



QUEENSLAND REDISTRIBUTION COMMISSION

2007 QUEENSLAND REDISTRIBUTION OF ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION

JANUARY 2008

**Level 6
Forestry House
160 Mary Street
BRISBANE Q 4000**

**Locked Bag 3304
BRISBANE Q 4001**

Telephone: 1300 881 665

**Facsimile: (07) 3229 7391
Website: www.ecq.qld.gov.au**



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PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE SUGGESTIONS FOR ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

On 12 October 2007 the Redistribution Commission invited public suggestions on the redistribution of the State's 89 Electoral Districts. Twenty-four suggestions were received.

The Commission invited comments in response to these suggestions on 24 November 2007. Comments were welcome on some or all of the submissions received, or any part of a particular submission. The Commission received 149 comments on the suggestions by 5.00 pm on 17 December 2007. This booklet contains copies of those comments.

Copies of both the Public Suggestions and Comments on the Suggestions received by the due date can be viewed at the Commission's office, Level 6, Forestry House, 160 Mary Street, Brisbane between the hours of 9.00 am and 5.00 pm (Monday to Friday). Copies are also available at major Public Libraries and selected Council offices throughout Queensland. They are also available on the Commission's website – www.ecq.qld.gov.au

The Remainder of the State Redistribution Process

The Commission is currently considering all suggestions and comments received and preparing a proposed redistribution of the State into 89 electoral districts in accordance with the criteria set out in Part 3 of the *Electoral Act 1992* ("the Act").

In accordance with section 45(1) of the Act, the Commission has determined the quota, for the purposes of the proposed redistribution, at the end of the period for the lodging of comments in response to the suggestions. The quota is 29,560 electors.

As soon as practicable, the Commission will finalise its proposed redistribution. It will draw attention to its proposed electoral boundaries by publishing a notice in the Queensland Government Gazette, The Courier Mail and appropriate regional newspapers. Maps showing the names and boundaries of the proposed electoral districts will be widely available for inspection by members of the public.

Written objections to the Commission's proposed boundaries may be lodged with the Commission within 30 days of the publication of the Commission's notice in the Gazette inviting objections. Further comments in relation to any objections received may also be lodged within 10 days of the publication by the Commission of a notice in the Gazette inviting comments on the objections.

Following consideration of any objections and comments, the Commission will make its final determination of the names and boundaries of the 89 electoral districts and publish notification of the redistribution in the Queensland Government Gazette.

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
1	Mr Vic & Mrs Val Rogers	11 Prenzlau Crescent WINDAROO Q 4207
2	Mr Kevin J Conway	100 Rode Road WAVELL HEIGHTS Q 4012
3	Dr Jonathan Lelliott	5/12 Magdala Street ASCOT Q 4007
4	Mr Anker Laursen	96 Herses Road EAGLEBY Q 4207
5	Ms Wendy J Richardson	21 East Park Ridge Drive BRINSMEAD Q 4870
6	Ms Dorothy Pratt MP Member for Nanango	Shop 2/34 A Alford Street KINGAROY Q 4610
7	Mr Derek L Weier	764 Talgai West Road VIA ALLORA Q 4362
8	Mr Lachlan and Ms Sacha Moncrieff	306 Kelso Drive KELSO Q 4815
9	Ms Judith Ellis	Email Address Provided
10	Ms Margaret Sainsbury	6 Grau Street ATHERTON Q 4883
11	Mr Sean and Ms Lynette Austin	50 Kunde Street CORNUBIA Q 4130
12	Ms Lesley Tunks	34 Martin Avenue MAREEBA Q 4880
13	Mr W Kaye Yelds and Mrs W Yelds	PO Box 13 RAVENSHOE Q 4888
14	Mr W P Womersley and Mrs M G Womersley	PO Box 556 RAVENSHOE Q 4888
15	Mr Michael Taylor Hon Secretary Sunshine Coast Ratepayers and Residents Association	PO Box 1324 MOOLOOLABA Q 4557

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
16	Mr David Baker	PO Box 522 TOLGA Q 4882
17	Mrs L N Richards	3 Durston Street MAREEBA Q 4880
18	Mr T E Akers	3 Hanrahan Street MALANDA Q 4885
19	Mrs H E Akers	3 Hanrahan Street MALANDA Q 4885
20	Ms Coral Ernst	6 Smerdon Road GYMPIE SOUTH Q 4570
21	Mr L J Pointing	33 Old Maryborough Road GYMPIE Q 4570
22	Ms N Plozza	37 Martin Avenue MAREEBA Q 4880
23	Mrs Bronwyn Kirkegard	228 Little Bella Creek Road BELLA CREEK Q 4570
24	Mr Ross and Mrs Jan Loughton	32 Mabel Street ATHERTON Q 4883
25	Ms Kellie M Potter	19 Fifth Avenue KEDRON Q 4031
26	Ms Henrietta McAlister	PO Box 118 MAPLETON Q 4560
27	Mrs M E Pisko	PO Box 285 ATHERTON Q 4883
28	Mr E G McCarthy	PO Box 839 ATHERTON Q 4883
29	Mr William Ingledew	PO Box 384 ATHERTON Q 4883
30	Mr V M, Ms J C and Mr G D Falvo	PO Box 1737 MAREEBA Q 4880
31	Ms Georgina Watling	26 Azalea Street ATHERTON Q 4883

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
32	Mr Michael O'Dwyer State Director The National Party of Australia - Queensland	PO Box 5940 WEST END Q 4101
33	Mr Craig Riedel	PO Box 837 MALANDA Q 4885
34	Ms Zoe Brooks	1D / 30 Kurradilla Street RAVENSHOE Q 4888
35	Mr Robin Potter	64 Anderson Road MALANDA Q 4885
36	Mr Gary Rozynski	1 Rozynski Road IMBIL Q 4570
37	Mr Les Buglar	PO Box 11 RAVENSHOE Q 4888
38	Mr Roland and Mrs Enid Willis	Cnr Russell and Fuller Roads MS 1575 MALANDA Q 4885
39	Mr David and Mrs Lesley Stephen	PO Box 5801 Gold Coast Mail Centre BUNDALL Q 9726
40	Mrs Margaret H Buckley	PO Box 92 MALANDA Q 4885
41	Mr Neil Reynolds	32 Storer Street ATHERTON Q 4883
42	Mr B Gill	6 Butlers Corner Road IMBIL Q 4570
43	Mr Shane Knuth MP Member for Charters Towers	Stock Exchange Arcade 2/76 Mossman Street CHARTERS TOWERS Q 4820
44	Mrs Grace O'Brien	460 Springs Road MAREEBA Q 4880
45	Mr Mario Leonforte	Springmont Road WALKAMIN Q 4872

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
46	Mr Ian Askin	460 Springs Road MAREEBA Q 4880
47	Mr Eric Gosper	158 Byrnes Street MAREEBA Q 4880
48	Mr Matthew Rowe General Secretary Liberal Party of Australia – Qld Division	PO Box 8167 WOOLLOONGABBA Q 4102
49	Ms Rosa Lee Long MP Member for Tablelands	210 Byrnes Street MAREEBA Q 4880
50	Ms K Trevillion	7 McLeod Street MAREEBA Q 4880
51	Ms E Thomas	Unit 1 5 Smallwood Street MAREEBA Q 4880
52	Mr R G Thomas	Unit 1 5 Smallwood Street MAREEBA Q 4880
53	Mr L Henderson	10 Lannoy Street MAREEBA Q 4880
54	Ms D Henderson	10 Lannoy Street MAREEBA Q 4880
55	Mr J A Hill	PO Box 279 ATHERTON Q 4883
56	Ms Mary Graham	PO Box 440 MAREEBA Q 4880
57	Mrs G E Pinkersgill (on behalf of Save the Mary River Coordinating Group)	Support and Information Centre Kandanga Railway KANDANGA Q 4570
58	Dr Darren Delaney	PO Box 142 NORTH CAIRNS Q 4870

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
59	Mr M T Garland	8 Jamieson Street MAREEBA Q 4880
60	Mr John Wadley	139 Byrnes Street MAREEBA Q 4880
61	Unable to Identify	PO Box 998 MAREEBA Q 4880
62	Ms Gai Jackson	61 Sandy Creek Road DIMBULAH Q 4872
63	Ms S Giacometti	PO Box 1005 MAREEBA Q 4880
64	Ms E Iuretigh	169 Constance Street MAREEBA Q 4880
65	Mrs T L Tallarico	PO Box 1931 MAREEBA Q 4880
66	Ms Kellie McKenzie	31 Costin Street MAREEBA Q 4880
67	Ms S Holmes	31 Page Street MAREEBA Q 4880
68	Mrs Christine West	3 Jacobsen Street MAREEBA Q 4880
69	Mr L Trevillion	7 McLeod Street MAREEBA Q 4880
70	Ms H Fowler	PO Box 1643 MAREEBA Q 4880
71	Mr David Gibson MP Member for Gympie	PO Box 1277 GYMPIE Q 4570
72	Mr David Beard	1 Francesca Court UNDERWOOD Q 4119
73	Mrs Janice Ottone	PO Box 290 MALANDA Q 4885
74	Mr John Santowski	PO Box 879 MAREEBA Q 4880

