



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 368

Xu (Sophie) Wang

2 pages

Dear AEC team,

Re: Objection of the 2023-2024 New South Wales federal redistribution of North Sydney

I am a long term resident of North Sydney, living in this lovely neighbourhood for the last 10+ years with my husband and two school aged children. I am writing to you to formally object the 2023-2024 New South Wales federal redistribution of North Sydney.

Reason one: North Sydney is my community and the redistribution is to take my community away

When the news first broke, I was frankly apalled about the decision. While North Sydney is famous for being a business district, it is also its distinctive community. My children, like many of our neighbours children, were born and brought up here. They went to North Sydney Community pre-school, met each other at the local parks, went on to North Sydney Demonstration School then they go on to various High Schools within the area. My kids are part of North Sydney United Soccer Club and North Sydney Pirates rugby club. North Sydney is not just a place, a train station, and a district. It is a community, our community where we have friends and family. The decision to redistribute North Sydney feels gutting. It feels to me, as a local resident, that my commnuity is being redistributed and taken away.

Additional to the redistribution, North Sydney is also a place where there is a diverse community. Many of us here don't drive or own a car. For example, my elderly father in law who now lives nearby without a car. There are many young families and also many elderlys who live here and love the neighbourhood. It is going to be challenging for a section of our community, many disadvantaged, to travel and communicate about the proposed federal electoral division.

Reason two: we are going to have more people in North Sydney in the near future which the AEC needs to consider

The population right across our electorate is growing rapidly but the AEC's proposal does not account for this growth. For example, the NSW State Government plans to see 5,900 new homes built in the North Sydney LGA alone by 2029. If that growth is

replicated across the four LGAs currently contained in the federal seat that would see more than 24,000 new homes built across our community.

In addition to this, North Sydney Council is expecting 19,500 new residents to move into the area by 2036. This is a 27% increase in just one of the four LGAs that currently make up the seat of North Sydney and indicates that it is highly likely that to proceed with abolishing our seat now would be completely counterproductive, as arguably the case to re-establish it come 2029 will be more than obvious.

Reason three: North Sydney has a local business community that serves the local community

We have local businesses from the local Aldi to the local grocer, from the local hairdresser to the local bakery. North Sydney has a total of 28,000 small to medium size businesses whose needs do not overlap entirely with those of the newly proposed areas of Bradfield, Bennelong or Warringah.

Overall

North Sydney is a lovely community where neighbours help neighbours. We go to schools here and kick a ball for our North Sydney clubs. We appreciate the jacaranda every year and love our community. For these reasons, I formally object the 2023-2024 New South Wales federal redistribution of North Sydney. This is our community, my community, my children's community. Please don't take community away.

Xu (Sophie) Wang

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