



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 619

Jeff Waddell

8 pages

Comments on

Proposed Boundary Changes

New South Wales

Redistribution

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Disclaimer: Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the data provided in this submission, there may be instances of calculation or raw data errors.

In this submission I have proposed movements of electors between Divisions, involving the splitting of SA1's and even Mesh Blocks. Proportional application of 2021 Census Data at Mesh Block and even Dwelling level, has been applied to obtain these calculations.

As the author, I in no way intend to mislead the reader if any data or calculation errors are contained herein, as I have performed all calculations in good faith.

Declaration of interest: The author is a member of a political party (Pauline Hanson's One Nation) and has contested both State and Federal elections as a candidate of that party.

Proposed new Divisional Boundaries

I will list only Divisions where I propose some additional changes beyond what has been proposed by the Redistribution Committee.

As with my Victorian objection, the transfer tables provide information in three different colours.

Green background is transfers proposed by the Redistribution Committee which should be retained.

Blue background is alternative/additional transfers proposed by this objection.

Time prevented me completing this objection. I may choose to lodge the balance of this objection when the Comments on Objections window opens.

North Coast

The Redistribution Committee took the easy option with these Divisions, making predominantly, only necessary, minimal changes.

Some of the changes proposed around the boundaries of Hunter, Newcastle, and Shortland mirror my suggestion.

Richmond

Despite making what I thought was a good case for a redrawing of the boundary between Richmond and Page, affecting electors in Alstonvale, Alstonville, Teven, Tuckombil, Urlaba, Pimlico, Pimlico Island, South Ballina, Empire Vale and Keith Hall, the Committee dismissed this improvement of the boundary outright.

However, I still believe there is a strong case to make at least part of that change.

From the existing boundary, where the bridges of the Bruxner and Pacific Highways traverse Emigrant Creek, the boundary should turn south and downstream along Emigrant Creek and the Richmond River to the Ocean.

This would transfer to Page the balance of the localities of Empire Vale and Pimlico, in addition to the localities of Pimlico Island, Keith Hall and South Ballina. Uniting the electors on the peninsula of land to the south and east of the Richmond River, instead of being split along Empire Vale Rd.

This change affects only 393 current and 413 projected electors and creates a clearer, simpler boundary than the current boundary.

Division	Component	Current	Projected
Richmond		122,977	129,794
To Page	Ballina Surrounds SA2 part - S of Richmond River & Emigrant Ck	-393	-413
New Total		122,584	129,381
Variation (@46 Div)		1.30%	-0.18%

Page

As proposed by the Redistribution Committee except for the additional changes with Richmond as described above.

Division	Component	Current	Projected
Page		123,663	129,995
From Richmond	Ballina Surrounds SA2 part - S of Richmond River & Emigrant Ck	393	413
From Cowper	Korora - Emerald Beach SA2 balance	2,399	2,421
New Total		126,455	132,829
Variation (@46 Div)		4.50%	2.48%

Western NSW

The Redistribution Committee again proposed minimal changes. I absolutely support how the Committee has made the necessary changes to New England, Parkes and Riverina whilst managing to leave Calare and Farrer unchanged.

As I noted in my original submission..." In isolation, Farrer could have remained unchanged from its current configuration."

Only the push of Riverina eastwards, out of what is traditionally Riverina territory into both the Upper Lachlan and Yass Valley Shires, onto the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range and even the Great Dividing Range itself is cause to consider the relevance of the Divisional Name to the area it represents. But not yet!

The next Redistribution may require some serious thought if trends of the past couple of Redistributions continue.

South Coast and Southern Highlands

Both Cunningham and Eden-Monaro were almost identical to my suggestion.

The Committee's proposal for Whitlam to incorporate the entire Wingecarribee LGA is a good one, and obviously wasn't on my radar as I proposed to keep Upper Lachlan Shire in Hume.

Hume's move from a part-regional part-urban Division to being a wholly Greater Sydney Division is now complete. It was good to see the Committee also sought to use South Creek as part of Hume's new boundary as I had proposed.