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
75	Ms Bronwyn Francis Manager Tableland Canegrowers Ltd	PO Box 1359 MAREEBA Q 4880
76	Mr David & Ms Janine Bohanna	7 Maple Street MILLAA MILLAA 4886
77	Mr Colin & Ms Maureen Dow	RL 11029 Kennedy Highway EVELYN CENTRAL Q 4888
78	Mr Colin & Mrs Robyn McDowall	2 Jamieson Street MAREEBA Q 4880
79	Mr Thomas & Mrs Mary Wyatt	446 Lake Barrine Road MALANDA Q 4885
80	Ms Sharon Dennis Secretary Malanda Chamber of Commerce	PO Box 560 MALANDA Q 4885
81	Ms Jo Doecke (on behalf of Christine Doan)	PO Box 700 ATHERTON Q 4883
82	Ms Lannette Hampton	17 Mt Perseverance Road JULATTEN Q 4871
83	Mr Matthew Hyde Acting Chief Executive Officer Eacham Shire Council	PO Box 3 MALANDA Q 4885
84	Ms Colleen McIvor Spokesperson for SHAME	Railway Lane ATHERTON Q 4883
85	Councillor Mick Venardos OAM Mayor Cooloola Shire Council	PO Box 155 GYMPIE Q 4570
86	Hon Craig Wallace MP Member for Thuringowa	PO Box 1375 THURINGOWA Q 4817

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
87	Mrs Vicki Ormond	41 Red Gully Road AMAMOOR Q 4570
88	Mr Mark Ormond	41 Red Gully Road AMAMOOR Q 4570
89	Mr Richard Channell	3 Goomong Road KANDANGA Q 4570
90	Ms Jennifer R Mengel (on behalf of The Mengel Family)	7 Goomong Road KANDANGA Q 4570
91	Ms Kaylene Channell	3 Goomong Road KANDANGA Q 4570
92	Ms Sally Mackay	PO Box 115 KENILWORTH Q 4574
93	Ms Sue Smith	63 Greenoak Road KANDANGA Q 4570
94	Ms D Seal	PO Box 305 POMONA Q 4568
95	Mr Steve Burgess	PO Box 47 DAGUN Q 4570
96	Ms Elaine Bradley	PO Box 47 DAGUN Q 4570
97	Mr Bob Richardson	45 Riverstone Road GORDONVALE Q 4865
98	Mr Alan Lambert Acting Chief Executive Officer Atherton Shire Council	PO Box 573 ATHERTON Q 4883
99	Mr Andy L Smith Acting Chief Executive Officer Mareeba Shire Council	PO Box 154 MAREEBA Q 4880
100	Ms Desley Gyetvay	PO Box 646 HERBERTON Q 4887

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
101	Ms Sue Nicholls Business Coordinator Carinya Home for the Aged	PO Box 522 ATHERTON Q 4883
102	Mr Christopher Pang Way	14 Herberton Road ATHERTON Q 4883
103	Ms Beryl Klye	PO Box 326 MALANDA Q 4885
104	Mr E E Aburn Co-Ordinator Local Government Residents Association Nanango Branch	No Address Provided
105	Ms Kay Bagley Secretary Herberton Memorial Bowls club Inc	PO Box 81 HERBERTON Q 4887
106	Mr Bill Leet Chairman Tepon Equestrian Club Inc	PO Box 475 HERBERTON Q 4887
107	Mr Peter Hodge	39 Main Street ATHERTON Q 4883
108	Mr C Adams	38 Cambrian Avenue ATHERTON Q 4883
109	Mr Gordon Malcolm Chief Executive Officer Herberton Shire Council	40 Grace Street HERBERTON Q 4887
110	Mr Alan Kirkegard	228 Little Bella Creek Road BELLA CREEK Q 4570
111	Ms Helga Hill	"Benyule" Happy Jack Creek Road COOROY Q 4563

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
112	Ms Jan Watt	PO Box 107 IMBIL Q 4570
113	Mr Arthur Boothby	PO Box 107 IMBIL Q 4570
114	Ms Carla Durnan	5 Excelsior Road GYMPIE Q 4570
115	Mr David R Sims	Lintham Road KANDANGA Q 4570
116	Mr Steve & Ms Kathleen Dennis	26 Callemonda Road BROOLOO Q 4570
117	Ms Amanda Watt	PO Box 107 IMBIL Q 4570
118	Ms Robyn Sutton	4 Elizabeth Street IMBIL Q 4570
	Ms Carol Bloomfield	45 Diamondfield Road AMAMOOD Q 4570
	Ms Kathryn Hawke	1 Chippindall Road KANDANGA Q 4570
	Ms Tracy Kurtz	62 Marroo Road BROOLOO Q 4570
119	Mr David Jefferson	59 Main Street KANDANGA Q 4570
120	Ms Adrienne Dan Secretary / Treasurer Friends of Kandanga	PO Box 16 KANDANGA Q 4570
121	Mr Eric Cleghorn and Ms Avril Brown	PO Box 71 HERBERTON Q 4887
122	Ms Sian Beatty	6 Kenilworth Road Tuchekoi VIA GYMPIE Q 4570
123	Mr Kevin Ingersole	205 Hasthorpe Road KANDANGA Q 4570

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
124	Mr Geoffrey D Houston	63 Driers Road COORAN Q 4569
125	Ms L A Alba and Mr M Alba	PO Box 1008 MAREEBA Q 4880
126	Councillor Evan McGrath OAM Deputy Mayor Mareeba Shire Council	PO Box 154 MAREEBA Q 4880
127	Ms Mary Sims	Linhams Road KANDANGA Q 4570
128	Mr Bill Teunissen	73 Riversdale Road KANDANGA Q 4570
129	Ms Jill Killen and Mr Tom Killen	MS 47 Hilary Road Carters Ridge VIA COOROY Q 4563
130	A R Turnbull Treasurer Malanda Bowls Club Inc	PO Box 40 MALANDA Q 4885
131	Ms Janine Gledhill	197 Little Bella Creek Road VIA IMBIL Q 4570
132	Mr Scott Sutton Chairman Gympie South Branch The National Party of Australia - Queensland	18 Ilga Road GYMPIE Q 4570
133	Ms Judy Jenner Secretary Ravenshoe Chamber of Commerce	PO Box 277 RAVENSHOE Q 4888
134	Mr & Mrs G H McIntyre	PO Box 150 YUNGABURRA Q 4884
135	Mr Don Gibbs	197 Little Bella Creek Road VIA IMBIL Q 4570
136	Mrs L Perry & Mr P Dance	12 Toomey Street TRAVESTON Q 4570

LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suggestion No. (QRC/C....)	Name/Organisation	Address
137	Mr Keith Watt	PO Box 107 IMBIL Q 4570
138	Mr Kent Hutton	416 Scrubby Creek Road GYMPIE Q 4570
139	Mr Warren Smith	1269 Noosa Road MOTHAR MOUNTAIN Q 4570
140	Ms Carol Pilcher	52 Monarch Road CARTERS RIDGE Q 4570
141	Mr Dave Ross	127 Diamondfield Road AMAMOOR Q 4570
142	Ms Shaaron Linwood Secretary Herberton Business & Trade Association Inc	PO Box 213 HERBERTON Q 4887
143	Mrs Shirley Prout (Snr)	20 George Street MALANDA Q 4885
144	Mr George Thomas President Crestmead Community Association Inc	PO Box 597 MARSDEN Q 4132
145	Councillor Tony Mooney Mayor of Townsville	Townsville City Council PO Box 1268 TOWNSVILLE Q 4810
146	A & R Brooks	1A Empress Avenue HERBERTON Q 4883
147	Mr Darren Edward	179 Hansen Road DAGUN Q 4570
148	Mr Victor Hill	192 Happy Jack Creek Road Ridgewood VIA COOROY Q 4563
149	Ms Margaret Teunissen	73 Riversdale Road KANDANGA Q 4570

DEC/c/



10th Nov. 2001

Dear Sir, I wish to
submit a request for
the ALBERT Electorate.

Margaret Keach is well
loved & needed for the
WHL team of Beaulieu.

Senior Citizens &
Youth Sporting Clubs
have had such support
from her, that they
have expanded.
Such empathy &

experience has been
emerging, & the town of
Beaulieu would be
"in mourning" if she
were not Dear Member!

So, I hope you can
give successful consid-
eration to our request.

Thanking you,
Vic & Val Regs.

ORC/C2

Kevin J. Conway
100 Rode Rd.,
Wavell Hts Q 4012

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
BRISBANE Q 4001



Dear Sir,

I live in the suburb of Wavell Hts in the seat of Clayfield. I believe that the seat is currently illogical as it divides the existing communities of interest.

I would recommend to the Commission that the boundary be amended to include the whole of the suburb of Nundah. From a historical point of view Nundah was the first free settlement in Queensland and as such should be maintained as a whole district in a State Electorate. My wife grew up in Vernon Street and all the old timers I knew from around that area on the far side of the railway did not see it as a dividing line in the suburb but rather a service to a suburb proud of its identity and history.

Most people I know of in the Wavell Hts and Nundah areas base most of their business dealings in Nundah with some services accessed at Toombul Shopping town. Since the refurbishment of the shops and the construction of the Woolworths Supermarket more and more people across the whole of Nundah and Wavell Hts use Nundah as their commercial centre. I am aware that a local veterans group surveyed people attending the Woolworths centre in Nundah and identified that patronage was from the whole of Nundah, Wavell Hts, Clayfield, Hendra and Albion. It seems ridiculous to split a part of Nundah from the rest of the seat.

Currently the seat of Clayfield has 27,473 voters which is 5.53% under the target figure. If the balance of Nundah was added in by using Toombul Road as a natural boundary, it would provide an additional 2573 voters base on current census collector districts. This would provide an electorate of 30,046, bringing it in line with other Electorates and the expected size of 29,081.

