



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 792

Name: ROTARY CLUB of GUNNEDAH

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ROTARY CLUB OF GUNNEDAH

CLUB 4505
DISTRICT 9650

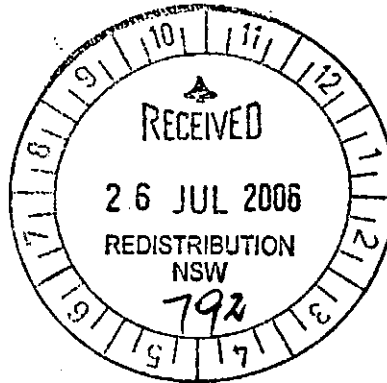


PO BOX 39
GUNNEDAH NSW
AUSTRALIA 2380

President: Bob Leicester
Secretary: Ron Hobden

17th July 2006.

Redistribution Committee for NSW
PO Box 20014
World Square
NSW 2002



Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Gunnedah I am writing to you to express our opposition to the proposed abolishment of the Federal seat of Gwydir in favour of creating a greatly enlarged seat of Parkes.

We understand that each electorate in NSW is supposed to have a quota of 90,000 voters and that the Gwydir electorate falls slightly below that figure with 87,990. However, this area is experiencing a healthy growth in population because of mining, the establishment of an ethanol plant and other industries.

Towns such as Mudgee, Moree, Narrabri, Gunnedah and Boggabri are experiencing or about to experience this growth.

There are seats in the Sydney metropolitan area which fall below the quota and whose projected growth falls well below Gunnedah's 1.55.

We further understand that in other states such as Tasmania the electorate quota is only 68,000.

To expect one man or woman to adequately represent an electorate comprising 47% of the State's area is grossly unfair and undemocratic.

Rotary areas are divided into Districts administered by a District Governor. In an area the size of the proposed seat of Parkes there would be at least two District Governors and possibly three.

While a District Governor's duties are demanding and time consuming they fall well below that of a rural Member of Parliament.

Finally I point out that Rotary is a strictly non-political, non-sectarian organisation. With 1,500,000 members in 33,000 clubs in 139 countries it is vitally important that it remains so.

Our members consider that is not about politics but that it seriously infringes on our Rotary creed of: Is it fair to all and will it be beneficial to all?

The answer to the above is, of course, NO.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Hobden".

H. R. Hobden,
Secretary.