



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 423

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Australian Electoral Commission
To whom it may concern

I am writing to express my anger and dismay at the recent Australian Electoral Commission proposal for new boundaries for the federal electorate of Bennelong. The proposed draft plan will remove Epping, North Epping, and Carlingford from Bennelong. Additionally, the proposal seeks to move North Epping and the Epping town centre into the federal electorate of Berowra (crossing the M2) and to split Epping at Midson Road between Parramatta and Berowra.

This proposal is not only ineffective, it is destructive of and detrimental to the fabric of an historically closely-bound community.

The proposed changes don't make sense geographically. Splitting the suburb of Epping across 2 federal electorates, makes absolutely no sense, and is angering and demoralising our community, given the years of work put in to keep single-seat representation in the Epping Town Centre across the 3 levels of Government.

North Epping has been part of Bennelong since 1977, and importantly, the Epping town centre has been for over 20 years. It would be more rational geographically to keep North Sydney and to move those parts of Hunter's Hill currently in Bennelong into it.

Moving parts of the electorate to Berowra will mean in effect a loss of representation for the people of Epping and North Epping. The Epping area will be on the outermost margins of the Berowra boundaries, resulting in a constituency that is both out of sight and out of mind to those elected.

Splitting a unified and close-knit community by a major road makes no sense at all. There exists a strong community of interest, culture and interaction between Epping, Eastwood and Marsfield - with a weaker link to the region north of the M2. You only have to witness how Epping, Eastwood and Marsfield get together for our local celebrations and festivals like Granny Smith to see how closely we work together.

Judith Keena

Epping