The changes proposed by the Redistribution Committee now set a scenario where Whitlam could surrender the entire Wingecarribee LGA to Eden-Monaro and push south into Kiama LGA, splitting Shoalhaven LGA with Gilmore, whilst Gilmore pushes south taking the balance of the Eurobodalla Shire and all of Bega Valley Shire from Eden-Monaro.

This would leave 3 wholly coastal South Coast Divisions in Cunningham, Whitlam, and Gilmore, whilst Eden-Monaro becomes a wholly Southern Highlands Division!!

Communities of interest, area, and physical features. Something to consider next time!

Northern Metropolitan Divisions

The abolition of North Sydney was a no-brainer and one that many submissions, including mine supported.

The Committee's proposals for Mackellar, Warringah and Bradfield have elements which were reflected in my submission.

I have no issue with the changes proposed between Bennelong, Berowra, and Parramatta at the eastern end of the Parramatta LGA.

Western Metropolitan Divisions

Overall, the boundaries proposed for Chifley, Greenway, Lindsay, McMahon, Macquarie, and Parramatta are sound.

A small change of the boundary between Greenway and Mitchell would improve "on the ground" visibility and clarity without affecting any proposed elector movements.

McMahon's new boundaries with Blaxland and Fowler probably have room for improvement. But time prevents an alternative being supplied.

Greenway

I propose a small change along the boundary with Mitchell through the Rouse Hill - Beaumont Hills SA2.

Specifically, between Commercial Rd and Sanctuary Drive. The boundary should align with Caddies Creek rather than SA1 11504162512.

This change would not affect any electors but would improve visibility of the boundary "on the ground." Whilst three SA1's are split as a result, the positive of a clearer boundary far outweighs splitting the SA1's.

Should the Augmented Electoral Commission choose to adopt this change, I would also ask them to also consider extending the Caddies Creek boundary northwards all the way up to Withers Rd and the Rouse Hill - Beaumont Hills SA2 boundary.

This would mean the SA2 is divided along just Caddies Creek and Sanctuary Drive. A far clearer and less complex boundary than has been proposed.

Southern Metropolitan Divisions

Some of the movements of boundaries were at least part of my suggestion, though all in all, the boundaries of these Divisions are slightly better than those proposed by me.

One exception would be the proposed Hughes – Macarthur boundary. I still believe that Hughes does not need to cross west of the Main Southern Railway as per my original submission.

I also note the Committee's proposal to co-name Cook and support this move as per my original submission.

South-West Metropolitan Divisions

Again, many of the Committee's proposed boundaries were along the line of my submission.

Hume is now effectively an urban Division and no longer a bridging Division between metropolitan Sydney and regional NSW.

How are those projected enrolments tracking?

At the time of writing, enrolment figures for the end of June had not been published by the AEC. Current enrolment data is as of 31/5/24.

As of 31st May, approximately 297 days of the 1707-day window between the “Current” and “Projected” days has passed. This equates to approximately 17.4% of the timeline.