I would also suggest that consideration be given to returning the name of the seat to Nundah to recognize the contribution of the first free settlers.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my views and those of a number of people I speak with.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Conway

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Conway", written over the printed name "Kevin Conway".

QRC/c3

5 / 12 Magdala Street
Ascot. QLD 4007

① 0431 969 854 (mobile)

① 07 3268 4354 (home)

✉ japlelliott@hotmail.com

8 November 2007

RE: State Redistribution: Seat of Clayfield

Dear Commissioners

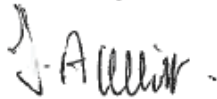
I have lived in Ascot in the State seat of Clayfield for a number of years and see no reason for the electorate to be changed in the redistribution currently underway.

Clayfield is a logical collection of suburbs with similar profiles, so forms a coherent entity. In particular I would be disappointed if the seat moved inwards to include areas such as Newstead and New Farm. As inner-suburbs these are substantially different from places like Ascot, Clayfield and Nundah.

With 27,500 voters, Clayfield is already within the Commission's post-redistribution target of 29,081 voters plus/minus 10%. Given the large developments underway at Hamilton, the seat is likely to well exceed the 29,000 target over the next few years anyway.

I trust these views are of use to the Commission.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jonathan Lelliott



9 November 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Electoral Commission of Queensland
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane QLD 4001

QRC/C 4
FAVED

Dear Sir / Madam

I have been informed that you are looking at changing the state government boundaries here in Queensland as part of a regular review.

I am also aware that the state seat of Albert is heavily over-populated and is likely to be split, perhaps in half.

If this was to be the case, I would ask that you consider splitting the seat parallel to the NSW border (that is, east-west across the seat) rather than north-south (along the M1 motorway).

The suburbs of Beenleigh, Eagleby, Yatala and Mt Warren Park form a strong local community.

We would have preferred for them always to be kept together, but your commission decided to separate out Beenleigh from the other 3 suburbs in 1999.

The grouping of Eagleby, Yatala and Mt Warren Park has been very well served by our strong State Member for Albert, Mrs Margaret Keech MP, since February 2001.

I am concerned that the need to take out another part of Albert might further split this local community by dividing this community along the M1.

I would ask you to consider other changes to Albert – preferably well to the south of here.

I would ask you to keep these suburbs in their current areas for any re-arrangement you decide.

Yours sincerely



Anker Laursen

Private Resident (also President of The Beenleigh and District Historical Society)

96 Herses Road
Eagleby QLD 4207
0400 044 985 / 3287 5817



AS FAYED PREVIOUSLY

Submission re electoral boundary redistribution



I have given considerable thought over the last few years to this matter

In order to align boundaries in Far North Queensland and Queensland generally, via the criteria set out by the Electoral Commission, the following should be considered:

- Regional cities and towns are quite different in nature to large suburban tracts in the greater metropolitan area of Brisbane. People have fewer transport options and distances to be traveled are frequently greater. Therefore attention to natural geographical features and patterns of travel such as to do shopping are more important in country areas.
- Barron River electorate (northern suburbs of Cairns) currently misses out the important last few suburbs of Cairns, relegating them to representation along with quite different groups such as Thursday Islanders who live half the length of Queensland away.
- Barron River should be extended to take in suburbs up to and including Ellis Beach, which is the furthest extent of suburban Cairns bus routes.
- The northern boundary of Cairns electorate needs to be shifted slightly north to include the last parts of Edge Hill and Whitfield. These suburbs are almost completely located in Cairns but small parts are represented by Barron River which is over a mountain and difficult to reach by public transport from these areas. Additionally, important civic facilities such as the Botanical Gardens precinct is cut in two by this illogical division.
- The southern boundary of Cairns electorate needs 'tidying up'. Streets off Anderson Road are almost completely in Cairns, but some houses at far ends are in Mulgrave as they were built after the boundary was drawn. The boundary is very difficult to describe at present, even by local electoral commission officers. It should be aligned to take in the extremities of all streets running from Anderson Road.
- If additional numbers are required in Cairns after the above suggestions, the northern side of Foster Road would be one logical boundary.
- If Cook needs to expand, it would be preferable to include the drier northern extremities of the Atherton Tablelands i.e. Mareeba (any area north of Rocky Creek. The industries, environmental and cultural issues are continuous from Mareeba into the Cape and as such are much more aligned than incorporating the beach suburbs of Cairns in Cook.
- With the extension of Cook into the Tablelands electorate, Tablelands could conceivably extend further south to absorb part of Hinchinbrook which could be disbanded altogether. This would leave Innisfail cut into 2 electorates instead of 3.

These suggestions will be expanded in the next round of submissions. I believe as a long term resident of Cairns, actively involved in the community that many locals in FNQ would agree with these proposals and I urge the Commissioners to consider seriously the possibilities as outlined.

Wendy J Richardson
21 East Park Ridge Drive
Brinsmead Qld 4870

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wendy J Richardson'.

Ph 4034 2248



Dorothy Pratt MLA
Independent Member for Nanango

QRC/C6

Shop 2/34 A Alford Street
KINGAROY QLD 4610
Phone (07) 4162 1381
Fax (07) 4162 4774
Freecall: 1800 816 261
(in electorate only)

Our Ref: vjw

28th November 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
LB 3304
Brisbane Qld 4001

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: QRC/C – Comments on submissions

Having studied the various submissions regarding the redistribution of State electorates, I would like to submit that the Australian Labor Party's submission has, overall, outlined what I believe to be the most appropriate and workable boundary alignment.

Both the Liberal and National Party submissions quite drastically segregate areas of like interest. This opposes the concept behind Local Government divisions which strove to amalgamate along the lines of joining "like interest" communities.

The Australian Labor Party's submission to include districts extending north into the current Callide electorate and westward into the current Darling Downs electorate would guarantee not only a continuation of communities of like interest but also ensure the required number of voting population. The western area of Darling Downs, which butts onto the Warrego Electorate, would conceivably be absorbed by the current Nanango and Warrego electorates.

Yours sincerely

Dorothy Pratt MLA
Independent Member for Nanango

E-mail
nanango@parliament.qld.gov.au



PRC/C7

30-12-07

To The Secretary Queensland Redistribution -
Commission. Locked Bag 3304

To who this may concern, My Experience of
Amalgamation over 12 years with Shires Of
Allora & Warwick Becoming Amalgated
in 1994-5 The 2 shires joined, why? the real reason

was not of Allora in financial trouble
Allora was well off money in the Bank
no Big Debts Warwick approached Allora
to join with them, Without any approach
to the Rate Payers of the Allora Shire

Allora Shire Became Amalgated with The
Warwick Shire, Taking into Deal with The
Warwick Shire Council. Allora took in

a nice size sum of money plus plant &
workers. As for Representatives on the Council
Community, Allora only had 2 reps to sit
on City Council, The 2 Reps came from

The Allora Town Area (Where The Rural
Area of the Shire Had no Representative
& still has no Rep. If the Area west of

The Railway Line from Toowoomba to Warwick
has to have road work done of any sort
The Rate Payer or Payers of that area

has to get the work done themselves 1 job
may take up to 3 years to get it done

With the pushing of that particular Rate Payer
when the job is done it may end up 75%
done when finished instead of



As for Rates: Rates have jumped 400%
 this is my own case Pre Amalgamation I owned
 & worked 927 acres of mixed Land, Dairy &
 Grain. Rates then when Allora was by itself
 my Rates then were \$1,100-0-0 on 927
 acres on the Death of my Father my late
 name myself were left unbeknown to us
 a debt of \$375,000-0-0. I'll be Three Thousand &
 Seventy Five Thousand Dollars. This meant a
 big sell off of both Land, Cattle & Plant
 at give away prices I still owned
 927 acres my Rates now would be \$5000-0-0
 & what for nothing has changed in this
 Area since Amalgamation of Shire. I feel the
 only reason Warwick wanted Allora is
 because it had money & Warwick was broke
 at the time & still is, currently Warwick
 Debt is \$16,000,000-0-0 & still growing
 I'll Warwick takes on Stantorph as well
 its Debt will even be bigger Warwick is
 trying to do more work, with less workers
 which is impossible. To cover costs Warwick
 is now charging people to Drive on the Rd
 one of 3 new costs in Rates in last 2 years
 This is the first time since my parent settled
 here in 1945 that I can not pay my Rates
 as owing to drought & forced to sell off
 25 good cows & loss of 150 head from drought
 & having to Restart from the ground up
 virtually I can't even afford to pay \$100-0-0
 a month all I am on is \$410-0-0 a fortnight
 out of that I have to \$600-0-0 a month for

payment of Replacement Tractor worth
\$26,000-0 - So I have to live on \$200-0-
a month. My milk processor Pauls wont
pick me up, untill I am milking 20 cows
I have been fighting against Amalgamation
with Clifton Shire I dont want to see
(them get caught up in High Rates)
& no Council Reps) The Town of Allora
is loosing its Identity even more. The Local
Allora Shire Pool is no longer, it is
Warrick Shire Pool; gone the words Allora
Shire Pool, plus the Shires Logo, Heads of Grain
in a circle plus the sun rise Behind the Heads
how much longer. Before the name of Allora
Town is gone & something else on the Signs
Put Allora Back to a Shire of its own, own
Council & Divisions. So this Shire can look after
its Shire properly at less cost to Ratepayers

Derek L. Weier
764 Talgai West Rd
via Allora 4362

Q

P.S. If Amalgamation goes into the future
way of Shires Been: Run: I mark my word
A lot of Rural Towns will vanish Rural Shires
have to live with in its means - I have City
Shires dont have to do that. I have Rates
The majority of these Rates come from
(City Businesses) who dont rely on Rural Income
like Rural Shires do, when the Primary Producers
cant spend money, Business cant pay those Costs plus Rate
iff they cant keep going they close there doors

From: Sacha Moncrieff [mailto:paragon9@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: Thursday, 6 December 2007 5:45 AM
To: ECQ User
Subject: Fw: Thuringowa - Redistribution Committee

PRC/C 8

Attn: Redistribution Commission

Dear Sir/Madam

I am not sure how to go about lodging my objection to the proposal that Kelso be moved to the Burdekin, but thought I would give this a go.

