

COMMENT ON PUBLIC SUGGESTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009
NSW

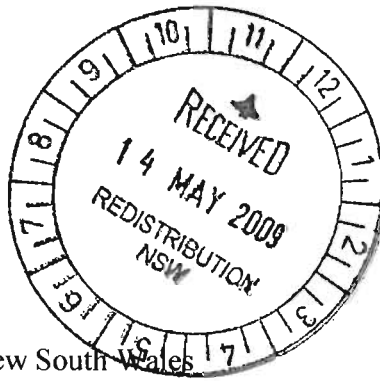


Comment on Public Suggestion Number 4

by

Vic Batten

4 Pages



13 May 2009
2 Eldon Lane,
BEECROFT 2119

The Chairman
Redistribution Committee – New South Wales
P. O. Box K406
HAYMARKET NSW 1240
Dear Sir,

Electoral Redistribution

I refer to my previous submission to the Redistribution Commission being Number 43.

This is my supplementary submission.

I have read the submissions to the Redistribution Commission by the Australian Labor Party (No 119), The Liberal Party of Australia (No 113) and the National Party (No 123).

The Australian Labor Party states in Para 3, page 6 that an area of Bennelong which includes **North Epping** is to the north of the M2 Motorway and thus is easy to access from Berowra and difficult to access from Bennelong. This is incorrect due to North Epping being surrounded by a steeply sided Devlins Creek and Pennant Hills Park (with no roads) on the west, north and east. On the north, the Boundary Road limit to the west and east is a paper road pencilled in on the first Town Plan drawn up in the early 1800's. The apparent barrier to the south of the M2 Motorway is a tunnel over 10 (ten) metres below ground level under the suburb. The major shopping centre for this area is Macquarie Centre and its high school is Epping Boys High School.

Attached is a Google search which shows the shortest route between the current Berowra electorate and this area by road is **3.3 kilometres** passing through five sets of traffic lights and two roundabouts. The only bridge has five lanes to the west and thirteen to the east. Also attached is a map of the area showing Devlins Creek to the west with few roads in this part of Cheltenham due to the topography.

It is noted that the population of Baulkham Hills in 2009 is 77,243 and in 2012 is 84,963. (National Party page 76)

It is noted that the population of Hornsby in 2009 is 97,436 and in 2012 is 101,041. (Labor Party page 7)

Baulkham Hills increases by 9.99% and Hornsby by 3.69%. Hornsby Council is in the course of a rezoning change to add 11,000 residential units; there are a number of major Seniors developments in the Dural and Kenthurst areas and numerous infill subdivisions. Therefore it appears that the projected Hornsby numbers are too low.

In view of these I submit that the North Epping area and the Carlingford area south of the M2 Motorway should be excluded from Berowra. Their respectively remaining in Bennelong and transfer to Mitchell or Parramatta would bring these other electorates up to be closer to quota and maintain the stated aims of the three submissions referred to above.

Vic Batten (Elector enrolled in Berowra)

In support of the above, I attach a copy of Google search and a road directory page. Also included are selective quotes from the three submissions referred to above.

Australian Labor Party

P1 Para 4 “optimal community of interest”

P1 Para 5 “strong lines such as main roads and rivers”.

P7 “5 Bennelong 97,436 in 2009 projected 101,041 in 2012.
Less part Hornsby 3,127 3,136

Variance of quota (zero) (-1.0)

With part Hornsby (+1.0) (zero)

“6 Berowra 96,806 projected 98,938

Variance of quota (+2.6) (zero)

Without Nth Epping (+1.6) (-1.0)

It is again noted that this increase in Hornsby of 2,132 voters is at variance to the planned 11,000 new dwellings proposed for Hornsby.

Liberal Party of Australia

Page 4 “The critical factor in metropolitan areas is drawing a boundary that is easily understood by constituents. In metropolitan areas, natural physical features such as waterways and bushland make good boundaries. In the absence of such natural boundaries, man-made physical features such as railway lines and significant roads are also helpful in ensuring a constituent understands seat boundaries

However, a proposal that minimises unnecessary change best complies with the 'letter' and 'spirit' of the Act.”

