



The Federal Redistribution 2006  
NEW SOUTH WALES

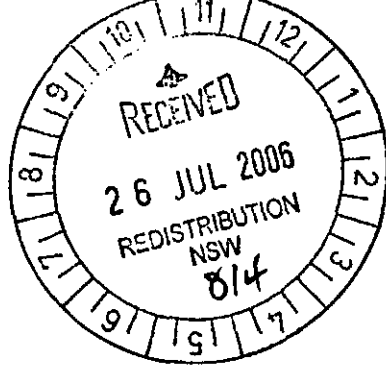


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**Public Objection Number: 814**

**Name: Mr W K BROOKES**

**Page(s): 2**



"Dunworkin"  
158 Oregon Road  
Warialda. NSW. 2402

22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2006

Australian Electoral Commission  
PO Box 20014  
World Square. NSW. 2002

Re: Federal Redistribution in NSW

I wish to submit my objection to the redistribution involving the abolition of the Division of Gwydir and the enlargement of the Division of Parkes for the following reasons.

It is impossible for one person to provide adequate representation across an area as large as the proposed Parkes electorate. Access of residents to their elected representative would be very restricted when it is almost 1000 kilometres from one end of the electorate to the other. It would seem grossly inequitable to expect one person to represent an area about 12000 times as large as some others – almost 380000 square kilometres in the proposed Parkes electorate compared to around 30 square kilometres in some Sydney seats.

The requirement for communities of interest and transport and communication links to be considered seems to have been largely ignored. It is almost impossible to find much to link communities across an area as large as the proposed Parkes electorate.

Your own website figures show that the existing electorates of Gwydir and Parkes do not have the lowest projected growth rates of electorates in NSW. Two electorates have lower projected growth rates than Gwydir and a further four have lower projections than Parkes – and those six seats are all in city or near-city electorates.

An analysis of estimated enrolments as at 31/5/2010 shows:-

- The existing 16 electorates of Calare, Cowper, Eden-Monaro, Farrer, Gilmore, Gwydir, Hume, Hunter, Lyne, Macquarie, New England, Page, Parkes, Paterson, Richmond and Riverina (roughly what could be considered to be outside of Newcastle, Sydney and Wollongong) have an average projected enrolment of 92646, only 862 below the Quota and well within the acceptable range.
- The remaining 34 existing electorates (those that could be said to be in or very close to Newcastle, Sydney and Wollongong) have an average projected enrolment of 91164, some 2344 below quota and only 928 above the minimum. If the electorate to be abolished came from this group the average of 33 seats remaining would be 93927, 419 above quota.
- These 33 electorates would cover about 7548 square kilometres, average around 230 square kilometres.
- The 16 non-city electorates would cover about 801857 square kilometres, averaging around 50000 square kilometres.

Surely it would be more equitable all round to take an approach something like this. It seems to me to be very un-Australian to expect a small group of people (the electors in the proposed enlarged Parkes) to suffer a large disadvantage so that a large group (the electors in heavily populated areas) suffer little or no disadvantage.

I hope that my submission will be seriously considered along with any others that you receive.

Yours faithfully,  
W. K. Brookes

*W.K. Brookes*