



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



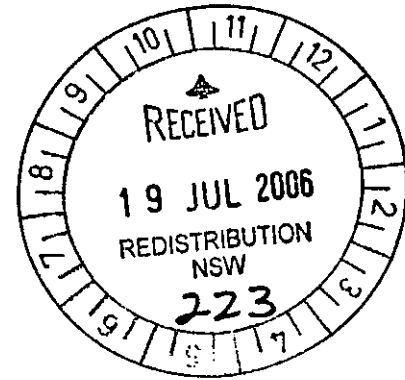
Public Objection Number: 223

Name: Mr and Mrs M and E PICKFORD

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29 Thornton Street
Wellington
NSW 2820.
17 July 2006

Redistribution Committee for NSW
Australian Electoral Commission (NSW)
PO Box 20014
WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002



Dear Sir/Madam,

Re Draft Boundaries for NSW Redistribution

I am writing to convey our concern about the proposed merging of the Gwydir electorate into the seat of Parkes.

The abolition of a rural seat has implications, not only for the residents of Gwydir and Parkes electorates, but rural and regional Australia as a whole. The new proposal creates an electorate of Parkes that would be almost 380,000 square kilometers in size, or 47 per cent of NSW. This is clearly ridiculous.

Why should people in this newly proposed seat be forced to drive for many hours to see their MP, when in Sydney, people are only minutes away from their MP's office?

The creation of such a huge electorate effectively reduces the voice of country people in the Federal Parliament.

The Nationals support the retention of existing boundaries between coastal and inland divisions where possible, so the Great Dividing Range continues to act as a sensible dividing line.

It would appear that the legislative requirements for communities of interest and the size of electorates to be considered in the redistribution process have been ignored.

We hope you will seriously reconsider this redistribution.

Yours truly,
MG & ER Pickford
per

Robin Pickford