

The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES

Public Objection Number: 727

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Page(s): 1

154 Sherwood Road, KEMPSEY NSW 2440 16 July, 2006.

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2 6 JUL 2006 REDISTRIBUTION

NSW

The Australian Electoral Officer for New South Wales Level 1, Sir Roden Cutler House, 24 Campbell Street, SYDNEY 2001

Dear Sir,

RE: PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION

ELIMINATION OF SEAT OF GWYDIR.

I wish to lodge a submission objecting to the elimination of the Federal seat of Gwydir as outlined in the recently released draft [proposals.

Although I do not live in that area I have a background of political interest that alerts me to the problems it would cause. During my working career I had casual employment in a parliamentary representative's office where I became aware that the greatest task undertaken by politicians was that of attending to constituent's day to day problems. The best resolutions were those that occurred following a face to face interview as many were so complex it was not possible to explain over the phone or by putting pen to paper. If Gwydir is eliminated the representatives taking on the current constituents residing there will never have enough time to travel to far flung points in the vast new seats created to personally attend to them. Therefore many electors will be denied the democracy of being able to access their Federal Member of Parliament.

I feel sure that other solutions could be found such as removal of a seat in the Sydney area and transferring of electors to surrounding seats where travel distance to access their representative would measure tens of kilometres where loss of Gwydir would result in trave of hundreds of kilometres. Alternatively the current Gwydir could loop in one of the larger towns/cities either in New England or Hunter area with the boundary of that seat being moved south.

Yours faithfully,

Mary Jan

Mary Tarr