The idea that we would be represented by someone who I assume lives in the city of Ayr is bizarre.

Please find attached an email that I have sent to Craig Wallace, Member for Thuringowa.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Sacha Moncrieff

----- Original Message -----

From: Sacha Moncrieff
To: thuringowa@parliament.qld.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2007 11:24 AM
Subject: Thuringowa - Redistribution Committee

Attn: Craig Wallace

Dear Mr Wallace

Following what we have read in The Townsville Bulletin and your letter dated 28 Nov, my husband and I would like **to wholeheartedly voice our objection to the proposal** from the National Party that Kelso be moved to the Burdekin electorate.

To put it mildly - it is absolutely absurd! We don't live anywhere near the Burdekin!

It would be appreciated if you could please let us know of any avenues we could take to voice our objection further.

Yours sincerely

Lachlan and Sacha Moncrieff
306 Kelso Drive, KELSO 4815

5/12/2007

From: Judith Ellis [jel43959@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: Thursday, 6 December 2007 12:41 PM
To: ECQ User
Subject: Regarding the redistribution

DRC/C 9

To whom it may concern

I am a resident of the Tablelands electate. I am appalled at the recent news that we are about to loose our representation in Brisbane. It would seem that we country people are again being treated like second class citizens. It would seem that the only people who have a say are the people in southern Queensland. While we work ourselves into the ground the only people to benefit are the people who live in the city. I just wonder who is to really benefit - The Labour Party.

Judy

11/12/2007

QRC/C 10

60 Grau St

Atherton 4883

Thursday 6th December '0,

REDISTRIBUTION COMMISSION - BRISBANE

Sir,

My determination is to make known my deep lack of trust for those political parties which claim to represent Australian people in a democratic tradition

For want of a better beginning to my essay, may I list in point form a number of issues as can be called to memory respective of the term of Labor Government in the State of Queensland.

1. The decree of Heritage Forestry boundaries embracing outer-district areas where formerly logging and mining activities could provide valuable employment opportunities for local resident families. For example, the curtailing of logging in Ravenshoe meant hardship for many families through deprivation of income.
2. The State Government Law abounding the land-clearing Act... in which it is now viewed as a criminal act to clear land without firstly proceeding with a costly feasibility study - costs must be met irrespective of permissions being granted ---- or denied.
3. Ridiculous mining lease rates in places like Forsayth - (the next town traveling on Southward from Georgetown N Q)
4. Water - "sun-water" is at odds with a farmers' prerogative to supply edible crop/food products to the vast communities also to ensure adequacy of fodder crops for cattle. The existence of the Sun-water scheme in Northern regions (especially Atherton and surrounding Tableland) seems particularly of non propriety in a region where water as a resource is seldom a scarcity.

5. The Ambulance 'electricity' fiasco.

6. The shunning of medical/hospital needs -

Mareeba had to fight for their right to have maternity - child-bearing facilities and enabling midwifery base. Good fortune eventuated.

On another note, the Tableland community has been endangered by the State Government's abrogation of a promise to (subsidise?) the installation of a kidney dialysis machine within Mareeba Hospital. It means that some unlucky kidney patients have to travel to Atherton once or a couple of times a week for treatment at the Atherton Hospital. Bus service is infrequent and Taxi fare is inhibitive (I have been made aware of a lady who regularly made a taxi trip to Atherton from Kuranda.) \$\$\$\$!!

If I may make a comparison between the Mareeba dialysis machine where a real health crisis presents a need..... and as 'measured' against the hypothetical

Bird Flu epidemic EVENT staged down in Southern QLD --- possibly Brisbane Airport although my memory isn't too clear. — How can there be no Government financial support for the former, when Mick Borzi's community fund-raising achieved above and beyond the monetary sum initially specified by the Beattie Government.

7. Abandonment of financial support for the continued event of Race Meetings in the outer-lying towns. The infusion of visitors to such race meetings is much welcomed by smaller township communities. No race-meetings now. No thanks to Labor

8. Council Amalgamation - NO!!

9. Disbanding of the Tablelands electorate and redistribution of the boundaries - well... it has not happened as yet... but if it is imagined that I or anyone would be other than HOSTILE to such a proposal, then the

PRC/C10

kinsmen of those political parties must be egocentric or mad! 'Redistribution' is just another 'gag' on our voices.

This is probably why the many in this region shun to vote for any of the mainstream parties and prefer our own independent people on whom we can rely to support our concerns.

Yours faithfully

Margaret Sainsbury.

QRC/C11

Sean and Lynette Austin
50 Kunde Street
CORNUBIA QLD 4130

December 3, 2007

QRC/C
The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bay 3304
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir/Madam

We are writing in regards to the invitation by the Queensland Redistribution Commission for public comments on public suggestions for the Queensland Redistribution of Electoral Districts.

We agree with submission 24 by Mr Beard.

He has suggested that Cornubia, which is in Logan City Council, become part of the Springwood electorate instead of the Redlands electorate.

Having lived in Cornubia for 20 years, we feel we are more a part of the communities of Springwood, Shailer Park and Loganholme rather than the communities further away in the Redlands Council area.

Cornubia is mostly suburban like the Springwood electorate, whereas Redlands includes many farms and acreage allotments.

For shopping we travel west to centres in Logan City Council east of the Pacific Motorway.

The council newsletters and the Logan 'Things to Do', communicate what's happening in the local and Logan City Council area. The activities and events which we don't have to travel too far are in the Springwood electorate.

We make our comment based on the close geographical association between the residents of Cornubia and the centres of Springwood, Shailer Park and Loganholme which are currently in the electorate of Springwood.

Yours faithfully,

Sean and Lynette Austin

PRC/C 12
34 Martin Ave
Maruba Q 4880
5-12-07

Old Distribution Commission

Dear Sir,
I hope you do not take the advice of the Major Political Parties to carve up the seat of Tablelands.

They have enough seats in the South East Corner of the state. It is a known fact that we are the forgotten North.

Cook Electorate is large and if Maruba was to merge with Cook, we would have no representation in our Area.

Maruba and the Atherton Tablelands are growing rapidly

I lived in Brisbane from the 1960^s to the 1980^s and saw many boundaries change, and not always for the better.

I am sure if they so badly need a seat North the far North, they could have one of the five seats from around Cairns, but not our Tablelands.

Yours sincerely
Lesley Dunks

QRC/CB
P.O. Box 13
RAVENSHOE 4899
6-12-2007

QRC/C

Re the suggestions of the major political parties to alter the Tableland electorate and to carve up this seat to fit into other surrounding electorates.

The Tablelands do not fit into these other areas that have been suggested, and being such a diverse rural seat to be fragmented in such a way, we feel the Tablelands would be placed in an unworkable position and not properly represented in Brisbane.

The suggestion by the Nationals to put Malanda and Ravenshoe in the Charters Towers electorate (who have little or nothing in common with the Tablelands) demonstrates a complete misunderstanding of the situation.

As longtime residents of the Tablelands, we object in the most strongest terms, to any interference or changes to the Tableland seat.

(MR) W. Haysfelds
(MRS) W. Haysfelds.

QRC/C 14

To The Electoral Commissioner,

Re
The Distribution to the Electorate of Cook Charters Towers
to even think of changing is ridiculous especially for the elderly
our present Member is a fifty km drive away. where Charters Towers
would be over four hundred km of a long tiring drive.

If and I am sure our letter will not be the only one you will
receive. and the changes go ahead. then Democracy is dead
and Dictatorship is in-it seems to us that the more the
South East gets the more they want. regardless of the peoples
wishes. I sincerely hope our letter gets a fair viewing.

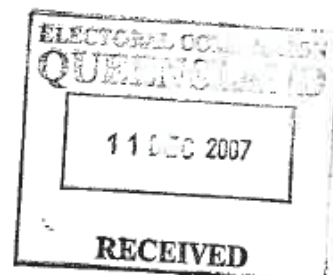
Signed by.

JP Womersley
CH J Womersley

BOX 556

RAVENSHOG 4888.

6-12-07.





PRC/C15



6th December 2007.

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane.
Qld. 4001.

Dear Commissioner/s,

Please accept this as our formal comment to the tabled suggestions of the State
Electorate boundary realignments/redistribution.

We strongly agree with all submissions that acknowledge and support the fact that the
Sunshine Coast Region certainly warrants an additional State Seat.

This is based on factual data that outlines strong growth patterns and on the suggested
average number of enrolled electors for electoral districts being 29081.

