



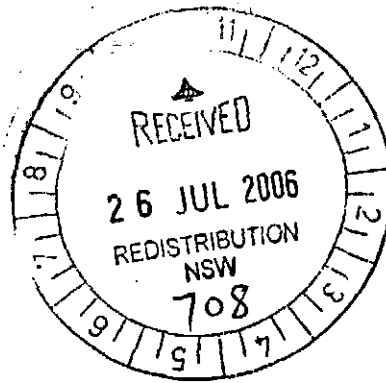
The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 708

Name: Ms Christine KILLINGER JP

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25TH July 2006

Redistribution Committee for NSW
PO Box 20014
World Square
NSW 2002

Re: Proposed Redistribution

I wish to raise my concerns to the proposed electoral divisions of Calare and Macquarie to incorporate Bathurst and surrounds as opposed to retaining the area of Richmond, Windsor and the Hawkesbury basin which is part of BM National Park.

From the tourism perspective, the seat of Macquarie incorporates the Blue Mountains World Heritage National Park which is of international significance, encapsulating the lower Blue Mountains (Glenbrook), upper Blue Mountains (Blackheath), Oberon (Jenolan Caves) Lithgow, down Bells Line of Road through Richmond and Windsor, which constitutes the Grand Circular Tourist Route. As this area is tourist focused with majority of small business operators in hospitality, therefore has no commonality with Bathurst or the surrounding farming areas west of the ranges.

Domestic visitation to this region is predominately from the East (Sydney and surrounds) with marketing strategies emphasizing the unique and fulfilling experiences such a short distance from the city.

Bathurst is not part of the main tourist route but is usually classified as a specific destination.

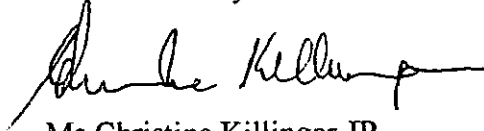
This BM Region is easily accessed from Sydney via the Cityrail Electric Train service which also links to the Hawkesbury. For travel beyond Lithgow to points west (Bathurst) necessitates the Country Link Service, which at times involves bus transfers, resulting in a long and arduous trip.

Due to the close proximity of BM to metropolitan Sydney, the daily commute to work is seen as a preferred option. It is projected that by 2021 the Blue Mountains population will reach 84,600, a growth rate of 13%. It is highly unlikely that this would be reversed with the general populous choosing to commute to Bathurst on a daily basis as there is not the infrastructure to sustain long term employment.

Lithgow and Bathurst are not considered significant commercial centres and offer a very limited selection of shopping facilities. It still requires a trip to Penrith, Parramatta or the city for greater choices.

In conclusion, by annexing regional Bathurst to the periphery of Macquarie will alienate them from the central west to which they are more akin, than into a world heritage national park region that has very little in the way of similarities. The need to maintain Richmond and Windsor (part of the Hawkesbury Valley) in Macquarie is part of history and is synonymous with the Blue Mountains. and early settlement in the region. The mountains, acting as a natural barrier, defining the electorates, have the endorsement of the state electorate so why the need for change federally?

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine Killinger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ms Christine Killinger JP
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