



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 649

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2 pages

NSW Objection July 2024

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Firstly, I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to provide some commentary and make a number of suggestions to enhance the proposed redistribution. The decision made by the committee are never easy and as the AEC CEO noted recently are subject to the competing demands of demographics, numbers, and geography.

## **Comments: -**

### **Riverina – name of the division.**

The division over the course has progressively been pushed further and further eastwards. It is now at the point where the proposed boundaries include much territory that is not part of the Riverina geographic area. This trend is only going to continue with demographic change – though I acknowledge that a future expansion of parliament might slow down this trend. Alternate suggestions for names are: -

1: - White after Patrick White – noted author and Nobel laureate winner in 1990 for literature

2: -Cornforth – after Sir John Cornforth – noted scientist and Nobel laureate winner in 1975 for Chemistry

3: - Bradman – after Sir Donald Bradman – noted cricketer

### **Decision to delete North Sydney**

The decision to delete a division is never easy and especially such a long-standing division. Given the numerical shortfall in divisions on the North Shore a division northeast of Parramatta needs to be deleted. North Sydney was the best candidate or least-worst option. Extending a division over Sydney Harbour or expanding Mackellar into Bradfield would be far worse options. Thus, I support the proposal to delete North Sydney.

### **Division of Reid**

I was pleased to see the committee propose to keep Reid's boundaries as is. I feel it is a well-balanced division with valid boundaries.

## **Divisional Boundary objections: -**

I have a series of objections to the boundaries of some proposed divisions.

### **Barton and Kingsford-Smith**

The extension of Kingsford Smith to the west of Kingsford Smith makes no sense. The only thing that the Monterey and Coogee have in common is proximity to water. This also splits close communities such as Ramsgate and Ramsgate Beach, Kogarah, and Monterey.

## Cook

The committee in the last redistribution was forced to extend Cook northwards over Georges River.

Solutions to both issues.

1. An anti-clockwise movement between Barton, Kingsford Smith, Sydney, and Grayndler
2. A clockwise movement between Barton, Cook, Hughes and Banks

As a variation to suggestion two the clockwise movement could see Hughes extend into Werriwa and or Fowler. Thus: -

- a. Kingsford Smith sheds the areas that the committee has proposed to be transferred from Barton and Cook to Barton (it may require Banks absorbing some of these areas)
- b. Kingsford Smith gains voters from southern Sydney
- c. Sydney in turn gains voters from the northeastern section of Grayndler
- d. Grayndler takes voters from northern Barton
- e. Cook gains voters from Hughes. Cook then either gain voters from
  1. Banks or
  2. Gains voters from Werriwa/Fowler which in turn gain voters from Watson (or Werriwa from Fowler and Fowler from Watson) which gains voters from Banks.

I wish the committee well with their endeavours.

Michael Ritchie