

The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES

Public Objection Number: 230

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Page(s): 1

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REDISTRIBUTION

NSW

14th July, 2006

Redistribution Committee for NSW. Australian Electoral Commission. PO Box 20014, World Square NSW 2002.

Dear Committee,

As country electors we wish to object to the unfair and unacceptable draft boundaries for the NSW redistribution proposed by your Committee.

The abolition of the seat of Gwydir and its almost total absorption by the seat of Parkes will create a monster mega seat covering 47% of the State. How does your Committee imagine that one Member of Parliament can provide fair and equitable representation to the people of that electorate which covers 19 local government areas?

The seat of Farrer which is our present electorate will become an elongated seat. stretching from Albury to Broken Hill, unfair to electors and denying them proper representation.

We are being pushed into Eden Monaro, an area with which we have no community of interest. The Great Dividing Range is a natural dividing line and we support the retention, where possible, of existing boundaries between coastal and inland divisions.

As usual the rural voter will suffer. This proposal effectively reduces the voice of country people in the Federal Parliament. Legislative requirements for communities of interest and the size of the electorates have been ignored.

City Members of Parliament can walk around their electorates. Why, therefore, has the redistribution not come at the expense of a city electorate?

We urge the Committee to take account of the concerns of the people who live west of the Great Divide, who deserve to have fair and equitable representation and access to their Members of Parliament. We request that the boundaries for NSW be redrawn.

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Yours faithfully,

Richard Sedgwick. Margaret Sedgwick