

The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 606

Name: Mr and Mrs H and C PTASZINSKI

Page(s): 2

Carol & Hans Ptaszinski 32 Townsend Street COONAMBLE NSW 2829 19TH July 2006

The Commissioner
Australian Electoral Commission
State Head Office
24 Campbell Street
Haymarket NSW 2000



Dear Sir

I am writing to express our dissatisfaction with the proposals as below

- to amalgamate most of the Federal seats of Gwydir and Parkes
- to create a "mega-seat"
- to name the new electorate "Parkes".

I do not see how amalgamating the two seats and, in effect, doubling the area for a member to represent can possibly be in the best interests of the constituents of either seat given the vast distances, the communication and transport networks, and the need for our voice to be heard.

With my work in the community and my understanding of the difficulties that services and organizations face in servicing the areas north and west of Dubbo, I cannot support any proposal that would disadvantage our people further. We need to see our local member and for him/her to see and be familiar with our towns, our areas, our communities and our needs. We do not need a person who is so overloaded with travel and work commitments that we do not get "down to grass roots" representation.

Given that the seat of Gwydir currently covers 185,000 square kilometres and the seat of Wentworth covers 26 square kilometres, why not target Wentworth? Give us a fair go!

We have been ably represented in Gwydir by Mr John Anderson. He has been a presence in our community. How can you possibly expect a member to be able to get around 380,000 square kilometres and represent the people living in those rural and remote areas fairly and equitably?

Perhaps you need to talk with the State Health Department and ask them what difficulties they encountered in setting up a huge Greater Western Area Health Service covering such a huge area of NSW where services are located in the bigger towns and cities, naturally, and the remote, isolated, small rural towns are again struggling for their fair share.

Our populations may be decreasing, but the people who are staying in the rural areas need strong support and strong government representation to keep our country areas alive and vital, to ensure our existing services still exist and speak up for us in the government.

I hope this proposal is quashed. It is unfair, it is not equitable, it is another "kick in the pants". I really couldn't believe it!

Yours faithfully

Maszynski on behalf of the Ptaszinski family

Copies to
Mr John Anderson, MP for Gwydir
Mr Ian Slack-Smith, State Member for Barwon