

OBJECTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009
NSW



Objection Number 141

by

Cameron Reid

1 Pages

From: Cameron Reid [gcr_reid@yahoo.com.au]
Sent: Thursday, 3 September 2009 1:16 PM
To: NSW Redistribution
Subject: Formal objection NSW redistribution

Dear Sir/Madam

I write as a great grandson of Sir George Houston Reid after whom the electorate of Reid was named.

The Reid family is extremely disappointed at the proposed removal of an important memorial to one of the most influential of the founding fathers of the Commonwealth of Australia.

The use of an individual's name in respect of an electorate conveys recognition of that person's service to the nation. The Reid electorate is in effect a memorial to an important part of our nation's history and heritage: Sir George Reid was a former Premier of New South Wales; a key figure in the Federation movement and founder of the Australian Constitution; the fourth Prime Minister of Australia; Australia's first High Commissioner to Great Britain; and, an elected member of the British House of Commons. The proposed redistribution seems to place no value on the continued existence of selected electorates, if the proposed removal of the Reid electorate is approved, Sir George Reid will be the only deceased Prime Minister of Australia without an electorate in his name. I am confident that such an outcome was never foreseen when the electorate of Reid was named or when the rules of the Electoral Commission were developed.

As such, I would like to register my formal objection to the renaming of the combined electorates of Reid and Lowe to McMahon.

I suggest that the name Reid be retained for the combined electorates.

I would respectfully suggest that the Electoral Commissioner exercise his power to achieve this end. If that is not possible or appropriate I believe the matter is important enough to require the attention of the Minister.

Kind regards
Cameron Reid

