



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Debate should include those who may hold the balance of power

Windsor offers to debate PM and Greens

The Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor has offered to debate the Prime Minister Julia Gillard and Greens Leader Bob Brown on the economy and country issues.

Mr Windsor said that the polls were suggesting the possibility of a hung parliament in the House of Representatives as well as in the Senate.

He believes the Australian people should see what those people who may hold the balance of power have to say on critical economic and other issues.

“It looks certain that the Greens will hold the balance of power in the Senate and with the possibility of five Independents in the House of Representatives from country areas, the scenario of neither major party having an absolute majority is looking more likely.

“We have heard very little from the Government on its regional policy and country people want to know where the Greens stand on various issues.

“The lack of country issues in the campaign thus far also shows that the major parties take country people for granted.

“With 30% of Australia’s population living in the country, that’s a lot of people to overlook,” Mr Windsor said.