

## The Federal Redistribution 2006 NEW SOUTH WALES



**Public Objection Number: 753** 

Name: Messrs K J and B D HOPKINS

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Redistribution Committee for New South Wales. Australian Electoral Commission (N.S.W). P.O. Box 20014 WORLD SQUARE. N.S.W. 2002

Dear Sir,

As residents of Western New South Wales for sixty years, we have been involved in the fundamental mechanics of affairs which to varying degrees effect the population of Rural and Regional areas.

Having been directly connected with Government (at Local, State and Federal levels), Business, Primary Production, Education Depts. and extensive Bushfire Control, it has provided us with a working knowledge of cause and effects related to large and lightly populated Electorates.

The proposed alterations to the Federal seat of Parkes has met with astonishment and disbelief that the Commission would contemplate enlarging Parkes to become about 47% of New South Wales area.

We of course understand that representation has to be related to population, but there surely has to be some allowance for "community of interest", accessibility to Members Offices, and the sheer size already of the Parkes Electorate, without adding further to the Politician's travel commitments. Obviously inhabitants of heavier populated areas can have closer contact with their Members, but very few people from highly populated areas can envisage the difference of time/road travel and the natural absence of frequent or direct Air Travel in remote areas.

Although the present Member for Parkes has commendably used his experience to maximise representation, the proposed Electoral enlargements have added to the already ingrained belief of the Western N.S.W. population that officialdom does not value the sparsely populated areas nearly as much as the seaboard Electorates.

## Consequently, we are strongly opposed to the draft proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Messrs, K.J. & B.D. Hopkins