

# **PUBLIC SUGGESTION**

The Federal Redistribution 2009  
NSW



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**Public Suggestion Number 64**

**by**

**Cobar Shire Council**

**3 Pages**

All communications to be addressed  
to the General Manager  
PO Box 223  
Cobar NSW 2835

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In your reply please quote:



Cobar Shire Council Offices:  
36 Linsley Street  
Cobar NSW 2835  
ABN 71 579 717 155

*"Regional Centre in Western NSW"*

Ref: B5-2  
RJS:NFH

Friday 24 April 2009

Australian Electoral Commission  
PO Box K406  
**HAYMARKET NSW 1240**



Dear Sir/Madam

Subject: NSW ELECTORAL REDISTRIBUTION

I wish to advise that Council at its meeting held on 23 April 2009 resolved to make a written submission to the inquiry into NSW electoral retributions.

In June 2008 Council wrote to the Chairman of the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters in respect to a review of electoral boundaries and a copy of that letter is attached accordingly.

Council's main concern is that both the state and federal electorates covering far western NSW are far too large to be adequately represented by one member of parliament.

Council received a response from the Joint Standing Committee in August 2008 indicating that Council's submission of June 2008 would be taken into consideration as part of its inquiry into the 2007 election. Council has not received any further response from the Committee to date.

Your favourable consideration of Council's submission would be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Ray Smith  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

Attach...

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In your reply please quote:

Ref: B5-2  
RJS:NFH

*"Regional Centre in Western NSW"*

Friday 6 June 2008

Chairman  
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters  
Department of House of Representatives  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
**CANBERRA ACT 2600**

Dear Sir

Subject: REVIEW OF ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

The Council of the Shire of Cobar is located in far western NSW and covers an area of approximately 45,000 square kilometres. Council is also a member of the Western Division Group of Councils of the Shires Association of NSW which includes 13 rural and remote councils covering a total area of approximately 295,000 square kilometres representing, in geographical terms, almost 37% of the state of NSW.

Council is concerned that both the state and federal electorates covering far western NSW are far too large to be adequately represented by one member of parliament.

Council's concerns were taken to the 2007 Annual Conference of the Shires Association of NSW the outcome of which was representations to the then Minister of State, the Hon Gary Nairn MP, whose response was only received three weeks ago through the Shires Association of NSW.

In his response Mr Nairn has suggested that Council's concerns be referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters and therefore I would be grateful if this matter could be brought before your committee for consideration.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ray Smith', written over a horizontal line.

Ray Smith  
GENERAL MANAGER