



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 222

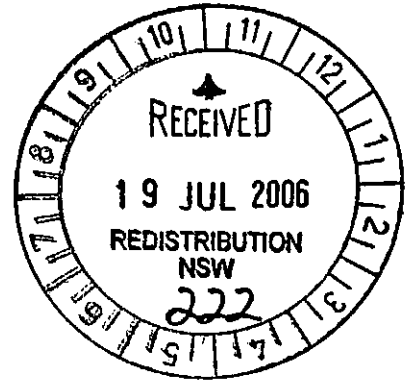
Name: Mr and Mrs R and B MASON

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21 Pike St.,
GUNNEDAH
N.S.W. 2380

15th July, 2006

Redistribution Committee for NSW
Australian Electoral Commission,
P.O. Box 20014,
WORLD SQUARE. N.S.W. 2002



Dear Committee,

Re – Redistribution of Gwydir Electoral Boundaries

We write to express, as strongly as possible, our objection to the abolition of the Gwydir Electorate and the proposed merger into the Federal Electorate of Parkes, as announced by the Australian Electoral Commission.

We believe it is physically impossible for any elected member to give adequate attention to the needs and requests of the constituents of an electorate as large as this.

It appears to us that this redistribution has been decided only on number of voters per electorate. If this is the case, then it is time this formula was changed.

If this redistribution has occurred simply to reduce the number of Electorates in NSW, then common sense would be to alter the geographic boundaries of the coastal areas where the voters would still have reasonable access to their elected representative. Under the proposed merger it will be virtually impossible for almost any voter to have reasonable access to their sitting member and/or Electorate Office, whichever it might be, as distance alone would be prohibitive to most people.

If the Electoral Office goes to Dubbo for example - in our situation it would mean a 2 day trip, as we both have health problems and cannot drive long distances, and we are sure there are a lot of other people living in more remote areas who would be in the same situation.

We feel sure that if our local member and former Deputy Prime Minister - John Anderson - was not retiring from Federal Parliament at the 2007 Federal election, this redistribution would not have even been considered.

We hope good common sense prevails and you reverse this decision.

Yours faithfully,

Ray Mason
Brenda Mason

Ray & Brenda Mason.