

The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES

Public Objection Number: 1894

Name: Mr W L Weakley

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Dear Sirs

I write to object and protest against the proposal to abolish the seat of Gwydir, and to incorporate that area into the enlarged seat of Parkes. I believe such a proposal makes a mockery of our electoral system and further disenfranchises the people of rural Australia. It would not matter who the newly elected representative of the seat was, it would be physically impossible for that person to deliver personal representation of the electorate that individual Australians have come to expect.

Having lived 70 years at this address I have been in three different federal electorates (Gwydir, New England and Upper Hunter) without moving house. Such boundary changes are much more acceptable than the current proposal because one always had some community of interest with the total electorate. Some adjustments to electoral boundaries are an accepted fact of life to allow for the ebb and flow of population, but proposals such as the current one are not.

Take away a seat in the Western suburbs of Sydney and the people of that electorate would not have to travel as far as we go for our groceries, to see their local member. Do not further erode the small representation of rural Australia that currently exists.

W. L. Weakley
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