District	Electors	Over Preferred Limit
Gympie	32647	3556 (12.23%)
Noosa	34853	5772 (19.85%)
Nicklin	31529	2448 (8.42%)
Glasshouse	32576	3495 (12.45%)
Caloundra	32702	3624 (12.45%)
Kawana	36650	7569 (26.03%)
Pumicestone	32182	3101 (10.66%)
Maroochydore	31911	2830 (9.73%)

The total of the figures in the 'over preferred limit' column equals 32395, (or 28839
by excluding Gympie's figure of 3556). These current figures strongly reinforce the
necessity for a new seat for this rapidly growing region on and around the Sunshine
Coast.

Acknowledging the higher than average growth for the Sunshine Coast area a new
seat should be a given. Concurrently boundary realignments should be undertaken to
ensure that the mean deviation in size is as little as 5% under the suggested average
number of enrolled electors for each district ie: 29081. This will facilitate future
growth over the long term.

WARNING: This document contains confidential information. If you are not a named addressee, you should not disseminate or act on the information contained herein.

P.O Box 1324
Mooloolaba Qld 4557
Ph-Fax 07. 5444 4341
suncoastra@optusnet.com.au

Those outer Sunshine Coast Electorates, ie: Nicklin, Pumicestone, Glasshouse and Gympie/Noosa, may need to have their boundaries moved closer to the Coastal areas to cater for predicted and continued high growth. The predominately rural seats of Glasshouse, Nicklin and Nanango should not have their boundaries realigned to take in coastal suburbs in any circumstances.

When a new seat is created close to the centre of the growth areas on the Sunshine Coast neighbouring State Electorates will obviously lose electors from the numbers in a rippling effect. At the finalisation of this redistribution all Sunshine Coast Electorates should be at least 5% below the suggested or recommended average number of 29081.

In relation to QRC 5/16 from Steve Dickson MP Kawana:

We strongly disagree with Steve Dickson's suggestion that the Nicklin Way be an electorate boundary that splits two Sunshine Coast seats. Kawana suburbs should come under the one electorate of Kawana, as they have the same communities of interest.

We are of the view that it is not in our community's interest that support be given to Mr. Dickson's proposal. In support of this contention, we would relate the following:

Local schools, including Pacific Lutheran at Kawana Forest, as well as a newly named Kawana Waters State College are located on the western side of the Nicklin Way, along with the Sunshine Coast Regional Sports Complex, Quad Park/Stockland Stadium. These facilities form a natural education and related activities precinct and should not be divided by any boundary.

Concurrently, Kawana Shoppingworld is on the eastern side of the Nicklin Way and we contend, another area of shared interest. These two examples reinforce the argument against using the Nicklin Way as a State electoral boundary as has been suggested.

Whereas the residents of Forest Glen and Buderim do not have a strong affiliation/connection with Kawana Waters residents.

All Kawana Waters suburbs should be retained within one electorate and not divided. Currimundi and North Caloundra / Dickey Beach and Aroona, would also fit comfortably into the reconfigured Kawana Electorate.

Under Mr. Dickson's proposal the new total enrolment for Kawana is 30201, which still exceeds the maximum variation and therefore provides no scope for future population growth. His suggested changes will see the State Electorate of Maroochydore total 30904 and as with the earlier point exceeds the maximum variation permitted under current legislation. This area will also continue to experience growth above the Australian and Queensland averages.

Any suggestion that the State seat of Glasshouse should have its boundary moved north to take in coastal suburbs at the southern end of Kawana and the northern end of Caloundra, should not be supported. (National Party Submission). Suggesting that Caloundra/Kawana residents share similar communities of interest with residents from Brisbane Valley, Kilcoy and Woodford is not, in our view, supported by historical fact and should not be given credence.

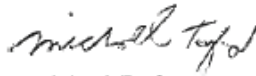
PRC/C 15

Suggesting that Minyama, Buddina and Mooloolaba residents share similar communities of interest with residents from Yandina is not factual and cannot be borne out against any reasonable criteria. (National Party Submission).

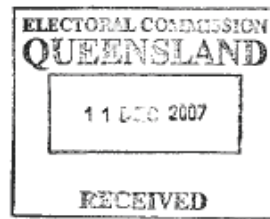
Finally, we do not support the contention that the southern section of Noosaville and the south east area of Tewantin become a part of Nanango. (National Party Submission)

We trust that the above will be given due weight in your deliberations.

Yours faithfully,



Michael Taylor.
Hon. Secretary.



PRC/C 16

David Baker
Po Box 522
TALGA, 4882

4/12/17

Queensland Redistribution Commission,

I am writing to express my concern over the major parties recommendations to divide my state electoral seat of Tablelands. It feels to me that this is sour grapes that none of the major parties have been able to take this seat from the sitting member.

I am a Greens/Labour voter so my views can often clash dramatically with those of the sitting member, I am certainly not defending Rosa Lee Long. I am defending ^{against} what appears to me to be another step in the process of disengaging people from the political process. Queensland residents (particularly rural residents) already feel their electoral rights are being undermined by the lack of consultation on shire amalgamation. To have our state electorate dissolved underneath our feet would be very disappointing.

I am quite a motivated voter but to be pushed from pillar to post like this will make me feel as though my vote is being forced to count only for a very limited number of choices, choices that have been decided upon by the political elite.

The Tablelands is a growing area (too fast for my liking) and if we do not meet a quota, I don't believe it will be long.

Please plan for the future and give the voters of this region a chance to be represented.

David Baker

PRC/C 17

L.N.RICHARDS
3 DURSTON ST.,
MAREEBA N.Q. 4880

6.12.07

QR c/c
Queensland Distribution Commission
Locked Mail Bag 3304
BRISBANE Q 4001

Dear Sir,

I hope you do not take the advice of the major Political parties to carve up the seat of Tablelands. They have enough seats in the South East corner of the State. We are called the forgotten North which is becoming more true. Cook electorate is a large area in its own right, and Mareeba is growing fast.

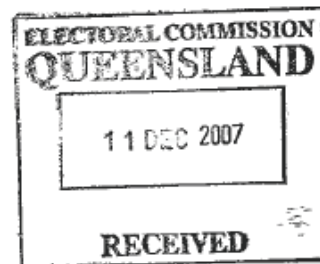
From January 2005 to October 2007 Mareeba Shire Council approved 1458 subdivision lots and there are a further 629 in progress towards being submitted for council decision. Additionally an over 50's complex of 168 homes are also heading towards council decision. When compared to a total of 9,500 rateable properties in the shire, this growth is significant.

How about taking several of the five seats in the Cairns electorate and leave the Tablelands as is.

Also keep in mind the vast distances that will need to be travelled.

Yours faithfully

L. N. Richards (mas)



PRC/C18

Old. Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane. Q. 4001

MR. T. E. AKERS,
31 Manra Lane St
Malanda.
05-11-07

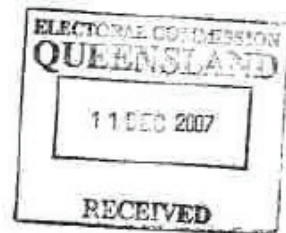
Dear Sir.

May I say that I am alarmed that our
electorate is being wiped out by people in the south.

I hope that some reasonable people can under-
stand the size & distances involved by people who live
here & will consider having our electorate as it is.

Yours faithfully

T Akers



PRC/C19

MR HE AKER.

34 Marrahan St
Melinda Q 48845

5. 11. 07.

Old. Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag. 3304,
Brisbane. Q. 4001.

Dear Sir.

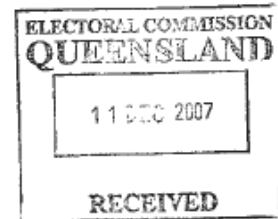
I am thoroughly disgusted at those who wield the power in Brisbane, showing no consideration for those of us here in the north.

I have been a National Liberal supporter all my life & they have lost credibility as far as I'm concerned. Just because they don't have a representative in this area they agree to wipe us out.

I hope some sanity can return & people realise we are just as important as those in the south.

Yours faithfully

Robert E Akers.



PRC/C 20

6 Smerdon Road
Gympie South 4570
11 December, 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir/Madam

I am responding to public suggestion no.22 (The Nationals) proposed electoral redistribution for your consideration.

I object to the proposal on the following grounds:

1. Social

Our schools, our churches, sporting clubs, community services and community service clubs, banks, businesses, health services and the headquarters for our law and order facilities are all located in the township of Gympie.

2. Communication and travel.

Nanango is geographically remote from the Mary Valley. There is a mountain Range between the Mary Valley and Nanango. There is no road access through the mountains. Therefore we would have to travel through a different electorate (Gympie) to get to Nanango. The round trip would take a good four hours.

3. Physical features of proposed Nanango Electorate.

The proposed Nanango electorate would extend both east and west of the Great Divining Range. Nanango itself would be situated on the south western side and the Mary Valley on the north eastern side. Should the proposed Traveston dam proceed, our valley would be further divided by the dam. Imbil, Brooloo and Kandanga residents will be on the western side of the dam and Amamoor residents to the north of the dam, with Traveston and Cooran residents to the east.



PRC/C 20

At the moment there are no new road realignments available for comment, nor any other public services announced. It is unbelievable to suggest the moving of the Mary Valley out of the Gympie electorate when we are

unsure of what the physical features of the Mary Valley may be in the future. We may be completely covered with water or we may be a shallow swamp. The proposal also suggests that Cooroy and Pomona stay with the Gympie electorate. That would effectively isolate them from the Gympie electorate, forcing residents to cross through Nanango electorate to travel to Gympie.

4. Existing electoral boundaries.

There is a natural existing electoral boundary. This is the Great Dividing Range which effectively separates the Nanango and Gympie Electorates.

