



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 283

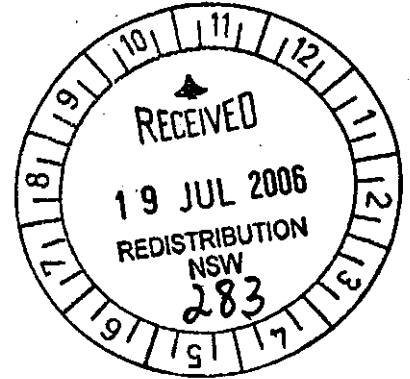
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17th July 2006.

The Chairman,
Redistribution Committee for New South Wales
Australian Electoral Commission (NSW)
PO Box 20014
WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002



Dear Sir,

RE: PROPOSED ABOLITION OF GWYDIR ELECTORATE

We, as many others, are absolutely appalled with the proposal to eliminate the Federal regional seat of Gwydir whilst increasing the neighbouring electorate of Parkes to an area 47% of the State of New South Wales, an area larger than Japan and Germany and five and a half times the size of Tasmania.

There is no evidence to show that the above Electorates will have the lowest rates of growth whereas some Metropolitan and nearby Electorates will certainly have higher growth rates.

The proposed Electorate of Parkes would effectively and unfairly reduce the voice of country people in the Federal Parliament and dramatically increase the demands upon the performance of any Member for that Electorate.

Even the existing Gwydir Electorate has been an extremely demanding job for the current Member together with his former responsible Ministerial positions so how can one expect another Member to perform satisfactorily with such an increased area to cover without grinding him or herself into the ground.

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

Surely the Commission can conceive a far more practical proposal than eliminating one regional Federal electorate to create one containing 47 % of the State of New South Wales.

We wish to express our strong objection to the abolition of the existing Gwydir electorate in favour of creating the monster of a larger Parkes electorate.

Your sincerely

JOHN ATKINS *John Atkins*

JUNE ATKINS *June to Atkins*