



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



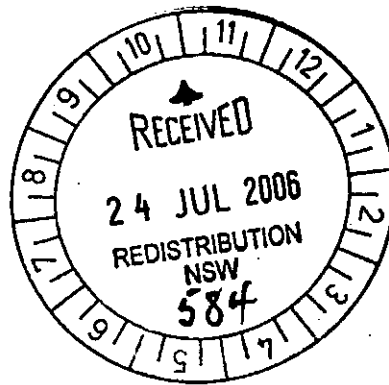
Public Objection Number: 584

Name: Mrs Kathleen M ROSS

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K.M.Ross
93 Calero Street
Lithgow NSW 2790
July 20, 2006

Australian Electoral Commission
Redistribution Committee for NSW
PO Box 20014
World Square
NSW 2002



Dear Sir,

I wish to register my objections to the electoral boundary changes proposed for the division of Clare in the NSW Federal Electoral Redistribution 2006.

I have lived and voted in this electorate for fifty years, and experienced previous changes, but those currently proposed seem to me to disadvantage the current electorate for no particular general advantage. The pressing reason for change is apparently electoral numbers, but the numbers in Calare fit well within the required guidelines.

By cutting Calare in half and shifting the Bathurst/ Lithgow component into the "new" area of Macquarie, Community interests of very long standing will be disrupted. There are considerable educational interchanges between Lithgow, Orange and Bathurst; hotly contested sporting competitions, and extensive economic interdependence. This is not nearly so evident on the Mountains side. As the first city "over the sandstone barrier" we relate far more to the concerns of the West, as is evident from the amount of local government consultation with our western neighbours.

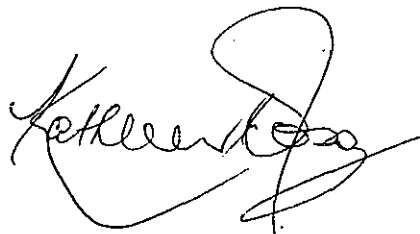
The projected abolition of Gwydir will further reduce the country voice in Parliament. This country is already one of the most urbanized in the world. Much is said by governments of both stripes about the importance of controlling urbanization and encouraging decentralization. The loss of parliamentary spokespersons will not encourage these outcomes.

The loss would not only be in numbers, but also in access. The projected seat of Parkes will be huge. The country already suffers from poor public transport, depleted rail services and inadequate road maintenance. Now the parliamentary representatives will be forced to further ration time and access to their electorates through the sheer travel problems enforced by geography.

Surely the time has come to reconsider the importance of numbers in relation to ease of access and community of interest. If a seat must be lost, it would surely cause less problems in terms of access to the Member and hence

his/her ability to provide quality service to his/her constituents if that adjustment took place within the much better served transport areas in urban NSW, in which communities of interest are also more likely to be compatible. I urge the Committee most strongly to reconsider the projected changes to Calare and Gwydir in the interests of our future electoral representation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathleen Ross', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Kathleen M. Ross