

# OBJECTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009  
NSW



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Objection Number **65**

by

**Roger Bailey, General Manager, Lithgow City Council**

**2 Pages**

26<sup>th</sup> August 2009

Electoral Commissioner  
Australian Electoral Commission  
PO Box K406,  
HAYMARKET NSW 1240



Email: [nsw.redistribution@aec.gov.au](mailto:nsw.redistribution@aec.gov.au)

Dear Sir,

**Re: 2009 Proposed Redistribution of New South Wales into Electoral Divisions**

I refer to the proposed electoral boundary adjustments for New South Wales and in particular the adjustments to the seat of Macquarie.

Lithgow City Council has resolved that a submission be made seeking for the Lithgow LGA remain in the seat of Macquarie in the next Federal election. Council believes that it has been served well as part of the seat of the Macquarie. Council requests that this LGA remains within the seat of Macquarie on the following basis.

**Community of Interest**

The Lithgow LGA has a greater community of interest with the seat of Macquarie, including economic, social and regional interests than it does with the alternative. This belief is made on the basis of:

- There are a large number of residents of the Lithgow LGA that travel to the areas in the seat of Macquarie for the purposes of work and similarly there are many persons from outside of the LGA but in the seat of Macquarie that travel to the Lithgow LGA for work.
- Residents of the Lithgow LGA travel east for their larger regional shopping experiences whilst residents of the seat of Macquarie that live outside of the Lithgow LGA travel to Lithgow for their local shopping needs
- A large number of children travel to Lithgow for education. In addition to their education these children often then utilise Lithgow for their other needs including sporting and culture.
- Lithgow is a member of the Blue Mountains Tourism Limited and as part of this projects itself on not only to the state and national tourism market but also onto the world market as part of that region. This area is of course part of the seat of Macquarie.
- Lithgow is part of the Sydney West Area Health Service, in fact it is the most western LGA in the SWAHS. No other area of the proposed seat of Calare will involve this Area Health Service.

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### **Communication and Travel**

There are more similarities of communication and travel within the seat of Macquarie, e.g.:

- Lithgow is the end of the electric rail line from Sydney. This line is used by the residents of Lithgow to travel to those areas east, including in the seat of Macquarie.
- The Great Western Highway and the Bell's Line of Road both form the vital links between the Central West of NSW to the Greater Sydney Metropolitan Area. Those in the Lithgow LGA share a common bond with the residents of Macquarie for the upgrade of these roads.

### **Physical Features**

There is a greater similarity of physical features within the seat of Macquarie:

- The Lithgow LGA is part of the Great Dividing Range and hence is a mountainous terrain with large areas that are heavily forested. In addition to this, because of the terrain, there is a common bond within organisations like the Rural Fire Service
- Areas of the Lithgow LGA are located within the Sydney Catchment and the requirements of the catchment are therefore applied in the LGA.
- Sections of the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area are located within the Lithgow LGA.

The Lithgow LGA has only recently been transferred from the seat of Calare into the seat of Macquarie and that the community has felt well represented by the seat of Macquarie. It would be unreasonable to be constantly changing the seat in which the Lithgow LGA is located.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Sincerely



Roger Bailey  
**GENERAL MANAGER**