

OBJECTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009
NSW



Objection Number **115**

by

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1 Pages

OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED ELECTORAL REDISTRIBUTION OF THE NORTH SYDNEY FEDERAL ELECTORATE

1. The removal of approximately 15,000 electors from the eastern side of the electorate **to** the seat of Warringah and a similar removal **from** Warringah to the northern boundary of North Sydney results in an unnecessary disruption to some 30,000 voters.
2. The required number of electors can alternatively be achieved by mainly expanding Warringah into Bradfield with a lesser disruption than is currently proposed.
3. North Sydney is a federation seat and the current boundary on the eastern side is McPherson and Spofforth Streets which has been the case for some 40 years. It has also been the Local Government boundary since 1895. This has resulted in a strong community of interest with the North Sydney CBD (where the local member's office is) but no connection with Warringah or Manly (where that local member's office is). East of the current boundary is almost exclusively a single dwelling house area while the North Sydney side is high to medium density area with high rise units and townhouses.
4. The proposed North Sydney boundary adjoining Warringah Freeway is unclear and leaves an unfortunate sliver of properties in North Sydney. It does not use "clearly identifiable features as divisional boundaries" and divides the very strong "community of interest" of Neutral Bay. Neutral Bay School is the largest voting booth in the North Sydney Federal, State and Local Government areas.
5. There is no partisan political aspect to the proposed redistribution or to the above objections. Either way the two-party preferred vote hardly alters and it is a relatively safe Liberal seat.

The objection is essentially that the proposed boundary changes breach redistribution criteria, confuse a substantial number of voters, make access to the Local Member extremely difficult for some 15,000 Neutral Bay residents and are largely unnecessary.

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