5. Projected population growth.

The population of the Gympie electorate is steadily growing. A Small redistribution by annexing Cooroy and Pomona to the south, and taking on Kilkivan and Tiaro to the north would maintain our population quota.

Commonsense must prevail in this redistribution.

The residents of the Mary Valley have endured enough trauma over the last eighteen months with regards the proposed Traveston Dam. This proposal is yet another shattering blow to a close knit community with its history and heritage firmly cemented with that of Gympie.

Yours Sincerely
Coral Ernst

Signed) Coral Ernst

PRC/C21

33 Old Maryborough Road
Gympie 4570
11 December, 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001



Dear Sir/Madam

I am responding to public suggestion no.22 (The Nationals) proposed electoral redistribution for your consideration.

I object to the proposal on the following grounds:

1. Social

Our schools, our churches, sporting clubs, community services and community service clubs, banks, businesses, health services and the headquarters for our law and order facilities are all located in the township of Gympie.

2. Communication and travel.

Nanango is geographically remote from the Mary Valley. There is a mountain Range between the Mary Valley and Nanango. There is no road access through the mountains. Therefore we would have to travel through a different electorate (Gympie) to get to Nanango. The round trip would take a good four hours.

3. Physical features of proposed Nanango Electorate.

The proposed Nanango electorate would extend both east and west of the Great Divining Range. Nanango itself would be situated on the south western side and the Mary Valley on the north eastern side. Should the proposed Traveston dam proceed, our valley would be further divided by the dam. Imbil, Brooloo and Kandanga residents will be on the western side of the dam and Amamoor residents to the north of the dam, with Traveston and Cooran residents to the east.

QRC/C 21

At the moment there are no new road realignments available for comment, nor any other public services announced. It is unbelievable to suggest the moving of the Mary Valley out of the Gympie electorate when we are

unsure of what the physical features of the Mary Valley may be in the future. We may be completely covered with water or we may be a shallow swamp. The proposal also suggests that Cooroy and Pomona stay with the Gympie electorate. That would effectively isolate them from the Gympie electorate, forcing residents to cross through Nanango electorate to travel to Gympie.

4. Existing electoral boundaries.

There is a natural existing electoral boundary. This is the Great Dividing Range which effectively separates the Nanango and Gympie Electorates.

5. Projected population growth.

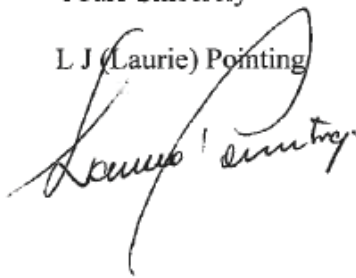
The population of the Gympie electorate is steadily growing. A Small redistribution by annexing Cooroy and Pomona to the south, and taking on Kilkivan and Tiaro to the north would maintain our population quota.

Commonsense must prevail in this redistribution.

The residents of the Mary Valley have endured enough trauma over the last eighteen months with regards the proposed Traveston Dam. This proposal is yet another shattering blow to a close knit community with its history and heritage firmly cemented with that of Gympie.

Yours Sincerely

L J (Laurie) Pointing

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laurie Pointing', written over the printed name.

QRC/C22
37 Martin Ave
Marbella Q.
4880.
6.12.07

Qld. Distribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane. 4001
Dear Sir

I am hoping you do not take
theadvice of the Major Political parties to Carve
up the seat of Tablelands.

If we were to emerge with Cook we
would have no representation in our area

There are several seats around Cairns,
which I feel you could use one of
them for the South instead of Carving
Tablelands.

Yours Sincerely
N. Piazza



PRC/C 23

Bronwyn Kirkegard
228 Little Bella Creek Rd
Bella Creek 4570
QLD

07.12.07
The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am responding to Public Suggestion no. 22 (The Nationals) proposed electoral redistribution.

I live in the Mary Valley in the current Gympie electorate.

The Nationals proposal is to transfer the localities of Traveston, Cooran, Amamoor, Kandanga, Imbil and Brooloo to an enlarged Nanango electorate.

I object to the proposal on the following grounds:

1. Social.

Our schools, our churches, our sporting clubs, our community services and community service clubs, our banks and businesses and our health services are located in Gympie.

2. Communication and travel.

Nanango is geographically remote from the Mary Valley. We have a mountain range between us and Nanango. There is no public access via road over the mountains.

Therefore we would have to go through a different electorate (Gympie) to get to Nanango. A round trip would take approximately 4 hours.

Our road networks, telephone, mail and public transport services are Gympie centric.

3. Physical features of proposed Nanango electorate.

The proposed Nanango electorate would extend both east and west of the Great Dividing Range. Nanango itself would be on the south western side and the Mary valley on the north eastern side. Should the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam go ahead, our valley would be further divided by the dam. Imbil, Brooloo, and Kandanga residents will be on the western side of the dam and Amamoor residents to the north of the dam, with Traveston and Cooran residents to the east. At the moment there are no new road realignments available for comment, nor any other public services announced.

It is ludicrous to consider moving the Mary Valley out of the Gympie electorate when we are unsure of what the physical features of the Mary Valley may be! We may be completely covered with water (unlikely) or we may be a festering swamp (more likely).

The proposal also suggests that Cooroy and Pomona stay with the Gympie Electorate.

That effectively isolates them from the Gympie electorate, forcing resident to cross through the Nanango electorate to get to Gympie.



PRC/c 23

4. Existing electoral boundaries.

There is a naturally existing electoral boundary. This is the Great Dividing Range which effectively separates the Nanango and Gympie electorates.

5. Projected population growth.

The population of the Gympie electorate is steadily growing. A small redistribution by annexing Cooroy and Pomona to the South, and taking on Kilkiven and Tiara to the north would maintain our population quota.

Commonsense needs to prevail in this redistribution.

The residents of the Mary Valley have been through enough traumas over the last 18 months with ill conceived bureaucratic process. This proposal is yet another blow to a close knit community with its history and heritage firmly cemented with that of Gympie's.

Yours sincerely,

B. Kirkegard
Bronwyn Kirkegard

PRC/C 24

Ross Loughton and Jan Loughton
32 Mabel Street
Atherton Qld 4883

5/12/2007

Electoral Commission of Queensland

Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Qld 4001



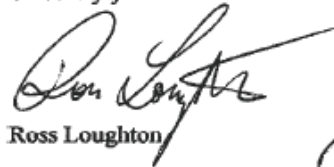
Dear Sir,

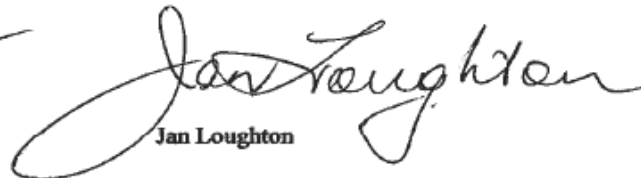
We wish to lodge our protest at the proposals by Labour, Liberal and National Parties to merge the State seat of Tablelands with other seats.

This would reduce our capacity to have effective representation for our concerns relating to our district. Rural seats are already at a disadvantage in having rural concerns voiced in parliament and this would make the current situation worse.

Our seat of Tablelands is presently increasing in population at a very fast rate and we need our representation to remain as it is.

Sincerely yours


Ross Loughton


Jan Loughton

PRC/C 25

19, Fifth Avenue
Kedron
Queensland 4031



12 Dec 2007

Redistribution – Stafford / Clayfield

To Whom it May Concern

For a number of years I lived in Stoneleigh Street in Lutwyche and since 2005 have been landlord of a property there which I rent out.

In all the years I've been connected with that area, I've never understood why it is in the State Electorate of Stafford, rather than being in Clayfield.

Lutwyche is not an area with a strong identity and Lutwyche Road acts as a barrier between ~~the~~ this part of Lutwyche and the rest of the Stafford Electorate. This barrier will become stronger as Lutwyche Road gets busier and as the Northern Busway and the tunnels open.

Having lived on the eastern side of Lutwyche Road, I feel strongly that this part of Lutwyche should be transferred to Clayfield. Most people in this area feel more of a link to areas like Albion and Clayfield, than they do to places like Stafford and Chermide.

Making this change would also help bring the boundary into line with the Federal and Brisbane City Council boundaries, where Lutwyche (east of Lutwyche Road) is in Lilley and Hamilton respectively.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

Yours

Kellie M Potter

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
BRISBANE Q 4001



QRC/C 26

Dear Sirs/Mesdames

Qld Electoral Redistribution 2007

Thank you for the opportunity to submit suggestions for the redistribution currently under consideration.

I have taken the time to write as I believe significant improvements to the governance of this region can be made. I also have some grave concerns about some of the suggestions that have been made.

I have taken a more-than-passing interest in government matters at all levels since moving to Queensland over twelve years ago. Prior to that time I worked for twenty odd years in the Commonwealth Government in Canberra.

I have lived in Mapleton on the Blackall Range in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland since moving to Queensland. For the first five years or so I was Secretary to a community initiated group investigating the feasibility of the formation of a Sunshine Coast Hinterland Shire. This work resulted in a well researched submission along with a petition signed by over 15% of electors in the proposed SC Hinterland Shire being presented to State Parliament in December 1997.

A major part of that study was investigation of the community of interest within the Sunshine Coast Hinterland.

The Committee and the community have evolved since those days.

The contrast between the Coast and the Hinterland in terms of lifestyles, industries, expectations and aspirations (of all other than property speculators) have become more distinct, even, possibly, disparate.

