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In your reply please quote:

Ref: B5-2
RJS:NFH

"Regional Centre in Western NSW"

Friday 6 June 2008

Chairman
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters
Department of House of Representatives
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir

Subject: **REVIEW OF ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES**

The Council of the Shire of Cobar is located in far western NSW and covers an area of approximately 45,000 square kilometres. Council is also a member of the Western Division Group of Councils of the Shires Association of NSW which includes 13 rural and remote councils covering a total area of approximately 295,000 square kilometres representing, in geographical terms, almost 37% of the state of NSW.

Council is concerned that both the state and federal electorates covering far western NSW are far too large to be adequately represented by one member of parliament.

Council's concerns were taken to the 2007 Annual Conference of the Shires Association of NSW the outcome of which was representations to the then Minister of State, the Hon Gary Nairn MP, whose response was only received three weeks ago through the Shires Association of NSW.

In his response Mr Nairn has suggested that Council's concerns be referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters and therefore I would be grateful if this matter could be brought before your committee for consideration.

Yours faithfully

Ray Smith
GENERAL MANAGER