



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Comment on suggestion 16

Wayde Walker MStJ FAIOP MICDA MAICD

2 pages

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Tuesday 7th November 2023

Electoral Commission

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: REDISTRIBUTION OF ELECTORATES

I write in response to the redistribution of electorates across the state of NSW.

For many years, I have seen this process occur, relating to changes in population, etc.

I now look at what is our current Hunter Electorate, from where it was when I first became enrolled, to where it is now, and wonder, how a fair section of our electorate is even representative of the electorate as it originally stood.

The "Hunter" area is Newcastle to Murrurundi, Dungog to Putty, Merriwa to Port Stephens, and is around the northern/north eastern side of Lake Macquarie, this is a general bounding of the area of Hunter.

I have seen over the years, that areas like parts of the Central Coast have been included into our electorate, and this area has a very different demographic to those of the rest of our electorate, making the diversity of the portfolio for the Member for Hunter a lot more strenuous to be across.

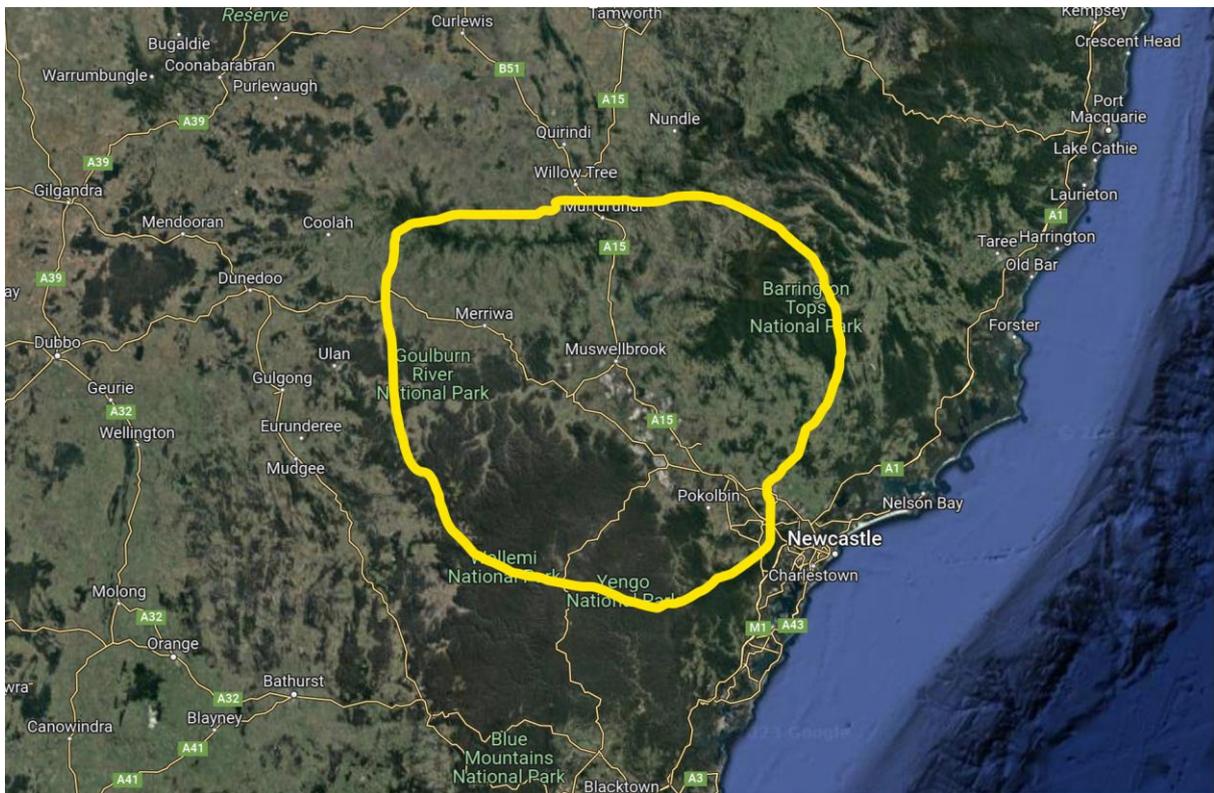
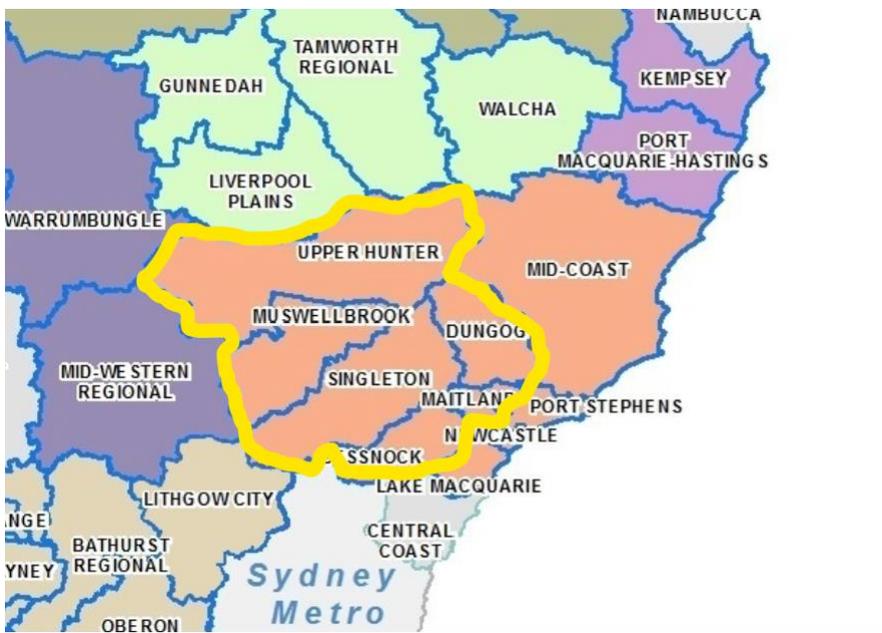
It would be suggestive from me, to say that the following council areas are what are indicative of the seat of Hunter:

- Cessnock LGA
- Singleton LGA
- Muswellbrook LGA
- Upper Hunter LGA
- Dungog LGA
- Maitland LGA

I would then look at the grouping of around the Lake Macquarie area, including Lake Macquarie LGA and the northern sector of Central Coast LGA into a seat known as Lake Macquarie, and the area known as Newcastle LGA and Port Stephens LGA into an area known as Awabakal.

Another thought on this would be the LGA's of Lake Macquarie, Newcastle and Port Stephens would be logically grouped together as the seat of "Newcastle" or something like the First Nations name for the area "Awabakal".

A sample of my beliefs are demonstrated very roughly on the below map:



I would implore the Electoral Commission to seriously consider the geographics and localities that are considered to be known as the area of "Hunter".

I am sure that the Honourable Member for Hunter would be able to advise on this as well.

I offer this as my feedback on the current re-alignment.

Regards



Wayde Walker MSTJ FAIOP MICDA MAICD