

The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 563

Name: The Venerable David HILL, Archdeacon

Page(s): 2



Anglican Church of Australia

Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn

St John's Rectory PO Box 58 Young NSW 2594 Ph: (02) 6382 1811 Email: d.m.hill@bigpond.net.au

The Venerable David Hill Archdeacon for Rural and Regional Ministry

> The Redistribution Committee for NSW Australian Electoral Commission (NSW) PO Box 20014 World Square NSW 2002

21 July 2006

Reference: 2006 Federal Electoral Redistribution

Dear Sir.

I understand that the Australian Electoral Commission (NSW) is proposing to create a new electorate of Parkes that would be almost 380,000 square kilometres in size, or 47 per cent of NSW. That makes this electorate bigger than Japan and Germany and five and a half times the size of Tasmania.

As a parish priest with regional responsibilities, I understand the frustration and isolation of rural people who do not have access to Medical, Educational, Social Infrastructure as well as public transport and communications that other Australians take for granted.

I agree with the National Party that this proposal would reduce the voice of country people in the Federal Parliament at a time when rural recession and climate change are having an enormous effect on the economic and social concerns of rural people. At such a time rural people's concerns need to be heard and debated in Federal Parliament.



It is ridiculous to expect one person to be available to people living in such a vast region. People in a metropolitan area have easy access to their Member of Parliament; people in the country already have restricted access to their federal member and it is unfair that they should be discriminated against.

The proposal by the Redistribution Committee of NSW does not make sense bearing in mind that 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.

Yours Sincerely

David Hill Archdeacon