As I understand it the main, publicly expressed reason for considering a redistribution is that the numbers in electorates are becoming uneven with some significantly over the acceptable margin and some under.

I further understand the government has endorsed a policy of NOT increasing the number of seats but rather increasing the number of constituents in each seat.

While many have expressed concerns about the effects of diminishing representation I see this as an opportunity and hope that this trade off will actually result in better representation at the State level of Hinterland issues and more consistent and coordinated presentation of government initiatives across the Sunshine Coast Hinterland.

My comments are made in light of that policy, however, should govt policy not be followed for any reason I would like to state clearly that should there be an additional seat necessary in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland it should be created either to the north of Nicklin, or south of Glasshouse.

My reason for this suggestion is that the Blackall Range has for many years been divided between two Councils and even with the new amalgamated Council it is still divided between two divisions. Many of us feel the division works against us and is sometimes used against us. A satisfactory outcome must keep the whole Range in one electorate, either Glasshouse or Nicklin.

It is time for Blackall Range residents to be heard as one voice somewhere in our government system.

My main objection is to the suggestion that the seat of Nanango be extended into the Sunshine Coast region. I believe it to be untenable, almost ridiculous.

There is no community of interest between the Sunshine Coast and Nanango. Because of the physical features of the area, ie mountain ranges and rivers and creeks, there is no road network, no newspapers, nothing to facilitate any community of interest between that western region and the Sunshine Coast except perhaps a couple of artists from the Coast exhibiting in a gallery at Blackbutt and some developers working in both areas. If Nanango was to spread west it would be more sensible along the D'Aguilar Highway.

With the negatives out of the way, I do support a redistribution of electors in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland, specifically, I think it would be advantageous to residents in this area if the seat of Nicklin was extended southward to consolidate the Blackall Range and surrounds into one single electorate.

My suggestion is that Nicklin relinquish fast growing areas east of the Bruce Highway to help balance the numbers.

It is important that Nambour remains part of our Hinterland community for economic and service provision reasons.

It is important, with the changes to management of water and climate change at the Federal level, that representation of the agricultural and catchment areas of the Sunshine Coast is consistent.

It is important for the continuing cultural development of the Hinterland, already highly valued as a creative incubator moderating the more commercial entertainments offered on the Coast and stimulating debate of issues affecting the Coast, that our representation is consolidated.

Below is a marked up aerial map of the region taken from Geoscience Australia web site. The black outlined part is my proposal for the seat of Nicklin.

DRC/C 26



Representatively yours

Henrietta McAlister

Henrietta McAlister
PO Box 118
Mapleton 4560

Ph: 5445 7987

10 December 2007

PRC/C 27

M.E. Pisko

P.O. Box 285

ATHERTON 4883

Qld.

10th Dec. 2007

The Director
Electoral Commission of Qld.
Level 6/160 Mary Street
Brisbane. Qld. 4000



Dear Sir,

The Redistribution of Boundaries

I definitely reject the redistribution of the Tablelands electorate into Malgrave. At present the area is rapidly growing & there is a housing boom

The farming area is expanding with various vegetables & fruits being trucked South. Mango & lychees have now entered the very profitable Asian Markets. I

There are a large number of people employed in these industries, both in the field & as support.

We need our elected member here, where the action is, not down the coast.

Please lets retain The Tableland electorate as is.

Yours sincerely
M.E. Pisko

Mrs. M.E. Pisko

PRC/C 28

5TH DEC 2007

P.O. Box 839

ATHOLTON H883

DEAR SIR,

JUST WHO ARE THESE "FACELESS" BUREAUCRATS, THAT SIT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS AND COME UP WITH STUPID IDEAS.

IT WAS THOUGHT THAT AFTER BEATTIE, THE DICTATOR, FORCED THROUGH THE AMALGAMATION OF OUR 4 SHIRES, WE MIGHT BE LEFT IN PEACE. BUT NO, ANOTHER DICTATOR HAS ARISEN FROM THE ASHES AND IS NOW TELLING US WHAT WOULD BE BETTER TOWARDS STATE POLITICS. THE THREE MAIN PARTIES HAVE BEEN DOWN THE POLITICAL TRACK OVER THE YEARS, AND GUESS WHAT! - IT HASNT WORKED. SO WHY IS THE S.E. SO MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE TABLELANDS? WE ARE ALSO GROWING UP HERE AT A FAIRLY FAST RATE OR HAD THEY NOT NOTICED. SO WHY, WHY, THE CHANGE OR IS THIS A CASE OF SOUR GRAPES?

IF THEY REALLY, REALLY LISTENED TO THE ELECTORATE MAYBE, JUST MAYBE THE "FACELESS ONES" WOULD BE TOLD DRAW A LINE SOMEWHERE NORTH OF MAKAY. THOSE IN THE S.E. COULD DO WHATEVER THEY LIKED BUT PLEASE LEAVE US TO MANAGE OUR AFFAIRS, WHICH IN THE PAST HAS SATISFIED THE ELECTORATE HERE

SO NO HASTY DISCISIONS ASK THE ELECTORATE TO DECIDE

I OPPOSE ANY CHANGE

YOURS SINCERELY *E. G. McCarthy*

E. G. MCCARTHY



PRC/C 29

ECQ
GPO Box 1393
Brisbane Qld 4001

PO Box 384
Atherton Qld 4883

5 December 2007

It has come to my attention that there is a strong possibility to change the electoral boundaries in Queensland. This will apparently be done at the expense of representation in the Tablelands area in Far North Queensland.

Should this proposal go ahead, it indicates a betrayal and abandonment by State Government of people who reside in this area. Which has a consistent growth rate and a solid agricultural base?

All this to occur to satisfy a desire by politicians to re-allocate additional areas in the south east corner of the state. As a consequence, a voice in the north will be lost, no matter what argument can be put forward by those wishing to make the changes!

It is respectfully requested that these changes affecting the Tablelands region do not go ahead and if changes to electoral boundaries must occur, the commission look at other alternatives.



William Ingledew
Atherton Tablelands Resident



QRC/C 30

P. O. Box 1737,
MAREEBA, Q. 4880

Phone/Fax: 07 40 933256

4 December 2007

QRC/C,
Queensland Redistribution commission,
Locked Bag 3304,
BRISBANE, Q. 4001

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Proposed Redistribution of Tablelands Electorate

We are voters within the Tablelands Electorate and are disturbed by media reports that the Tablelands Electorate could be scrapped. It has been suggested that our electorate be absorbed by the surrounding electorates of Cook, Charters Towers, Mulgrave and Hinchinbrook.

The Tablelands area is currently undergoing enormous growth, and its diverse range of industries sets it apart from its neighbours. Geographically, economically and socially, it makes sense to keep this area intact, and we hereby lodge our objection to the proposed change.

Yours faithfully,

V.M. Falvo

(V.M. Falvo)

J.C. Falvo

(J.C. Falvo)

G.D. Falvo

(G.D. Falvo)



From: mareebarsl [mailto:mareebarsl@cyberwizards.com.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 December 2007 6:39 PM
To: ECQ User
Subject: 2007 Queensland redistribution of electoral districts

QRC/C 31

Georgina Watling
26 Azalea Street
ATHERTON 4883

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee

Dear Sir

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19) which either specifically nominate my electorate of Tablelands for destruction, or create a situation where that is likely.

The Tablelands district has just had Shire amalgamation thrust upon us at the local level and to add insult to injury, after joining us together at the local Government level you now wish to pull us apart at the State level! The Tablelands district has an independent member at Federal level and a One Nation member at State level. It is obvious to me that, as the Tablelands votes outside the 'normal parameters' our electorate is deemed expendable by the major parties.

I object to North Queensland losing State representation to the benefit of the Southern Corner, which based on the current State electoral boundary map, has an extraordinary level of representation at the present. I fully support all Queenslanders having balanced and fair representation in our State Parliament and do not see the proposed changes to the Tablelands District as beneficial or fair to our district or to the districts to which we are proposed to be merged with.

I see the proposal for boundary changes to be self serving to the applicant parties and not of any benefit to the voters of North Queensland as a whole. The three parties that put in these submissions are being lazy bullies. As an electorate we don't vote for any of you now so, shouldn't you be considering ways to engaging your North Queensland Electorate with quality service to your communities 'AS THEY CURRENTLY EXIST'.

Wow! What a concept, if you look after your constituents we might vote for you! If you want to make Queensland a great State, look after the whole, I don't want an us and them attitude with the South East corner or any other part of the State.

Yours Sincerely

Georgina Watling

THE NATIONALS

QRC/C 32



17 December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Qld 4001

Dear Secretary

The National Party of Australia – Queensland responds to the Queensland Redistribution Commission's invitation for comments on the redistribution suggestions submitted by interested organisations and individuals in accordance with Section 43 of the *Electoral Act 1992*.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

MICHAEL O'DWYER
STATE DIRECTOR

Queensland Secretariat

All correspondence to: 37 Mervale Street, SOUTH BRISBANE QLD 4101

PO BOX 5940 WEST END QLD 4101 Telephone 07 3544 0666 Facsimile 07 3844 0388 Email qld@nationals.org.au Web www.qld.nationals.org.au

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**Comments on Interested Organisations and Individuals
Redistribution Submissions
in accordance with Section 43 of the *Electoral Act 1992***

1. Introduction

The Nationals respect the redistribution suggestions contained in the 23 submissions each providing suggestions or proposals for the consideration of the Redistribution Commission. The complexity of complying Section 45 (1) and (2) *Electoral Act* (Numerical Limits) coupled the guiding principles off Section 46 (1) and (2) *Electoral Act* (Matters to be considered in preparing proposed electoral redistribution) particularly in the high growth and low growth areas is acknowledged.

