



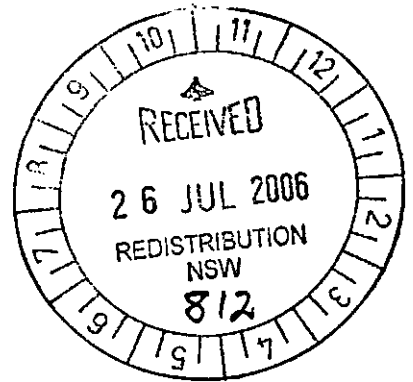
The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Public Objection Number: 812

**Name: GWYDIR ELECTORATE COUNCIL of
THE NATIONALS**

Page(s): 1



The Redistribution Committee for NSW
PO Box 20014
World Square NSW 2002

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the Gwydir Electorate Council of the Nationals I am writing to strongly object to the proposed merger of the electorates of Gwydir and Parkes.

The sheer size of the proposed electorate of Parkes would make it extremely difficult to be serviced by an elected Member of Parliament. This area is extremely productive with a large number of vibrant but fiercely independent communities. These communities are experiencing an increase of interest by commercial investors and people wishing to relocate to these towns to take advantage of the financial and social rewards they offer. A hard working and committed Federal Member of Parliament is a vital link between these communities and the Government. This proposed new electorate is too large to allow this to happen.

The criterion of community of interest has not been met with this proposal. The city of Dubbo has a community of interest with a portion of the new electorate but also has a large influence on the areas to the south and east in the proposed electorate of Calare. There is no community of interest between Dubbo and the towns north of the Pilliga Scrub including Gunnedah, Narrabri, Moree and Wyallda.

The proposed electorate of Parkes is unworkable and should be abandoned. I call on the Australian Electoral Commission to consider a more sensible alternative.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Coulton".

Mark Coulton
Chairman, Gwydir Electorate Council
The Nationals, New South Wales
"Kurrajong Hills"
WYALDA 2402