



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 1920

Name: FORBES SHIRE COUNCIL

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Forbes Shire Council

Administration Centre: 2 Court Street, Forbes NSW 2871
ABN 86 023 614 567

Please Quote Ref:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PCS.JCC E10/030

10 October 2005

Australian Electoral Commission NSW,
Redistribution Committee for NSW,
PO Box 20014,
WORLD SQUARE,
SYDNEY. 2001.



001920

Subject: Proposed Elimination of the Federal Seat of Gwydir

Dear Sir/Madam,

Council wishes to register, in the strongest possible terms, its opposition to the proposed Federal electoral boundary redistribution which will result in the removal of the seat of Calare, and see the Parkes electorate expand to an unmanageable size.

Council fully understand the issue of population shift, and is, like many rural and regional Councils, working hard to stem this flow. However, the proposal to eliminate the Gwydir Electorate, and the resultant reduction in representation by the expansion of existing electorates to cover huge geographical areas, making access to local members virtually impossible, advances the decline in services for rural and regional areas and results in further population shift.

The Government should be taking significant notice of these population shifts and responding by recognising that it is being caused, in a large part, by the lack of true representation and adequate service provision. Therefore the response should be to turn their attention to improving these services and encouraging population growth, not simply accepting decline as a fact of life and adjusting electoral boundaries to suit.

This issue is central to the problems being faced by all rural and regional communities in Australia. It is ironic that residents in these areas are having to live with continually diminishing levels of service at a time of huge growth and prosperity in Australia. Provision of service should be equitably shared amongst all taxpayers, not directed to areas where a concentration of the population simply makes it easier to satisfy voters.

All mail to:
General Manager
PO Box 333
Forbes NSW 2871

Council hopes that this message of protest and discontent will be clearly understood by those promoting this electoral redistribution, and common sense will prevail so that the residents of these areas be given a fair democratic voice.

General Enquiries:
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Yours faithfully

Mayor & General Manager
Ph: (02) 6850 1304


Alister Lockhart
MAYOR

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**Please quote Council's reference in
your reply**

Environmental Services:
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