



The Federal Redistribution 2006  
NEW SOUTH WALES



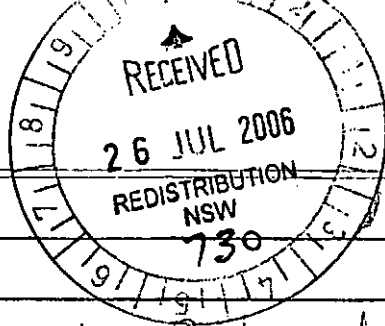
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**Public Objection Number: 730**

**Name: Mrs Barbara WEBSTER**

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Barbara Webster  
345 Cobalt st,  
Broken Hill. 2880



O. K. C.  
Australian  
Electoral Commission

(1)

Re:- changing Parkes electoral boundary - BH to Farrer.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am deeply concerned about your proposal to remove Broken Hill from our surrounding districts for the following reasons:-

1) No part of the proposed electorate would contain any part of our major water supply, the Darling River. This may mean nothing to Sydney-dwellers, but it means a lot to desert-dwellers in the outback. This will ~~mean~~ no doubt be even greater concern as the years become drier, the northern foreign-controlled water licence holders remain as greedy as they are at present, and the states of NSW, Qld + SA remain stagnant in their failure to fairly share the water of the Great Darling River catchment. There will most likely come a time when the Federal government will need to step in, so we'll need to be able to lobby someone who's electorate contains more than the last few km of the Darling river.

2) Toxic + radioactive waste transport from Sydney has been an issue in the past, + one that no doubt won't go away. The obvious routes either rail or road from Sydney/Canberra to N.T. / S.A. or Broken Hill itself are not in the proposed electorate:- hence no minister to lobby once again, as ~~the~~ our proposed new electorate's minister will be more concerned with any such issues to accommodate the wishes of those folk along the Murray, 280 km away. As all government levels are of the opinion to transport the poisonous wastes to the farthest corner away from themselves (Canberra/Sydney) it would be unrealistic to

expect an MP to be of any value lobbying when no other part of their electorate would be along the most direct route - Sydney  $\rightarrow$  Broken Hill. Likewise for an MP who is based in the north-eastern corner at Moree, in an electorate larger than Germany.

3) The proposed electorate containing the NSW catchment of the Darling River is much vaster than any before. The proposed "centre" for this new electorate to the east is Moree, (the heart of cotton-growers country, who have enormous water rights, who use new G-M improved cotton strains to save water, just so they can plant out twice as much area under cotton :- no water is "saved") The closer to geographical centre is Cobaw, a mining town only 5 hours ~~drive~~ drive from Broken Hill, not 1 1/2 days ~~of~~ travel, with no public transport available from the majority of the ~~electorate~~ electorate which is the case for Moree.

4) It makes too much sense to base a politician in the end of a river system in his/her electorate as that would ensure a strong political voice for water flows reaching the end of the river system. Your proposal is to base the politician right up the top of the river system so they don't really need to give a damn about flows to towns + flood plains below them, especially in other electorates + other states.

5) Our major industries are dependant on our desert + Darling River region, being mining, outback tourism, dryland and Darling River floodplains grazing. These industries are not in common with the proposed new electorate from Wentworth to Albury, but are in common with the current Parkes electorate. I believe it would be too much for an MP to manage the extra details + have a good understanding of our general region, as well as the rest of his/her electorate.

Please wake up to the reality of your proposal and formulate a more appropriate electoral boundary change - perhaps in Sydney where it couldnt possibly affect people as much.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara Webster.