



The Federal Redistribution 2006  
NEW SOUTH WALES



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**Public Objection Number: 1932**

**Name: Dr J P and Mrs J L BLACKWOOD**

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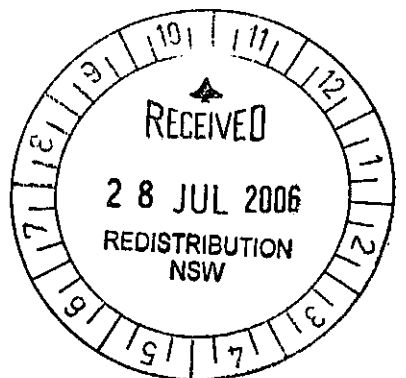
**Dr J P & Mrs J L Blackwood**

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26 July 2006

Australian Electoral Officer  
Redistribution Committee for NSW  
AEC  
PO Box 20014  
World Square  
Sydney NSW 2002



001932

Dear Sir,

We object to the electoral boundary changes proposed for the Division of Calare in the NSW Federal Electoral Redistribution 2006. .


We believe that the proposed abolition of the rural seat of Gwydir and subsequent redrawing of boundaries in NSW will have significant, negative impact on the remaining six country NSW electorates.

We object to the proposed transfer of the eastern section of Calare, comprising the Lithgow, Oberon and majority of Bathurst Local Government Areas to the proposed Blue Mountains seat of Macquarie. Bathurst, Lithgow and Oberon communities and economies have much more in common with other Central West communities such as Orange than they do with the city-orientated Blue Mountains. The proposed transfer of this eastern section of Calare which would result in the splitting of the Bathurst Local Government Area into separate federal electorates contravenes the community of interest principle.

Both Weddin Shire in the south-west, centred on Grenfell, and the Mid-Western regional Shire, centred on Mudgee, are proposed to be included in the new seat of Calare. There is very little community of interest between these two areas and the existing seat of Calare. The existing seat of Calare includes four large and medium population centres (Lithgow, Bathurst, Orange and Cowra) whereas the proposed seat of Calare would increase to seven (Orange, Mudgee, Wellington, Parkes, Forbes, Cowra and Grenfell). It would be quite difficult for a local member to provide the appropriate level of service to constituents in all of these centres on a regular basis.

We strongly urge the committee to reconsider this division of the seat of Calare and to allow Bathurst to stay in Calare and continue to be associated with the Central West where it lies naturally.

Yours sincerely,

*for*   
James P Blackwood and Julia L Blackwood