



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 74

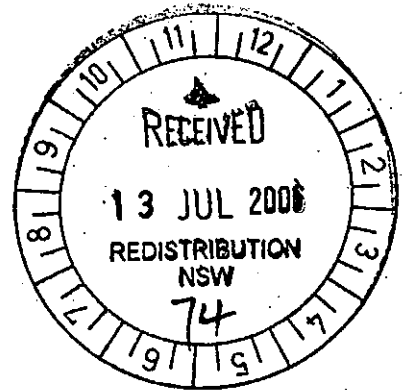
Name: Ms Michele MORGAN

Page(s): 2

7 Lomas Close
KELSO NSW 2795

9 July 2006

The Secretary
Redistribution Committee for NSW
Australian Electoral Commission
PO Box 20014
World Square NSW 2002



Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed Redistribution of Calare and Macquarie

I am a resident of Bathurst and enrolled in the Calare electorate. Whilst I fear the redistribution changes transferring Bathurst and surrounding areas to the Macquarie electorate are a foregone conclusion, I must put forward my objection to the proposal.

I have been a resident of Bathurst since January 2000 having transferred from Sydney with a section of the State public service. The aim of the transfer was to locate more public servants in the western 'regional' area of the State!!

My observation since becoming a Bathurstian is that the local population in no way identifies with the Blue Mountains as a community of interest.

The Blue Mountains and Lower Blue mountains areas are in fact outer metropolitan areas of Sydney. Many of the population on the eastern side of the 'sandstone curtain' commute to city-based employment; the electrified rail transport moves east not west; radio and television coverage is based on city programmes and issues; sporting competition in the main, is based on the eastern side of the 'sandstone curtain'.

On the western side of the 'sandstone curtain' regular rail transport from Sydney to the west stops at Lithgow; there is an XPT that inadequately covers the rest of the west; WIN television has a half-hour of news covering regional issues each night, before the city-based news covering national and international issues, the focus of which is from Lithgow to the west; very rarely would the Blue Mountains

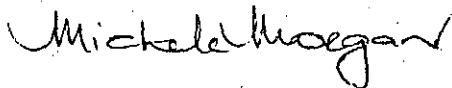
be mentioned unless there are road or rail closures and entertainment and sports programming is deemed regional; our radio stations, both ABC regional and Bathurst's 2BS and others cover issues from Lithgow and the west; sporting teams with long standing rivalries participate in competitions between Lithgow and many other Central Tablelands and Central West cities and towns; shopping, in the main, would be conducted locally or again further west.

I cannot in any way see how the Committee can assert there is a shared community of interest between Bathurst, Lithgow, Oberon and the Blue Mountains. In everyday activities and thinking, we identify with western rural communities. Perhaps that was the reason Bathurst, Lithgow and Oberon were moved out of the Macquarie electorate some years ago!!

In the Calare electorate we know our local Federal member and can speak with him at any time - I personally have never heard of the member for Macquarie! I certainly don't see how any sitting member for the proposed new area can possibly meet the requirements of such disparate communities!!

Please reconsider your proposed redistribution of so many residents of the Calare electorate and leave it as is, where the residents identify with the rest of the State's western communities.

Yours sincerely



Michele Morgan

Cc: Mr P Andren MHR, Member for Calare.

Cc: Mr K Bartlett MHR, Member for Macquarie