

PUBLIC SUGGESTION

The Federal Redistribution 2009
NSW



Public Suggestion Number 110

by

Tony Windsor MP

3 Pages



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Submission

1st May 2009

The Redistribution Committee for New South Wales
Australian Electoral Commission
PO Box K406, Haymarket, NSW 1240

Dear Committee Members

NSW Electoral Redistribution

The following is my submission to you with regard to the above proposed redistribution of electoral boundaries in New South Wales.

First, I would argue against the loss of any country seats on the grounds of serviceability of country seats and the need for recognition that more sparsely populated areas deserve representation in the Parliament.

Second, in relation to the seat of New England, I believe that the additional electors required by the AEC to bring the number up to what is now required could be obtained from the Gunnedah Local Government Area (LGA).

At the last redistribution, the Liverpool Range became a key geographic landmark forming the southern boundary of the New England Electorate and incorporating the communities of Willow Tree, Quirindi, Spring Ridge and Premer, all of which have a community of interest with Tamworth, the largest centre in the Electorate.

Many of the families in the Liverpool Plains Shire Council area have children attending schools in Tamworth or Armidale as well as attending the University of New England.

The same relationship exists with residents of the Gunnedah LGA.

Gunnedah forms the second portion of the magnificent Liverpool Plains farming country and shares with the Liverpool Plains Shire Council significant issues relating to landuse, water and the coal developments being undertaken.

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The economic linkages of the Liverpool Plains and Gunnedah relate more to Tamworth and the New England Electorate than to Dubbo and the Parkes Electorate.

The freight linkages to Newcastle of these areas are also an important factor.

Thank you for the opportunity to draw these points to your attention for inclusion in your deliberations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tony Windsor".

Tony Windsor MP
Member for New England