



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Comment on suggestion 20

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Redistribution NSW Comment – Illawarra Region

We must ensure geographical integrity by keeping regional seats within their regional areas. Any idea that moves seats such as Cunningham into Sydney lacks logical sense. This seat needs to stay in the Illawarra region, and if anything should extend southerly to take in nearby working class suburbs like Cringila, Lake Heights, and Berkeley. These areas are very much connected to the rest of Cunningham and are also located within the Wollongong Council LGA borders. In Damien Ferri's proposal it advocates this change, whilst the seat of Whitlam gains some of the smaller villages of the Southern Highlands thus taking in that whole area that is located to the east of the Hume Hwy. This proposal is also backed up by Ben Last and Jeff Waddell. The areas of Windang and Primbee could be included or excluded depending on how the AEC believes the numbers need to stack up in future projections. The seat of Whitlam is a much higher growth area than that of Cunningham, so them losing areas such as Berkeley, Lake Heights, Cringila etc to Cunningham, will ensure that both seats are within ratio and don't outpace one another. Aesthetically it also is pleasing to the eye as it takes on all the suburbs located north of Lake Illawarra. Likewise any proposals that the seats of the Newcastle/Hunter, or Central Coast move outside their regions would again be a major compromise to its historical and geographical history of those regions. These regional seats must stay out of Sydney, so that it focuses on its own unique demographic.

Kind Regards

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