



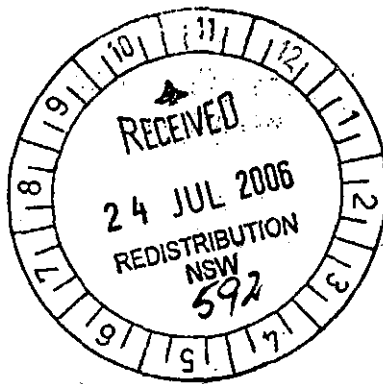
**The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES**



Public Objection Number: 592

Name: Mr Thomas R LYLE

Page(s): 1



Frogmore Park
Oxley Highway
Gunnedah NSW 2380

20 July 2006

Redistribution Committee for NSW
PO Box 20014
World Square NSW 2002

Dear Committee

I am a landholder who has been farming in the north west for over fifty years and feel compelled to write to oppose to the draft boundaries put forward by the Australian Electoral Commission which include abolishing the seat of Gwydir and turning the north west of New South Wales into a mega-seat.

As you would be aware, Gwydir is a Federation seat, which means it has existed since 1901 when Australia became a nation – if this seat goes, it is part of Australia's short history that will be gone. I feel strongly that we need to hang on to this history.

What I also find disturbing is that due to the lack of administration from the New South Wales State Government, people have been leaving this seat in droves to move to Queensland. Why should rural Australia be penalised for this State Government's inefficiencies.

With the new boundaries, this would mean that one Federal Member would be covering an area that is impractical, let alone dangerous for travelling long distances. The seat will be so big it will make it very hard for any one to get to see their Federal Member, making it a day trip for a half hour appointment. I am fortunate at the moment as John Anderson is based in Gunnedah and I have good access to him. I do not find it attractive to have to travel a six hour round trip to see my Federal Member. It is important that true representation remains in the bush

I also feel strongly that, like us, the Indigenous communities in the Western Division will be less represented as they are more remote and will be more distanced from their member.

I would appreciate you re-considering the boundaries that you have drawn to retain the seat of Gwydir in a more reasonable size.

Yours sincerely

Thomas R Lyle