	Current	Projected					
	9/08/2023	10/04/2028	Actual	Variation	Growth	Total Proj	% of Projected
Electoral division	Electors	Electors	31/05/2024	From Avg.	Since 9/8/23	Growth	Already Grown
Banks	108,512	119,557	109,603	-8.48%	1,091	11,045	9.88%
Barton	112,326	121,919	112,794	-5.82%	468	9,593	4.88%
Bennelong	116,790	122,124	117,674	-1.74%	884	5,334	16.57%
Berowra	106,739	109,154	107,500	-10.24%	761	2,415	31.51%
Blaxland	110,001	122,692	111,448	-6.94%	1,447	12,691	11.40%
Bradfield	109,126	109,523	109,825	-8.30%	699	397	176.07%
Calare	122,798	126,537	123,368	3.01%	570	3,739	15.24%
Chifley	126,954	148,639	130,055	8.59%	3,101	21,685	14.30%
Cook	111,384	125,069	111,893	-6.57%	509	13,685	3.72%
Cowper	131,515	135,536	133,020	11.07%	1,505	4,021	37.43%
Cunningham	118,123	117,869	118,693	-0.89%	570	-254	-224.41%
Dobell	119,946	131,442	121,695	1.61%	1,749	11,496	15.21%
Eden-Monaro	116,732	124,402	117,772	-1.66%	1,040	7,670	13.56%
Farrer	121,734	127,265	122,886	2.61%	1,152	5,531	20.83%
Fowler	112,414	127,624	113,901	-4.89%	1,487	15,210	9.78%
Gilmore	128,991	134,884	129,846	8.42%	855	5,893	14.51%
Grayndler	111,079	111,454	111,916	-6.55%	837	375	223.20%
Greenway	125,882	144,158	128,317	7.14%	2,435	18,276	13.32%
Hughes	108,110	120,601	109,407	-8.65%	1,297	12,491	10.38%
Hume	125,549	138,104	128,078	6.94%	2,529	12,555	20.14%
Hunter	131,588	135,536	133,918	11.82%	2,330	3,948	59.02%
Kingsford Smith	115,481	120,776	115,403	-3.64%	-78	5,295	-1.47%
Lindsay	127,763	144,334	130,004	8.55%	2,241	16,571	13.52%
Lyne	126,513	132,775	127,887	6.78%	1,374	6,262	21.94%
Macarthur	140,280	171,700	143,889	20.14%	3,609	31,420	11.49%
Mackellar	111,700	117,968	113,290	-5.40%	1,590	6,268	25.37%
McMahon	111,293	125,817	113,265	-5.43%	1,972	14,524	13.58%
Macquarie	108,671	117,867	110,015	-8.14%	1,344	9,196	14.62%
Mitchell	126,812	148,572	130,633	9.08%	3,821	21,760	17.56%
Newcastle	123,370	130,623	124,128	3.64%	758	7,253	10.45%
New England	115,732	115,345	116,500	-2.72%	768	-387	-198.45%
North Sydney	112,630	112,566	113,808	-4.97%	1,178	-64	-1840.63%
Page	123,663	129,995	125,575	4.85%	1,912	6,332	30.20%
Parkes	110,690	109,528	111,564	-6.85%	874	-1,162	-75.22%
Parramatta	109,049	119,570	110,134	-8.04%	1,085	10,521	10.31%
Paterson	135,332	144,824	137,213	14.57%	1,881	9,492	19.82%
Reid	116,485	125,674	116,891	-2.40%	406	9,189	4.42%
Richmond	122,977	129,794	125,396	4.70%	2,419	6,817	35.48%
Riverina	117,550	117,407	117,604	-1.80%	54	-143	-37.76%
Robertson	112,982	125,241	113,789	-4.99%	807	12,259	6.58%
Shortland	117,337	122,767	117,865	-1.58%	528	5,430	9.72%
Sydney	122,549	121,661	121,115	1.13%	-1,434	-888	161.49%
Warringah	105,759	105,958	107,346	-10.37%	1,587	199	797.49%
Watson	110,765	123,370	111,543	-6.86%	778	12,605	6.17%
Wentworth	104,081	102,383	104,272	-12.93%	191	-1,698	-11.25%
Werriwa	132,460	159,054	136,195	13.72%	3,735	26,594	14.04%
Whitlam	128,272	132,897	129,934	8.49%	1,662	4,625	35.94%
TOTAL	5,566,489	5,962,555	5,628,867		62,378	329,167	18.95%

As can be seen by the table above, there are some startling divergences from what was projected to occur over the next 4 years.

Of the seven Divisions projected to decline in enrolment, only one actually has!

Bradfield, Grayndler, and Warringah have already exceeded 100% of their projected growth. Warringah has already grown eight times more than was projected for the entire 4 ½ years!

A number of Divisions haven't even grown at half the rate projected – Barton, Cook, Kingsford Smith, Reid, Robertson, and Watson.

As I said in my Victorian objection; Projections aren't reliable enough to be the basis on which new boundaries are proposed.

Time to revisit the Commonwealth Electoral Act.

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