



**The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES**



Public Objection Number: 978

Name: Mr Ross Forsyth

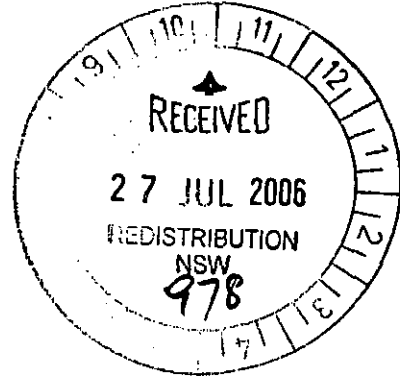
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ROSS FORSYTH

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Tuesday 25th July 2006

Redistribution Committee for NSW
Aust Electoral Commission [NSW]
P O Box 20014
WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002



Dear Sirs

I refer to your draft boundaries for NSW released recently

Whether or not it is expressed in the relevant legislation your Commission's overall concern must be to ensure each voter receives equality of effective Parliamentary representation.

By creating in your draft a seat having an area of near 380,000 square kilometers you are condemning the voters of Parkes to a lesser quality of Parliamentary representation than that that enjoyed by voters in all other seats. This inequality arises from either the greater travel time spent by the Member in getting to and from a meeting with a constituent or the greater travel time + expense [including fuel + , possibly ; accommodation expenses] incurred by a constituent in getting to + from a meeting with the Member.

I stress that I am talking about one-on-one services, not so much the services the Member provides simultaneously to all constituents by e g a mail-out.

You may respond by asserting that the Member can be" resourced-up "[by e g increased air charter allowances] but the one crucial resource you cannot provide more of is the Member's time.

Ironically, the Member will have even less time for constituents if he/she is a Minister + even less if he/she is Deputy Prime Minister

Added to this is a clear loss for each voter in the former seats of Parkes + Gwydir because each such voter will now be in the same seat [despite there being no community of interest] which is much larger than each of those two seats were before the redistribution

On the other hand, if a Sydney metro area seat was abolished there would be a much lesser loss in effective Parliamentary representation [+ much greater community of interest] + such abolition would allow Gwydir to be retained.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross Forsyth".

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