



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Comment on suggestion 18

Michael Robotham

1 page

The Redistribution Committee
NSW Australian Electoral Commission
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Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Committee Members

It's clear from the current figures that New South Wales will lose one seat in the next Federal Parliament and various seats will have to be adjusted to fit into the quota of electors in each seat.

My understanding is that the Committee will look at many different factors when deciding on the new boundaries.

- community interests within the proposed electoral division, including economic, social and regional interests
- means of communication and travel within the proposed electoral division
- physical features and area of the proposed electoral division, and
- existing boundaries of divisions in the state or territory.

This being the case, I wish to support the submissions of David Mitchell (Suggestion 29) and Dr Sophie Scamps (Suggestion 51), when it comes to possible changes to the Mackellar electorate.

Mackellar requires very few new voters to reach the quotas so it makes little sense to dramatically redraw the boundaries of the electorate. Equally, when it comes to adjusting the boundaries, it makes far more sense to go south and incorporate areas in the same LGA rather than to push west into the leafy suburbs known as the North Shore. Geographically, culturally and economically, the northern beaches are linked in people's minds. They are also linked by transport corridors, sporting associations, and school catchments.

I'm urge the committee members to take this into account when making your decisions,

Best wishes

Michael Robotham