



The Federal Redistribution 2006  
NEW SOUTH WALES



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**Public Objection Number: 250**

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**Page(s): 2**

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10 July 06.

Australian Electoral Officer  
for New South Wales  
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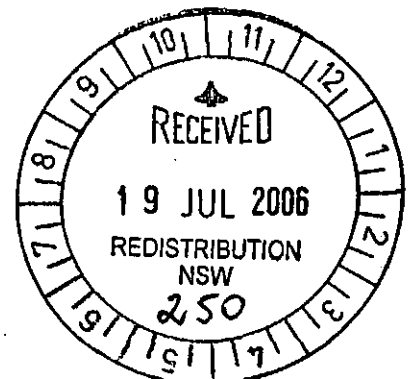
Dear Sir,

I am one of the senior citizens of Australia. I have observed more than a third of our historical events since European settlement began. In fact so many changes that have taken place and consequently adjustments have taken place. In so doing it became expedient that a stable form of government was established based on state boundaries. In the course of time a national government was inaugurated.

In Australia we have the good fortune to have a democratic form of government. With all its faults the democratic form of government is the best form government that has been devised. The democratic form of government was devised by a Greek man named Pericles in 500 BC. There are many contributing factors to democracy such as "The greatest good for the greatest number of people, No taxation without representation and one person one vote".

There are many politicians who have made outstanding contributions to our way of life. I wish to refer to three men. Firstly Abraham Lincoln who was a former President of the United States whose wisdom and initiative helped to establish the United States of America. Secondly Winston Churchill who inspired and gave courage to the English people during the second world war. He described this period of time as their finest hour. During the second world war when it became apparent that we could be invaded by enemy forces, our Australian Prime Minister John Curtin who by his political skill prevented Australia being involved in the horrors of the conflict of war in our land.

I wish to state that I am opposed to the proposed changes to the boundaries of the Parkes electorate in its present form of redistribution as published in the newspaper. The principle of one person one vote implies that all constituents should have reasonable access to their elect members. The vastness of the area involved in this proposal will deprive many people of that opportunity. The statement has been made regarding quotas of people in a given area. For the first 48 years of my life I lived on the same farm. From time to time The electoral boundaries were changed to meet changing circumstances. Circumstances have altered and if the proposed changes are adopted it will be detrimental to many electors.



During my lifetime I have been involved in many different organisations which have promoted the welfare of our citizens. My most rewarding experience was with the establishment of the Sheltered workshop in Gunnedah. When I accepted the position of being the secretary of a steering committee. I remained in the job for 10 years until it became necessary to have a paid secretary. At that point of time during the initial stage of the workshop Gough Whitlam was our Prime Minister. Gough had much compassion for the under dog and in so doing offered much practical help to disadvantaged people. I had extensive liaison with the government of the day through the local member in setting up this very helpful organisation to give meaning & purpose to the lives of disabled people. Subsequently other citizens have been able to attend to the needs of the Gunnedah Sheltered Workshop which has been a success story.

In our area we have two very contentious issues which require the skill & diplomacy of astute politicians. Firstly the depletion of the availability of water resources. Secondly the expansion of the coal mining industry. In our particular area which I am familiar with on the Breeza Plain there was an abundance of low salinity water with a static water level of 18' which has been in storage for 10,000 years. With over allocation of irrigation licences the static level of water to-day is approximately 150'. This water has obviously been infiltrated by high levels of salinity which has spoiled this sweet water and ruined it for urban usage'. To further compound this predicament the coal mining industry is carrying out extensive exploration of the subterranean landscape by boring into the earth and thus the contamination problems are increasing

In this region there are extensive deposits of readily accessible good quality coal which is being exported by numerous train loads simply to be burnt in the process of the development of other countries. Coal is a finite resource which is rich in many chemicals. It is to be hoped that future generations will not curse us for wasting this valuable commodity.

Therefore I suggest that in view of the vastness of the proposed new boundary changes, that by some ways & means the two electorates be retained. One of the very pertinent clauses of our constitution states that the task of the parliament is to maintain **good government**. Consequently it is not in the best interests of the citizens of our country to prevent reasonable access to their local **members**.

Yours Faithfully,

  
Lewis Hathway.