



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 455

Penny Gerstle

1 page

The NSW Redistribution Committee
VIA: Upload to AEC redistributions objections page

July 9th 20024

Re: **My objection to the proposed abolition of the federal electorate of North Sydney**

Dear NSW Redistribution Committee,

I am writing to you to express my concern at the abolition of the federal seat of North Sydney.

My family and I have lived in the electorate for 27 years, participating in the life of the community here for all of that time. I have held positions as vice president and president of Greenwich Pre-school, volunteered on the P&C at Lane Cove Public School and volunteered at the Shore School. More recently I have worked with new humanitarian arrivals to this electorate, helping them to settle into our community life.

I have also worked across a huge cross-section of the community of North Sydney leading the campaign to explain the Voice referendum to North Sydney constituents. I Co-Chaired both North Sydney for The Voice and YES23's North Sydney campaign. This involved co-ordinating with multiple groups such as the North Sydney Alliance, various reconciliation groups, North Sydney based companies, corporates and for-purpose organisations and foundations, multi-cultural groups, libraries, local councils, multiple church groups and faith-based organisations, as well as building a network of dedicated residents determined to come together for our First Nations Peoples. In the face of the loss of the referendum (though North Sydney voted YES), these groups are reforming as allies groups, spending many hours creating events and sub-groups to begin the process of building truth telling and learning circles, events focussed on First Nations issues, as well as sub-committees exploring other ways our allies group can support our First Nations People. All of this work is being co-ordinated through our North Sydney electorate connections that have built up over years and decades.

I am devastated to hear the proposal to disburse the electorate of North Sydney among other electorates, with the risk that our community groups will disburse too.

I note in my area around Northwood/Lane Cove and Greenwich the vast number of apartments that are being built along River Road and Longueville Road. I welcome that growth, but I wonder if the AEC has taken into account this swelling population and whether the electorate of North Sydney would have to be re-established to accommodate this growth.

I ask the AEC to reconsider the redistribution of electoral boundaries to preserve the deep community connections that have built up in North Sydney over many decades.

Your sincerely,

Penny Gerstle



North wood NSW 2066