

## The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES

**Public Objection Number: 1978** 

Name: COONABARABRAN AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC

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## Coonabarabran and District Chamber of Commerce Inc PO Box 341, Coonabarabran NSW 2357

Friday, July 28, 2006

Electoral Redistribution Office PO Box 20014 World Square NSW 2002

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Dear Sir/Madam

On behalf of the businesses of the Coonabarabran District and Warrumbungle Shire area, I wish to voice our concerns in regards to the proposed super seat of Parkes.

The seat of Gwyder is already one of the biggest in Australia and if it was to be amalgamated with Parkes it would then cover almost half of NSW. This would make it almost impossible for the elected member to be able to visit the area and effectively represent the electorate. Since local members need to be local and representative – it would be nigh on impossible to achieve this with an area larger than some European countries.

We already have to travel hundreds of kilometers to see our elected member. This can take us away from our businesses for a day or more, not like in some Sydney and Coastal seats where their member's office is often within walking distance – the member being truly local and representative of the area..

Rural and regional NSW has already lost a number of Government services and if this new super seat was to go ahead we would not be able to access proper representation with our elected member, something that is critical to us and of such importance that we vigorously oppose this proposal.

This would mean that the elected member would never be able to address, even a fraction of the problems that faced the electorate.

Rural and regional NSW contribute a big slice of the GST and taxes to both Federal and State Governments. Primary Production is the back bone of this country and contributes a big percentage to our balance of payments. What happened to the concept that Australia runs on the sheep's back – without our rural businesses and farming ventures where this country be today.

All we are asking for is a fair go and to be adequately represented.

Yours faithfully

Donna M Burton

President, Coonabarabran and District Chamber of Commerce Inc