



Objection 435

Anna Gregg

To: New South Wales augmented Electoral Commission

Date: 9 July 2024

RE: Objection to the AEC's proposal to abolish the federal seat of North Sydney.

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am extremely concerned about the plans to abolish the seat of North Sydney.

North Sydney is a well-established and high-functioning community.

North Sydney has been a federal seat since the founding of the Federation. We were one of the first electorates to stand up for independent representation in 2022 and one of the few to vote for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the 2023 referendum. This was achieved because we are a tight network of community-minded, forward-thinking individuals.

North Sydney is growing!

The AEC's proposal to abolish North Sydney does not consider existing and future population growth numbers inside our electorate. The AEC has failed to consult appropriate sources for future growth numbers, including state and local planning policies, the number of developments under construction and the number of developments in the pipeline for future construction. Two examples of what has not been considered:

- 1. The NSW State Government plans to see 5,900 new homes built in the North Sydney LGA alone by 2029.
- 2. North Sydney Council expects 19,500 new residents to move into the area by 2036.

It does not make sense to propose to split the high-growth area around St Leonards and Crows Nest into three separate electorates.

North Sydney is a community of interest.

The North Sydney community has unique characteristics and needs that might not be adequately addressed if its residents are absorbed into neighbouring electorates. Furthermore, the networks, connections, sporting groups, businesses, community groups, schools, and transport lines are intrinsically linked to the current North Sydney electorate. Maintaining the seat ensures continuity in addressing long-term projects and community goals. It is economically important, given North Sydney is Australia's third largest business centre and the significant economic corridor that runs through the electorate.

I am a proud member of the North Sydney community and have been my whole life. I strongly oppose the draft proposal to abolish the federal seat of North Sydney and request that it remain intact, with minimal changes to accommodate changes in the overall number of electors in NSW.

