

## Details of your comment

Please provide additional information and supporting documentation as attachments.

NSW200701/35

The proposal provided by the National Party of Australia of Australia (New South Wales division is not supported.

Elimination of already large Country based electorates and incorporation into other seats compounds the issues in members being able to effectively cover and represent their electorates. The proposal by the National Party appears punitive to Democracy and designed to focus on the National Party rather than the representation of the constituents. It is further noted this applies to a seat long held by the Nationals and lost by them at the last election

It is my view that the National Party Suggestions do not meet the below criteria

In deciding where the boundaries should be drawn, many factors are taken into consideration. These include:

demographic trends

community interests including economic, social and regional interests

means of communication and travel

physical features and area

mountains and other natural boundaries

boundaries of existing districts.

I have viewed all the submissions relating to Whole of State and note that the 200701/35 National Party submission is the only submission calling for the abolition of the current seat of Murray. The abolition of this seat is not supported.

In terms of re-distributions generally, adjustment of distributions is not generally required, however, my preference for changes would be as follows:

Murray - retain with minor adjustments

Seat of Tamworth: Gunnedah to Barwon, Quirindi to Tamworth from Upper Hunter

Seat of New England - Tenterfield to New England

The above changes give effect to logical connections of the changes according to local geography and customary connections for the populations based on customary delivery of services, conduct of business and shopping and sport/schooling connections

Remainder of seats: Generally accomplish re-distribution by adjustment of local boundaries. The introduction of a new seat without an increase in total number of seats is not supported as this leads to diminution of existing country seats by increasing coverage areas meaning increasing difficulty for constituents in accessing their local members.

The other Suggestions I reference are :

Whilst obviously by a number of authors and organisations, I find the views expressed by these are in a very general alignment with my views.

NSW 200608/2, NSW 200618/4, NSW 200626/9, NSW 200628/10, NSW 200629/18, NSW 200630/21, NSW 200630/22, NSW 200630/25, NSW 200701/30, NSW 200701/31, NSW 200701/34, NSW 200701/36, NSW 200701/38, NSW 200701/39

Regards