



## Objection 548

Sara J. Green

2 pages

## The NSW Redistribution Committee Australian Electoral Commission

10th July 2024

Subject: Draft plans to abolish Federal seat of North Sydney

I object to your draft plans as above, dear AEC. I am Sara Green, of North Sydney NSW 2060, and have worked and lived in North Sydney for over twenty-five years.

Why do I object?

Because the majority of North Sydney residents VOTED at the last Election for a progressive Federal Member of Parliament, Kylea Tink, a Teal, to represent our interests, not Liberal or Labor and the two-party system. So I, for one, do not want to be back at Square One by being 're-distributed', for reasons of administration, to another seat, and a one-in-three chance of not being represented by a Teal MP. Where are my democratic rights in being arbitrarily REDISTRIBUTED when I have not VOTED for this outcome? Did someone say Democracy? We do not pay lip-service to Democracy in Australia – at least, I did not think so.

Because we are a Progressive and Ecologically-minded Community: North Sydney understood the argument and voted for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. North Sydney was one of the first electorates to vote for an independent (Teal) MP in 2022 and not one of the major parties. Obviously our majority here in North Sydney did not want to be represented by the existing Liberal MP whose party politics is quite opposite to what we VOTED for. Many of us are climate and ecologically-minded and do not agree that Manmade Climate Change is not real, nor with the utterly unrealistic Nuclear bandwagon now jumped on by Peter Dutton and his desperate followers. NOT IN MY NAME! So my voice is not represented by a Liberal MP (Bradfield).

Because I feel we have a cohesive community: despite wearing many hats. We are a residential community and a multi-cultural community, a business community and a school community. And we have a very active Federal MP in Kylea Tink (Teal) who works hard to address the needs of all those communities. It seems to me premature and divisive to be considering dicing up our community and pinning portions on to surrounding Federal seats, who may or may not resemble our footprint.

Population: the AEC does not seem to be aware that North Sydney's residential population is exploding. The North Sydney electoral footprint is undergoing huge change right now:

1) North Sydney has rung with jack hammers and residential construction for at least the last fifteen years. I am seeing the number of residential buildings rise exponentially. In recent years, many blocks of units have been built in Crows Nest, St Leonards, Artamon, Chatswood, along Pacific Highway on the way up towards Crows Nest, and we are slated to have many more. The NSW State Government has mandated that our LGA must absorb another 5,900 new homes by 2029 and North

- Sydney Council expects over 19,000 new residents by 2036. Population growth is already happening. And fast.
- 2) The new Sydney Metro City (light rail) line is about to open in August 2024. Which means transport between the southern shore and North Sydney, and beyond to Crows Nest and Chatswood, will be improved, making our seat of North Sydney even more attractive for people to settle, with ever more flexible commuter arteries.

Sense of History: The seat of North Sydney has existed since Federation. It is one of the original seats contested in the first Federal Election held in Australia in 1901. You would be abolishing History! We were a residential area long before we became a Business District, after the Harbour Bridge opened in 1932.

Partisan concern: I would like to think that the AEC is independent of party politics but when it comes to Inconvenient Independents, there is always that concern.

So I object to the AEC's draft plans to abolish Federal seat of North Sydney and appreciate that I am able to express my objection.

Yours truly,

Sara J. Green