OBJECTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009



Objection Number 143

by

Gloria Green JP

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I wish to submit my objection to the proposed redistribution of the electoral boundary for the seat of Paterson.

This area was the first port established outside of Sydney supplying Sydney with food and fodder. It was known as the food bowl for Sydney.

This area remains a farming district with enterprises such as dairy, beef, chicken, horse and turf farms. There are families still farming these alluvial flood plains which their forefathers founded. We have fourth and fifth generation farmers living and farming this district.

We have common interest and needs with the surrounding areas of Morpeth, Wallalong, Pheonix Park, Maitland and Paterson, all these areas being rural, not urban.

This area is strongly community minded, caring for one another in times of need without needing to be asked. Community here means just that, and we are proud of "community".

The Millers Forest Progress Association Inc. was established in 1881 and members believe that we are the oldest, continuing progress in Australia. Members are an extremely active group raising funds to maintain the community owned Popular Hall and for many other worthy causes such as the recent Victorian Bushfire Appeal. There is also an active Rural Watch that had the inaugural meeting in May 1992, primary school and church all of which continue to unite the residents of this area.

The locals support businesses in the Maitland, Rutherford, Raymond Terrace areas NOT in the Newcastle area having nothing in common at all with a busy urban area.

Supplies come from the localities mentioned with most business owners in the area knowing the locals almost as well as their own.

There is a feeling of the community being divided as already, residents living on the southern side of Raymond Terrace Road in the last election had to discover on voting day that they were in the seat of Newcastle and were at a loss as to whom they should cast their vote, there being no information previously posted to them.

All business, either with government bodies or private business is carried out in Maitland or Raymond Terrace, still NO connection with the Newcastle area. Thank you for your time in reading this submission and please take into account the concerns of the locals in this area.

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Yours sincerely,

All J.P.

Gloria Green J.P.

