



The Federal Redistribution 2006  
NEW SOUTH WALES



---

**Public Objection Number: 914**

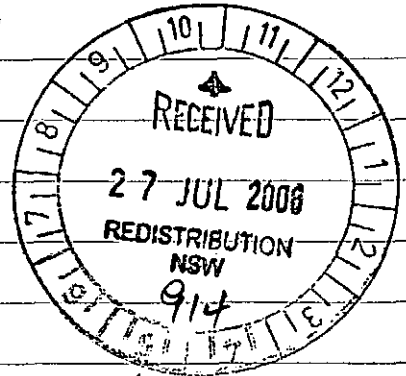
**Name: Mr Ralph Wood**

**Page(s): 2**

Ralph Wood  
"Takari"  
191 Gun Club Road  
Narrabri NSW 2390

25-7-2006

The Australian Electoral Office for NSW  
Level 1, Roden Cutler House  
24 Campbell St  
HAYMARKET.



Dear Sir,

I wish to object most strongly to the abolition of the seat of Gwydir in the proposed redistribution of electoral boundaries.

The proposed seat of Parkes (even the name is confusing because the town of Parkes is close to, but outside, the proposed Division) will have about 200 Polling Places, indicative of the geographic spread of population centres. The majority of electors will be in Dubbo, hundreds of kilometres from the most productive shires of Moree Plains and Narrabri — also significant population centres.

The new electorate covers over 1253 km of national highways (including over 370 km of a Federal Highway) and at least three airports with regular scheduled air services.

You are asking one member to be permanently travelling to even try to service a Division in which there is not total mobile phone coverage. This will effectively rule out a candidate with any family responsibilities, which does nothing to encourage Australians to stay in stable family situations.

The current proposal seems to have come about by moving centres of population into Eastern electorates so that they meet the new requirements and what was left was called Parkes.


A more suitable proposal would be to remove a city-based seat, where the difficulties of servicing electors are not as critical.

The majority of electors in Gwydir have strong health, education, business and sport connections with Tamworth, then Newcastle + Sydney.

The majority of electors in Parkes have their health, education + sport connections with Dubbo, Orange, Bathurst and Sydney.

I beseech you to reconsider this proposal, and maintain the electoral divisions of Gwydir and Parkes.

yours faithfully

  
R. Wood