

OBJECTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009
NSW



Objection Number 94

by

Hilton R Grugeon AM and B C Grugeon

1 Pages

HR & BC GRUGEON
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Australia Electoral Commission
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Dear Sir/Madam,

We wish to lodge an objection to the current redistribution for the electorate for Paterson in which we have resided since 1985. We live at Berry Park and feel very strongly that we are part of the Morpeth/Raymond Terrace community, our closest shops are at Morpeth just 3 minutes down the road from our house which is on a 200 acre farm and the major shopping centre that we normally frequent is Raymond Terrace where there are large Woolworths and associated shops. We also buy rural supplies through rural supply businesses in Raymond Terrace and Heatherbrae. At Raymond Terrace we have various medical, dental and similar services. If we do not shop at Raymond Terrace, the next area we go to is Maitland and then other places in the Lower Hunter and Lake Macquarie, we rarely if ever have anything to do with Newcastle as it is too far away and too hard to get to. We have no public transport in our area unlike other areas up here that are on the rail line which does serve Newcastle.

Newcastle Electorate where we are proposed to be moved is more of a "City" based electorate, when as a whole our life and aspect is "Rural" so we fit into the much larger but predominately rural environment of Paterson. Our issues are predominately rural with the need for services and the like for rural/regional areas whereas the Newcastle Electorate does not have any of these concerns in representation for us in Federal Parliament. Our children have left school but then again our grandchildren that live on the same farm do not go anywhere in Newcastle but have had their education in the Morpeth and then later Maitland areas. We have a strong sense of community in our area and would like to be with our community when we are represented and have to do with the issues that arise in our community as a whole rather than be fragmented and lost amongst an electorate that have such an enormously different outlook.

We believe that other areas that have been put into Paterson (for example Metford) would be better suited in a City type electorate as Metford has a railway station linking it straight to Newcastle and is a densely populated residential suburb compared to the rural atmosphere of Berry Park.

If we were to be put with a City based electorate the seat of Hunter which includes Maitland would obviously be more representative of us than the more distant and post industrial type area of Newcastle.

Please could you take our objection into account when doing your final determination. We are a Rural not Metropolitan Area and would like to remain represented in a rural style electorate rather than metropolitan.

Yours faithfully,



HR & BC GRUGEON
Per Hilton Grugeon AM

