

## The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES



**Public Objection Number: 440** 

Name: Mr Peter M COOKSON

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94 Calala Lane Tamworth NSW 2340 19/7/06

Redistribution Committee for New South Wales Australian Electoral Commission (NSW) P O Box 20014 World SquareNSW 2002.

Dear Sir.

Re the proposal to abolish the seat of Gwydir and merge with the seat of Parkes. This must rank with the most unjust redistribution I have ever seen. I was a voter in the Gwydir electorate since I was able to vote in 1950, a time of 56 years.

The estimated growth rates provided by the Australian Electoral Commission do not predict Parkes or Gwydir to have the lowest rates of growth.

The Australian Electoral Commission's proposal creates a new electorate of Parkes that would be almost 380,000 square kilometres in size, or 47 % of NSW. That makes this electorate bigger than Japan and Germany and five and a half times the size of Tasmania.

In Sydney people are often only 10 minutes at the most from their MP's office but in this newly proposed seat of Parkes people will have to drive hours to see their MP.

In the most recent NSW electoral redistribution the Commissioners were mindful of the huge size of the State seat of Murray-Darling and those Commissioners took the opportunity to reduce the size of that electorate. It is perplexing that in this current redistribution such a huge seat would be unnecessarily created.

I find this proposal insulting and unacceptable to rural and regional communities of NSW and so come to you with my concern about the proposals and request the draft boundaries be withdrawn.

Yours faithfully,

Peter M Cookson.

P. M. Cook your