



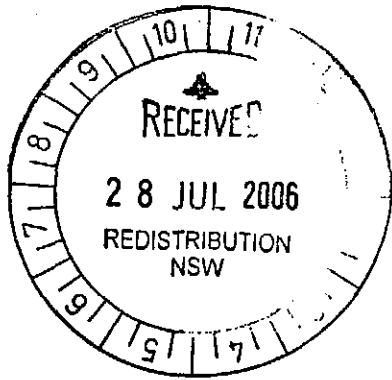
**The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES**



Public Objection Number: 1853

Name: Mr Mark and Ms Janelle Gervasoni

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001853

Janelle and Mark Gervasoni
403 Wimbledon Road
Wimbledon NSW 2795

25th July 2006

Australian Electoral Officer for NSW
Level 1
Roden Cutler House
24 Campbell St
Haymarket NSW 2000

Re: Proposed Redistribution of Federal Electoral Boundaries for Calare

We strongly object to the proposed redistribution of Bathurst into the Macquarie electorate.

We believe issues of economic, social and regional interests are considered when considering redistribution of boundaries, along with means of communication and travel within the division.

The inclusion of Bathurst and Lithgow in with the Blue Mountains may look rational when numbers of voters are considered however when the above issues are considered it is a farce.

The Blue Mountains is no more than an extension of Sydney suburbia. Once the sandstone curtain is traversed the issues of rural Australia are present. The Blue Mountains voters for example would no doubt encourage for their economic and environmental interests the current road through the mountains where travellers meander through local communities and shopping centres stopping often in sheer frustration from the local traffic and the constantly confusing differing speed zones. What everyone west of the mountains wants is an expressway through the mountains to have a safer, more efficient and direct access to Sydney.

Communication issues are vastly different where access to a basic phone service is a major challenge in rural areas let alone accessing a mobile or broadband service (non existent).

Travel is also at the opposite ends of the spectrum. People in rural areas do not have access to a bus or a rail line. They have to drive to get anywhere. Distances are often too excessive to ride a bike. In major centres such as Bathurst one must book a seat on a bus to get to Lithgow to access train services or pay to get on the one service a day XPT to Sydney or Dubbo or of course fly.

Would the Blue Mountains voters be concerned about environmental issues out of their local environment? Would they care about our transport, water issues, local industry and employment, the cost of fuel we have to pay (at least 5-10 cents a litre more than on the mountains), communication, health, education issues? Would their numbers influence the people on the west of the mountains ability to influence any politician to take rural concerns on board?

We can only be sceptical as to why this merger with the Blue Mountains is being proposed.

The issues of voters of the Blue Mountains and the people west of the sandstone curtain are not the same, they are opposing in many areas. Our economic, social and regional issues are so diverse.

We implore you to consult and listen to the people and reconsider the inequity of including regional Australia with the Blue Mountains electorate.

When the Evans Council area was abolished we lived without any voted representatives until elections were held at a later date. We know what it is like to live without democracy in Australia. Do not treat rural Australia with contempt and further injustices for short term political gain.

Reconsider.

Regards,



Mark and Janelle Gervasoni