



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 19

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Objection to deletion of seat of North Sydney and targeting of two surrounding seats of Independent MPs for the 2023 to 2024 New South Wales federal redistribution

It is assumed that the SEC is “political party blind” when proposing changes to Federal seats or boundaries. This impartiality is difficult to believe in when the only seat to be abolished is not held by a member of any political party but by a so-called “Teal” independent, wrested from the long term and vice-like grip of the Liberal Party. The two nearby seats to have boundaries changed, with electors ripped away from the seat they voted in at the last election, are similarly held by Independents, again wrested from the Liberal Party who have held the seat for many decades. So almost all of the significant changes to seats in NSW just happen to have sitting Members who are Independents, who won their seats at the last election or the one before that, and which expressed a strong trend in Australian society. It is difficult to believe that these dramatic changes to Independent-held seats, of which there are still very few in NSW, are based solely on objective demographic facts. The fact is that the very great majority of the 47 Federal Divisions in NSW have sitting members from the Liberal or Labor parties. It is mathematically and statistically counter-intuitive that the great majority of serious changes will only affect seats held by “Teal” Independents. It seems to me that these proposed changes set back the political clock and make it very difficult for voters to continue to have faith in a political system which appears to favour the two major parties so heavily.