



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Comment on Objections 93

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14/06/2024

The Australian Electoral Commission
Suite 13.03, 59 Goulburn Street
Haymarket, NSW 2000

Subject: Comment on Objection 686

Dear Sir/Madam,

The honourable member Kylea Tink MP raises a range of excellent points in her objection to the New South Wales federal redistribution. In particular her point about how “The Committee’s proposal results in splitting the Crows Nest / St Leonards high growth precinct between three divisions (Warringah, Bennelong and Bradfield) each with profoundly separate and distinct identities”.

I grew up within 1,500 meters of this proposed 3 way electoral boundary and I can tell you that historically it has been a difficult area for development since it is already at the boundary of 3 different LGA’s and therefore no single LGA wants to take responsibility for the area as a whole. By additionally splitting this area in to 3 seperate federal electorates, it only creates further division and uncertainty for this high growth precinct.

In addition, Kylea’s alternative proposal is well thought out and solves a lot of problems raised by The Committee’s proposal. In particular is her point about how “The existing Upper North Shore community of interest can be significantly strengthened through a reconfiguration of boundaries to extend Bradfield to the north and utilise the Galston Gorge as a natural boundary for the division of Mitchell to the west”.

As I mentioned previously, I grew up on the Lower North Shore, but I went to high school on the Upper North Shore, and even though these two communities share a lot of similarities, they are uniquely and proudly seperate communities. While merging them could work, it would make morse sense to use these two seperate communities as a natural boundary between divisions.

I understand one of the trickiest parts of this redistribution was trying to expand the division of Mackellar given it has such a strong natural boundary in the north. I think Kylea’s proposal to add St Ives and St Ives Chase to Mackellar is a good choice, even though it extends over the natural boundary of Garigal national park. The community of St Ives is distinctly different to the rest of The Upper North Shore and it does align quite closely with the communities of Frenchs Forest and Belrose.

In conclusion, I stand by The honourable member Kylea Tink MP and her objection the proposed redistribution and support her alternative proposal for keeping the division of North Sydney and creating a new Upper North Shore division.

Thank you for reading my comment and I look forward to a positive resolution that reflects the unique identity of the whole North Shore community.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Thomas Sesselmann