



**THE FEDERAL  
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NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Comment on objections 120

Anonymous 37

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**24 July 2024**

**FAO: Australian Electoral Commission**

I wish to comment on various objections lodged against the AEC's proposed new boundary for the Federal Electorate of Mackellar.

I refer to the objections (including 671 and 686), which suggest that Mackellar is extended west, beyond the Northern Beaches Council area, to include parts of St Ives and St Ives Chase, currently within the area known as the Upper North Shore (and within Ku-ring-gai Council area).

My family and I have lived and worked in Mackellar for more than 10 years. Our children attend school and have participated in clubs and sports in Mackellar. We shop in Mackellar. We never travel to St Ives for commercial, sporting or social activities. My family often travels north and south, including for shopping to Frenchs Forest, Dee Why and Brookvale but typically we only ever travel 'through' St Ives, on route to the M1.

The reason for this is because St Ives is geographically separated from Mackellar by the vast natural feature that is Ku-ring-gai and Garigal National Parks. It is also socially and commercially part of the Upper North Shore and not connected to the Northern Beaches.

Although Mona Vale Road is a main road, with regular buses, the perception of distance between Mona Vale and St Ives is vast. This perception is due to the natural barrier formed by the National Parks. There is also no direct transport connection between the southern part of Mackellar and St Ives, limiting the potential connectivity of communities.

If St Ives is integrated into Mackellar, the St Ives community would become a minority community, relative to the rest of Mackellar which is in the Northern Beaches. Also, the St Ives community could become disadvantaged, as they would be separated from Ku-ring-gai council area and the Upper North Shore. I note this is a view also shared by the Major of Ku-ring-gai Council in objection 82.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.