

The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 319

Name: Mrs Margaret WEAKLEY

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39 Baxter Street GUNNEDAH NSW 2380 14th July 2006

Redistribution Committee for New South Wales Australian Electoral Committee P O Box 20014 WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002

Re proposed abolition of Federal seat of GWYDIR.

No Taxation without representation! a cry from past history and we in Northwest NSW are certainly still going to be taxed, more and more as industry in our area takes off and population explodes but represented by a small voice in our Federal Parliament - NO!

We in inland NSW, many of us descendants of the original pioneers who opened up this vast country in great hardship, keep the land productive for the benefit of the whole nation but are constantly battered by city-centric governments both State and Federal because we have insufficient voice to make known our needs and problems and make Parliament act upon them. Why do we feel such decisions are made by someone at a city desk who may once or twice have had a holiday west of the Divide? Unless you know the inland it is hard to appreciate that we have virtually no public transport, if we want to go somewhere we have to get in our cars and drive, for hours and hours, pretty expensive these days! Get to see our Local Member? Full day trip, stay overnight, day coming back, cost? Those most in need could not possibly afford it. Perhaps we should all move to the big cities. How nice it must be to hop on a train for five minutes, spend an hour in his office and back, he would also be there most of the time too, not spending months just getting around his electorate. No one in a country area has this luxury but we are being advised that our distances are to be doubled!! And our voice in Parliament halved so it can only get worse. We are devastated by this decision and must do all that we can to persuade the powers that be that this decision is not only bad for us but bad for the country, imagine one voice in Parliament for an area 47% of our State, it is not desert but all populated and developed to the limit of our representation. Surely the legislative requirements for size of electorates have been overlooked here. The welfare of the country people of NSW certainly has!

Yours in desperation,

L & Weakley (Mrs)