divisions that should be abolished or renamed (such as Lindsay and Prospect) because I did not consider the people or places after whom they were named to be of major significance. I also suggested some alternative names for those divisions. While I am not overly concerned at the Committee's decision against renaming any divisions, I object specifically to its failure to name a division after Billy McMahon, currently the only deceased former Australian prime minister not to have a seat named after him. I do not claim to be a 'fan' of McMahon, but I do believe that since he has been dead for almost twenty years, this recognition is long overdue for him.

Finally, I object to the removal of the Parramatta business district from the division of Parramatta. To me, it does not feel right for a division to lose the very place after which it is named – its very heart. True, divisions named after places do not always include the places after which they are named, but wherever possible they really should do so.

In conclusion, I hope that the Committee will consider the following thoughts from my objections. Gwydir should be retained because of its Federation status and the Aboriginal nature of its name. Either Lindsay or Prospect should be abolished instead, because hardly anyone in those divisions would really care – better still, both seats should be abolished and a new division in western Sydney called McMahon should be created. And the Parramatta business district should be kept in the division of Parramatta. In order to accommodate these changes, I call for various western Sydney divisions to be pushed towards Prospect Reservoir (as a kind of reference point), and for the division of Macquarie to move east across Penrith and surrounding areas rather than westward from the Blue Mountains. I really feel that the Redistribution Committee, in its proposed new boundaries for NSW seats, has got it very wrong.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren Grzic".

WARREN GRZIC  
37/230 Elizabeth Street  
SURRY HILLS NSW 2010  
(02) 9280 0825