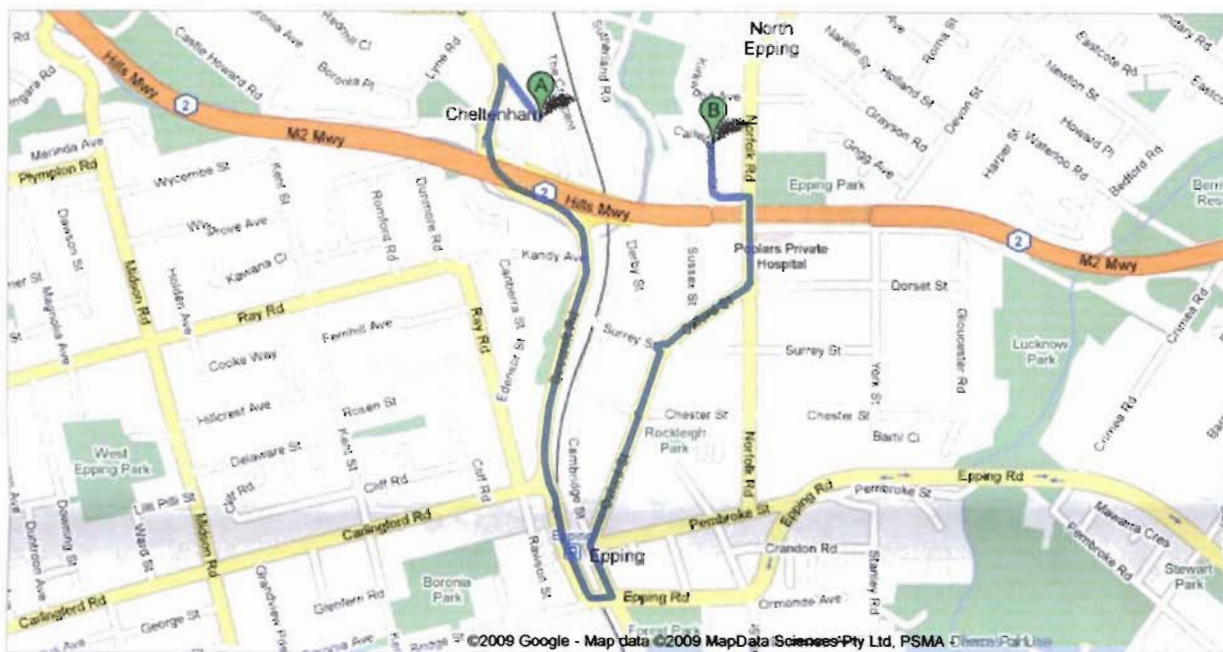
National Party

Page 7 From the former Division of Berowra: - 5,426 in 2009 to projected 5,660 in 2012. This does not appear to reflect the Council proposal.

Page 73 Bennelong – Ryde LGA 66,404 in 2009 to projected 69,079 in 2012.

The National Party recommendation on page 74 appears to state what the Australian Labor Party, Liberal Party of Australia, National Party and I conclude is reasonable.

Finally, on page 76 the 2009 enrolment is stated as 77,243 in Part Baulkham Hills LGA expanding to 84,963 in 2012. This appears to extrapolate the **prior** greenfield explosion of housing **will continue** way past the point where most lots have already been developed (in 2007 and 2008). Either this is too optimistic or the Berowra expansion is too pessimistic.



Driving directions to Callistemon Close, North Epping NSW 2121

3.5 km – about 8 mins

Old Beecroft Rd
Cheltenham NSW 2119

1. Head **northwest** on **Old Beecroft Rd** toward **Beecroft Rd** 0.2 km
2. Sharp **left** at **Beecroft Rd** 1.7 km
3. Turn **left** at **Langston Pl** 0.2 km
4. Slight **right** at **Oxford St** 0.9 km
Go through 2 roundabouts
5. At the roundabout, take the **1st** exit onto **Norfolk Rd** 0.3 km
6. Turn **left** at **Callistemon Cl** 0.2 km

Callistemon Close
North Epping NSW 2121

These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather, or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly. You must obey all signs or notices regarding your route.

Map data ©2009 MapData Sciences Pty Ltd, PSMA

