



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



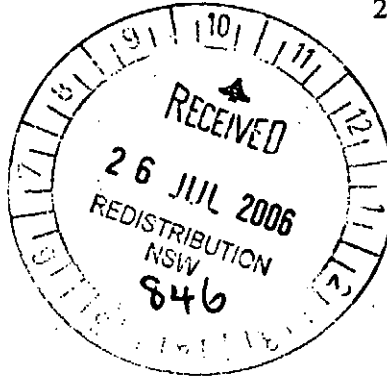
Public Objection Number: 846

Name: Ms Mary AVEYARD

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1305 Kurmond Rd.,
Kurmond NSW 2757
24th July, 2006

The Chairman
Redistribution Committee for NSW,
P O Box 20014,
World Square, NSW. 2002



Dear Sir,

I wish to strongly object to the proposed redistribution of the Federal Seat of Macquarie, in particular to the removal of a large portion of the Hawkesbury from this Seat.

We in the Hawkesbury, by tradition and inclination, share a community of interest with the Blue Mountains, both in our lifestyle and as a tourist destination which encompasses both regions. Hawkesbury/Blue Mountains as an area is associated in our thoughts and language; Hawkesbury/Blacktown is not.

By severing the Hawkesbury from the Blue Mountains, its very identity is altered from that of a semi-rural community at the foot of the Mountains, to one of urban fringe dweller; not something that can readily be accepted. We have little in common with Blacktown and have no wish to be forced into the greater metropolitan alliance which the proposed redistribution would cause.

The nature of the Hawkesbury is so different from that of the metropolitan area that it is impossible to see fair and equitable representation from any future Federal Member attempting to deal with two very diverse communities. Changes to the State boundaries have already divided the Hawkesbury into three electorates, which is a very confusing and unsatisfactory state of affairs. Are we to be even further disrupted by being thrown in to the urban basket with no consideration of our needs and unique historical position? Surely there is more to electoral boundaries than numbers! One could be forgiven for thinking that there is a "divide and conquer" scheme afoot, the underpinning reason being to force the Hawkesbury into urban electorates with the ultimate plan of subdivision and urban development.

The removal of the five Macquarie towns, namely Wilberforce, Pitt Town, Richmond, Windsor and Castlereagh, from the electorate of Macquarie would surely demonstrate the absolute ignorance of, and/or indifference to, our history and traditions. And, most of all, to our wishes.

In the best interests of the residents of the Hawkesbury, and in recognition of our community of interest with the Blue Mountains, I ask you to reconsider any proposal to remove the Hawkesbury from the Federal Seat of Macquarie.

Yours Faithfully,

Mary Aveyard