



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 540

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2 pages

Dear Redistribution Committee,

I am writing to object to the current redistribution proposal to:

1. abolish North Sydney division; and
2. extend the boundaries for the Warringah division to include the North Sydney CBD.

I live in the Warringah division. For 11 years I lived in Spruson Street, Neutral Bay facing Warringah Freeway in North Sydney. Spruson Street is located on the far western boundary of Warringah. I currently live in Mosman and frequently interact socially and economically with friends, businesses and community groups in Neutral Bay, Cammeray, Cremorne, Mosman and along the Northern Beaches stretch of Warringah. This is the lived experience of myself and many of my local friends.

I understand that keeping communities of interest together with similar physical, economic and social features is an important factor that is considered by the AEC when making redistribution decisions.

I don't believe adding the North Sydney CBD area west of the Warringah Freeway is in the best interests of either Warringah or North Sydney communities for these reasons:

1. Adding North Sydney CBD, which has the second largest concentration of office buildings in New South Wales, is alarming and completely out of character with Warringah.
2. North Sydney CBD consists of densely populated high rise office and residential buildings similar to Sydney Central CBD, unlike any area of Warringah
3. North Sydney CBD will eventually join up with the expanding St Leonards high rise area as construction continues along Pacific Highway and north shore rail line.
4. North Sydney is a main transport hub that has little direct benefit to Warringah residents:
  - a) The Warringah Freeway links North Sydney by road south to the Sydney CBD and north to Chatswood.
  - b) North Sydney directly links to the Sydney CBD by road via the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the existing Harbour Tunnel.
  - c) The Western Harbour Tunnel and Warringah Freeway Upgrade, designed to bypass the Sydney CBD, is a massive infrastructure road project currently under construction due for completion next year. It was meant to connect to the Northern Beaches via a toll road but that project has been shelved by the NSW Government.
  - d) North Sydney is also located on the North Shore railway line and a second major rail infrastructure project is due to open later this year. The Sydney Metro City & Southwest rail project includes Victoria Cross Metro railway station, located two blocks north of the existing North Sydney railway station, and the Crows Nest Metro station also located in the North Sydney electorate.
  - e) None of the above relieves Warringah's road and 'bus only' public transport woes along heavily congested Military Road (Neutral Bay/Cremorne/Mosman) to and from the Northern Beaches area.
5. North Sydney has many schools (selective public schools, private schools, special schools (Sydney Demonstration School) and a university campus (ACU) due to ease of access

along the abovementioned transport routes. Unlike Warringah, a high proportion of students attending those schools live out of area.

### **Retain North Sydney**

It would make more sense to retain the North Sydney division and extend its boundaries north towards Chatswood, keeping communities of interest together with similar physical, economic, infrastructure and social features. As a significant north/south transport hub and a destination to schools, commercial businesses and to housing for families who live in high rise buildings along the north/south axis, North Sydney deserves to be linked with communities that share similar characteristics.

I cannot understand that out of the divisions proposed to be abolished, why Bradfield was not considered by the AEC. North Sydney was created in 1901 and has a long and proud history, whereas Bradfield was only created in 1949. Warringah and North Sydney have Sydney Harbour or coastal boundaries which limits boundary movements, whereas Bradfield could easily be subsumed into surrounding divisions.

I request that the AEC consider retaining the North Sydney division by extending its boundaries north towards Chatswood (another growing CBD with many high rise buildings) keeping like communities together.

### **Boundary changes Warringah**

If North Sydney was retained, then Warringah, with the same view of keeping like communities together, would be best served by:

1. Expanding Warringah's current boundary west to the eastern side of the Warringah Freeway to include all of Kirribilli, the rest of Neutral Bay (not currently part of Warringah), North Cremorne and Cammeray. Removing the division along Military Road would have significant economic and social benefits and be a welcome outcome.
2. Retaining Killarney Heights, Forestville, Dee Why and North Curl Curl, all of which have very strong links to Warringah would also be a welcome outcome.

I respectfully request that the AEC consider the above to ensure the best possible outcome for the boundary redistribution. Based on the AEC's own criteria of communities of interest, the already strong political representation of both North Sydney and Warringah communities would be preserved and enhanced into the future.

Kind regards,