



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 209

Robin Low

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For the attention of the Australian Election Commission

**Objection to the abolition of the North Sydney electorate**

I have lived in Kirribilli since 2000 and truly find myself in the most wonderful community. It is a community which very much identifies as being part of the North Sydney electorate. How do you separate Kirribilli from Lavender Bay, from North Sydney, from Wollstonecraft or Lane Cove? Our centre is in North Sydney and the Harbour Bridge and the train line are very much part of our community. We identify with our mixed community, our markets, our villages, our parks, our libraries.

Your proposal seeks to split our community – it is quite brutal from a community perspective as we are divided in three. I question whether such carving up of a cohesive electorate has been proposed previously. There might be some arguments at the margins and, in fact, some areas in Cremorne and Neutral Bay may be more closely aligned to Mosman. However, I can assure you that in Kirribilli, we do not identify with Mosman (Warringah) as our centre.

You need to consider how the community operates. We truly have an identity, and the proposed fragmentation will be devastating. It is through community that we have come together to support The Voice (not successful overall but successful in our electorate) and to remove the previous Liberal representative who did not reflect the views of this electorate. This was less than three years ago and yet you seek to carve up this cohesive community.

Geography is a factor. Our electorate works in a way that it will not if your recommendations proceed. Yes, I can continue to walk with my dog and my friends through Wendy's garden, up to Blue's Point Road and to the North Sydney markets. However, I will be on the periphery of my electorate, an electorate I don't identify with which has its geographic heart in Mosman, the Spit and lower Northern Beaches. We are a different harbourside and inner north electorate.

Finally, I understand that you have projected limited growth for the electorate. I am not an expert here, but I do see the metro stations, the increasing development in St Leonards and Crows Nest and can see that the population will expand greatly here. There have been massive errors made in the past, at a State level, with sale of public schools in the area which led to a shortage of school places and then the need to find, at great expense, land to build new schools. I fear that you are making the same mistake and ask you to reconsider your projections for these areas, with a focus on the metro.

In summary, I ask you to review your population projection data and to consider the community, cultural and geographic attributes of our electorate.

Kind regards

Robin Low