



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 1832

Name: Mrs Shirley M J Wilkinson

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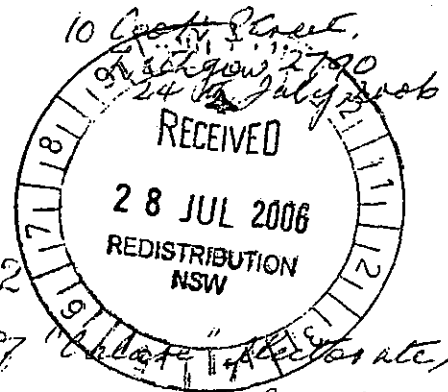
Australian Electoral Officer for N.S.W. Wales.

Level one Baden Catter House,

24 Campbell St. Haymarket NSW 2000.

Dear Sir,

001832



The very idea of moving this part of "Calare" electorate etc, where I live, and am fortunate to have as our member, Mr Peter Andersen, an Independent member. Mr Andersen has worked very hard for all his electors. To prove this, was elected each time with an overwhelming majority, this alone should make you aware of the need to keep Calare as it is. Therefore there should be no reason to break up this area, never mind "numbers". A well looked after electorate, where everyone gets on well + works together, having something in common, is far more important. This drawn lines on a map, means nothing in practice. We are "The Gateway to the Golden West" & have been for many many years. We are part of what the Government is trying to achieve in asking people + businesses to "decentralise to the west" to relieve the congestion and provide more jobs for Country people. So where is the sense or the need to "push the Country boundaries east."?

Shifting us into Macquarie didn't work years ago. There is no reason, more so, to believe it could work this time. We are not the Blue Mountains and never have been. We have nothing in common. They already are far too big an area, as it is, their Council alone has enough problems to manage. A great number of their residents commute daily to the Sydney area to work.

According to some reports (see Blue Mountains Gazette) there is a large number of houses on the market, Tourism is down, reading "Letters to the editor" pages, things could be better. So why would we want or need to be "pushed" into that area. They are becoming more like a portion of the Western Suburbs area of Sydney.

Why should New South Wales lose a seat. When Australia's population is growing every year? The great increase in migration shows that. The loss of one seat gives us less power in Parliament. If Queensland needs another seat, why take it from us. Surely if they can't reorganise their boundaries (as we in N.S.W. are expected to

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Then they will have to make application for another one.

Take the new proposed seat of Parkes. Has anyone in authority ever taken the time to visit the proposed area by CAR. Looking at a map and population figures gives no idea of the size and problems these people have, isolation, distance between various areas, amenities, emergency needs, and the list goes on. They are Australian citizens and have every right to expect what other taxpayers take for granted in their electorate. How will the their elected member cover the distance, totally impossible, without the assistance of a plane & pilot. (Don't ~~dismiss~~ ^{dismiss} this as I'm serious)

Somebody placed a sign near Lithgow Correctional Centre ^{recently} "if you are now entering the Blue Mountains etc" which caused untold confusion to strangers/tourists to the area. It caused a smile to the locals. But in hindsight, was it to be a forerunner to the present boundary changes? To quote a saying "we are not amused".

The local feeling is very strong about this boundary change. We do not wish or want to be "Bulldozed" into another electoral area. We would not get the support which we are receiving under balance, nor have a member who would come anywhere near what we have now. So its NO Boundary changes. To use another quote "If something isn't broken, don't try to fix it". I don't care what political connection, rules & regulations there is. Commonsense should prevail. The best interests of the people concerned is what should happen. That is what is called "Australian Freedom of speech."

My late husband was a W.W.2. serviceman, who served overseas & fought for that freedom in this country. Both he & I were born in Lithgow and all our lives have been taxpayers, & ratepayers since 1948. Part of my working life before retirement I was a Tourism officer & in my training I was taught, "A Tourism officer has no opinion on Religion, race, electoral or politics, no electoral or political ^{material} must be displayed or handed out, no views are to be expressed on any matters. You are there to help all people" In all my time over many years I have ^{met} met officials, of all levels, military & associated services & they were all, as I was, treated with respect.

I trust you will take this objection to Calare boundary change into serious consideration. I consider I have a fair knowledge of various areas. My late husband & I like many people especially these days, vote for the candidate or person most suited to represent them and their community.

This area has quite a few ageing populations and have seen lots of things altered, some for the better & others bad. I & many others, have experienced the depression times, war time, disasters, shortages. Many people who object to this change probably, because of age and other reasons will not put pen to paper, but that is their business.

I thank you for taking the time to read this and to realise there is now discontent in the area.

Yours faithfully,

Marilyn M. J. Wilkinson (Mrs)