



The Federal Redistribution 2006
NEW SOUTH WALES



Comments on Public Objections – Comment No: 48

Name: Mr Andrew FRASER, MP

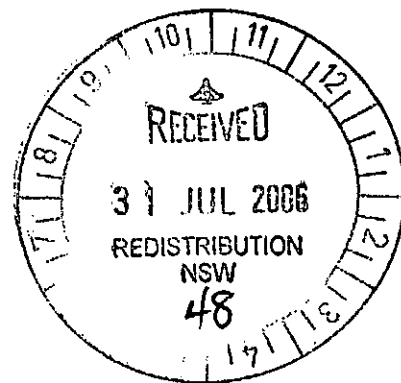
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Parliament of New South Wales
Legislative Assembly

Andrew Fraser MP
MEMBER FOR COFFS HARBOUR

26 July 2006



Redistribution Committee for New South Wales
Australian Electoral Commission (NSW)
PO Box 20014
WORLD SQUARE NSW 2002

Dear Sir/Madam

I write to object to the proposal to abolish the seat of Gwydir and merge it with the seat of Parkes. I believe such a proposal would be totally unacceptable to the electors of the region.

If the proposal is approved, this seat would be the third largest electorate in Australia, with a size of 454,278 sq km an estimated total population of approximately 164,598 electors. (All area and population figures have been taken from the AEC website) Australia's largest electorate, Kalgoorlie, with a size of 2,295,354 sq km has approximately 81,987 electors and the next largest electorate, Lingiari, at a size of 1,347 849 sq km has only, approximately, 58,205 electors. To create an electorate with a proposed population of 164,598 would be a huge dis-service to the people of the region as they would not receive the representation they deserve.

I understand there are 19 local government areas in the proposed seat and it would be impossible for one federal Member of Parliament to provide fair and equitable representation to all the people of these local government areas.

Additionally, the loss of a rural seat in the Australian Parliament, and an enormous seat covering near 47% of the State, would be a huge loss to the people of rural and regional NSW who have unique needs and problems compared to their city counterparts.

I urge your reconsideration of this proposal as the people of the area deserve fair representation in the Federal Parliament.

Yours sincerely

ANDREW FRASER MP
Member for Coffs Harbour
Shadow Minister for Small Business
Shadow Minister for Forestry



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