



**The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES**



Public Objection Number: 926

Name: Central Darling Shire Council

Page(s): 2



"Bill O'Brien"
<obrienb@centraldarling.nsw.gov.au>
27/07/2006 09:31 AM

To <nsw.redistribution@aec.gov.au>
"Sulicich, Sue (J. Cobb, MP)"
cc <Sue.Sulicich@aph.gov.au>, <longrayjan@bigpond.com>

bcc

Subject Re-Distribution of Federal Government Seats

Classification Unclassified

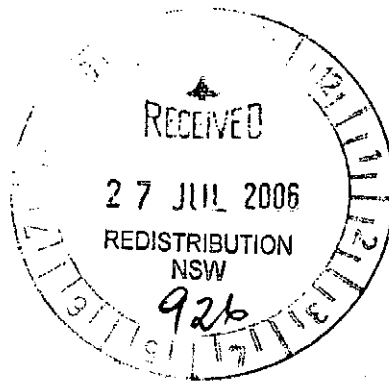
Good Day! All

Please find attached a submission prepared by Central Darling Shire Council in relation to the proposed "draft" redistribution of seats by the Australian Electoral Commission.

Kind Regards,

Bill O'Brien
General Manager

Ph. (08) 80838900
Mob. 0429 915 901

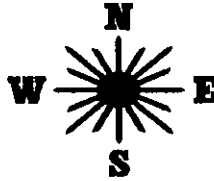


CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL

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Constituted 1 May 1959

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Facsimile

To: Australian Electoral Commission

Attn: Electoral Commissioner

Pages:

(02) 9212 2208

Thursday, 27 July 2006

Fax:

Date:

From: Bill O'Brien - General Manager

File:

As Requested

Please Reply

Urgent

Dear Sir

Central Darling Shire Council is totally opposed to the proposed redistribution of seats by the Australian Electoral Commission and the draft decision to eliminate the Federal Seat of Gwydir in New South Wales held by the Hon John Anderson MP. Central Darling Shire is the largest Shire in the State with a geographical area covering some 53,000 square kilometres and is located within the Federal seat of Parkes.

Council are concerned the expanded seat of Parkes will mean many citizens living in Western New South Wales will feel disenfranchised and will not have an effective voice in the Federal Parliament. To only have one voice representing around 80% of people who live west of the Divide is certainly alarming and to be represented by just one MP is considered unfair.

The Federal Seat of Gwydir should be retained and there are alternative redistribution arrangements that could fit within the Act. For example retaining Broken Hill in the seat of Parkes thus retaining this cities status as the heartland of outback NSW, it seems illogical that Broken Hill would become part of the electorate of Farrar and splintered off to Albury in the south east.

Council consider it to be vital that their Federal Member is familiar with each local community and associated infrastructure issues and further, is actively involved and has a basic understanding of the issues confronting local organisations and the broad range of industry in the west of the State. This can only be achieved by realistic and appropriate electoral boundaries.

Council trust the Australian Electoral Commission will consider this submission before any final decision is made and thank you for the opportunity to comment on this extremely important proposed draft redistribution of seats.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill O'Brien', enclosed in a circular scribble.

Bill O'Brien
GENERAL MANAGER