



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Comment on suggestion 8

Andrew Elder

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From: [REDACTED]
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Dear AEC Redistribution Committee,

Having reviewed the proposals for redistributing federal seats in NSW, I first want to say that a number of interested parties combined with committed and active citizens taking an interest in how we are represented and governed is heartening.

COMBINING RIVERINA AND HUME

As far as the net loss of one electorate for NSW is concerned, I have to agree that the electorate to be lost should come from rural NSW, but do so in a way that respects established communities. One way to do that is to look to an arrangement that worked well in the past and see if it might not be replicated today. The electorates of Riverina and Hume might usefully be merged to this end, as they were in the late twentieth century, with Goulburn and Wagga Wagga combined into one electorate. What is now the northern part of the incongruous electorate of Hume should be absorbed into other electorates as follows:

- Calare - move boundary eastwards to include the Wollondilly LGA west of Lake Burrangrang
- Parkes - reabsorb Parkes, Forbes and Wellington LGAs
- Whitlam - include all of Wingecaribee LGA except the localities of Menangle, Appin and Camden Park

I understand that the name Werriwa has long been associated with western Sydney. If Yass Valley LGA were included in this electorate (with Moruya and Tuross Heads being added to Eden-Monaro from Gilmore, as others have suggested), it would include the geographic feature of Werriwa (Lake George). The Gundungarra and Ngunnawal peoples' bestowal of this name on the lake is more significant than the more recent shift of this name northwards, at a time when Indigenous names and culture seemed to matter less. I propose that a combined Riverina-Hume electorate be renamed Werriwa. Neither Riverina nor Hume apply to either end of the electorate and I suggest any inconvenience on the part of the AEC would be minor. I propose renaming the western Sydney electorate with that name as set out below.

ACCOMMODATING POPULATION GROWTH IN SYDNEY

I broadly agree with the idea that population growth in Sydney's northwest and southwest should be accommodated by new electorates, with the loss of electorates closer into the city to ensure NSW has a net loss of only one seat. Because Sydney is bifurcated by the harbour, we should take seriously those proposals reducing an inner-city seat both north and south of the harbour.

North of the harbour, Bradfield is the logical seat to abolish. North Sydney is a Federation seat with a clear identity. Berowra is an Indigenous word for a distinct community (see below). Combining the eastern part of Berowra with a Mackellar whose southern boundary had moved north would be tendentious. Bradfield is a name that can be retired and applied to the community around Western Sydney Airport once that becomes established.

A new electorate should be created on the southern bank of the Hawkesbury River from the western bank of Berowra Creek and include Wisemans Ferry, Kellyville, Mulgrave, Marsden Park and Riverstone. Suitable names for such an electorate might include Dyarubbin, Marsden, or Reibey.

This would have the following knock-on effects:

- Bennelong: Hunters Hill and Woolwich have more in common with Gladesville than with Lane Cove and should be represented accordingly. Pennant Hills Road is a dividing line so Beecroft and Cheltenham should move into Bennelong
- Berowra: moves south to Killara and extends along the Pacific Highway and main northern rail line to Brooklyn
- Mackellar: moves west to include St Ives and Terrey Hills

Mitchell: includes Pennant Hills, Cherrybrook as well as Baulkham/Castle Hills

- Parramatta: includes Northmead and Greystaines to the west and Ermington to the east.
- Warringah: moves west to much of Middle Harbour, Kirribilli and Neutral Bay

South of the harbour there is only one inner-city electorate that can be divided without loss of cross-electorate communities, and which would lead to adjustments by other seats creating more complete communities. None of the submissions mention the abolition of Sydney.

There was no Federation seat of Sydney. There was East Sydney, West Sydney and South Sydney, roughly congruent with the suggestions in the following paragraph.

Moving Wentworth to the eastern boundary of the city, as suggested by current Wentworth MP Allegra Spender and former member the Hon. Malcolm Turnbull would consolidate that electorate in terms of foreseeable growth. Moving the electorate south of Cleveland Street into Kingsford Smith would protect that electorate from repeated shifts to the west. Adding the city and its inner west to Grayndler would be entirely logical and congruent and have minimal impact on the Prime Minister's electorate. No other electorate divides so neatly, creating the following effects more widely:

- Banks: I agree with the ALP submission that Bangor, Illawong and Alford's Point should move to Banks
- Barton: includes those parts of Cook incongruously to the north of Botany Bay, east of the Princes Highway, as previously represented
- Blaxland: includes Yennora and Guildford, old and new
- Cook: includes whole of Sutherland Shire (except those communities forming part of Banks)
- Fowler: move northern boundary to The Horsley Drive, includes Fairfield and Canley Vale
- Hughes: that part of the current electorate excluding the Sutherland Shire (Moorebank and Holsworthy) and including the eastern part of Werriwa
- Macarthur: should start at Lake Burragorang and extend eastwards to include Camden LGA, Camden Park, Menangle, and that part of Campbelltown LGA west of the Hume motorway.
- The remainder of the current Macarthur (including Campbelltown) as well as Appin, should become a new electorate: Payten (after prominent local sportswoman Rose Payten <https://www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/About-Campbelltown/History/Prominent-People-From-Our-Past/Payten-Rose>) may be a suitable name for this electorate
- McMahon: Wetherill Park, Pemulwuy and Prospect west to Orchard Hills, Mulgoa, Wallacia, Badgerys Creek, and those parts of Liverpool LGA and Penrith LGA currently in Hume (a future Bradfield could be reconstituted in the west of this electorate).
- Reid/Watson: the boundary between these electorates should move north to accommodate population growth in The Bays.

OTHER PARTS OF NSW

I make no suggestions about other parts of NSW.

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Andrew Elder
Enrolled voter, Parramatta electorate