We have consulted with party units, individuals and our networks and submit the following comments.

2. Submissions:

The submissions may be categorised under the following headings and refer to:

2.1 New Local Government Boundaries

QRC/S 1	D Pratt	Re Nanango: – align with South Burnett Regional Council.
QRC/S 3	K Yeo	Re Beaudesert – concern with Scenic Rim Council boundaries
QRC/S 4	J Mckinlay	Re Townsville: Thuringowa & Mundingburra – align with new Townsville City.
QRC/S 24	D Beard	Re Springwood: – Division 10 – incorporate into Springwood.

2.1.1 The Nationals comment:

Section 46 (2) of the Electoral Act provides that the Commission may also consider local government boundaries and areas in the context of community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each local government area. This is pertinent as the local government reforms reduced the number of Councils from 156 to 72.

The Nationals is cognisant of Council boundary changes. Party units have urged that our proposals align with new council boundaries and various community of interest but the need to comply with the actual bandwidth enrolment and the combination of static and large growth resulted in other arrangements.

The Nationals submit that in the instance of existing Nanango, Townsville, Thuringowa and Mundingburra, that the Commission not adjust electoral district boundaries to comply completely with the Council boundaries. The Commission note the views contained in QRC/S 3.

2.2 Far North electorates

QRC/S 2	M Freeman	Re Kuranda: - Kuranda community be in one electorate.
QRC/S 7	H Westaway	Re Cook, Barron River, Cairns, Mulgrave, Hinchinbrook and Tablelands: - Tablelands absorbed in to surrounding electorates.
QRC/S 9	L Royce	Re Cairns and Barron River: - rethink the boundaries to reflect the community and economic trends.
QRC/S11	R Beer	Re Cairns: - the sense of cohesion not be disturbed in terms of political representation in the State legislation.
QRC/S 15	Dr Delaney	Re Cairns and Barron River: - rethink the boundaries to reflect the community and economic trends.
QRC/S 23	W Richardson	Re Cairns and Barron River – Adjustments be made to Cairns, Cook and Tableland to enable Barron River to incorporate Cairns suburbs currently in Cook.

2.2.2 The Nationals comment:

The Nationals support these comments. They have synergies with The Nationals' suggestions.

2.3 Clayfield electorate

QRC/S 6	P Blakey	Re Clayfield: - No change as Clayfield is in bandwidth.
QRC/S 8	A Barron	Re Clayfield: - No change to current boundaries.

2.3.3 The Nationals comment:

The electorate of Clayfield is in within enrolment. The suggestions be considered in the context of the State-wide redistribution and the need for adjustments to neighbouring electorates boundaries due to either high or static enrolment growth.

2.4 Lockyer electorate

QRC/S 12	I Rickiss MP	Re Lockyer: - A 3-4,000 jail to be developed at Gatton with associated staff of some 2,000. Lockyer has more community of interest with the southern end of Nanango and the western edge of Ipswich West.
QRC/S 13	M Yarrow	Re Lockyer: - Excise some 6,500 voters Greenbank, Flagstone, Ripley and transfer to Ipswich, Logan and Bundamba and replace part of Boonah Shire currently in Beaudesert Shire.
QRC/S 14	R Hawley	Re Lockyer: - Swap 7,370 electors in Greenbank, Flagstone, Ripley in Lockyer for 5,841 in Lowood, Minden, Marburg etc. in Ipswich West electorate as it is a better community of interest.

2.4.4 The Nationals comment:

The Nationals is supportive of the suggestions. The suggestions be considered in the context of the State-wide Redistribution and the need for adjustments to neighbouring electorates boundaries due to either high or static enrolment growth.

2.5 Sunshine Coast

QRC/S 16	S Dickson MP	Re Kawana: Adjustments to surrounding electorates to create an additional seat on the Sunshine Coast and the creation of proposed Kawana as a hinterland electorate.
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2.5.5 The Nationals comment

This submission has some similarities with QRC/S 20 Liberal Party. The Nationals is unsupportive of the proposed arrangements for proposed Kawana due to the substantial change in community of interest from a coastal to purely hinterland electorate. We are unsupportive of an additional new electorate totally based on the Sunshine Coast. We are of the view that better electoral outcomes may be achieved with the high projected enrolment growth as suggested in our submission.

QRC/S17	M Taylor	Re numerical limits and creation of new Buderim.
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2.5.6 The Nationals comment

The Nationals acknowledge this scenario. As it does not take into account the high growth outer Brisbane North electorates this scenario may not be viable.

2.6 Gold Coast

QRC/S 18	R Stevens MP	Re Currumbin, Burleigh, Robina, Mudgeeraba, Surfers Paradise, Southport Gaven (renamed Nerang) Coomera (new electorate) Albert (renamed Beenleigh)
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2.6.7 The Nationals Comment
The Nationals acknowledge this scenario.

2.7 North Queensland Electorates, Central Queensland Balance Electorates, South East Queensland Balance, Western Queensland Electorates

QRC/S 10 B Richardson Re rural and regional areas of the State: - Suggests that electoral districts in the area be reduced from 35 to 32, allowing for 3 districts to be created in the urban area. 7 districts are abolished (Mount Isa, Charters Towers, Hinchinbrook, Burdekin, Callide, Cunningham and Nanango) and creating 4 new electorates Somerset, Bargara, Flinders and Townsville West.

2.7.8 The Nationals comment

The Nationals oppose the totality of this submission and its individual suggestions.

We acknowledge the extensive work but is of the strong view that the submission in the main ignores 46 (1) (a) (b) (c) (d) of the Electoral Act. It proposes many uncomfortable and unwise arrangements. For example:

- (i) *We oppose the proposed construction of Tablelands based on dysfunctional community of interest. Excising Carpentaria Shire part and the major centres of Karumba and Normanton (1,151 electors and 64,381 km²) from existing Mount Isa and transferring the area to proposed Tablelands removes this area's communication and community of interest economic, social and transport linkages. For example the Normanton and Karumba Hospitals are in the Mount Isa Service District and the Normanton and Karumba State Schools are in the Mount Isa Education District.*
- (ii) *We oppose the construction of proposed Flinders based on the abolition of existing Mount Isa and Charters Towers incorporating the two cities of Mount Isa and Charters Towers into the one proposed electoral district. The proposal undermines the viability and value of Charters Towers as a regional service centre servicing an electorate in its own right.*
- (iii) *We oppose the abolition of Hinchinbrook and the consequential substantial arrangements for proposed Townsville, Mundingburra, Townsville West and Thuringowa. It is unsustainable that the Hinchinbrook Shire Council offices located in Ingham would be in proposed Thuringowa. The proposal appears to disregard the recent local government reforms.*
- (iv) *We oppose the abolition of Burdekin and the transference of territory to proposed Thuringowa and Whitsunday with the consequential community dislocations. This proposal conflicts with the recent local government reforms which maintained the existing Burdekin Shire. The Burdekin Shire Council offices located in Ingham would be substantially dislocated from its service area.*
- (v) *We oppose the abolition of Callide and the consequential proposed substantial realignments in terms of community of interest for voters in and around the existing electoral districts of Bundaberg, Burnett and Maryborough. The proposal results in severe and unnecessary dislocations to voters and communities.*
- (vi) *We oppose the Gympie proposal as the failure to take into account the large Sunshine Coast enrolment growth suggests that the proposal may be unviable.*
- (vii) *We oppose the abolition of Cunningham and the proposed rearrangements for Toowoomba South, Toowoomba North, Darling Downs, Southern Downs and flow on consequences. An example of the resulting dysfunctionality of the proposal is linking the city of Warwick to the city of Toowoomba. These two cities serve discrete communities.*

2.8 Brisbane North, Brisbane South Electorates and Large Electorates (over 100,000 square kilometres):
 QRC/S 21 P Blackman Re specific Brisbane North and Brisbane South electorates and Large Electorates (over 100,000 square kilometres): – suggests major realignments of specific electorates.

2.8.9 The Nationals comment

The Nationals do not support the suggestions for Brisbane North and Brisbane South electorates in this submission as they do not appear to comply with Section 46 (1) (a) (b) (c) (d) of the Electoral Act.

The Nationals oppose the suggestion to reduce the number of large electorates (over 100,000 km²) from 5 to 4. The five large electorates were established following the distribution conducted by the Electoral and Administrative Review Commission and should not be changed without a further review of the Electoral Act 1992. We believe that rural and regional representation should not be reduced particularly for remote communities and voters that configure the "weightage seats".

We oppose the suggestion to excise Winton Shire from Mount Isa and transfer to Gregory due to the significant adjustments to Charters Towers and resulting community dislocations.

2.9 Brisbane South, Brisbane North, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, North Queensland electorates
 QRC/S 20 Liberal Party Re Brisbane South, Brisbane North, Gold Coast and North Queensland electorates: – proposes the creation of 3 new electorates in the south east corner – Pine Rivers in the Pine Rivers region; Carrara in the Gold Coast Region and Coolumb on the Sunshine Coast. The submission proposes the abolition of Nanango, Tablelands and Fitzroy.

2.9.10 The Nationals comment

There are synergies between The Nationals' submission QRC/S 22 and the proposal of the Liberal Party in terms of the identification of the general area for proposed new electorates in the south-east corner and the abolition of Tablelands and Fitzroy. The Nationals' proposal differs in that the electorate of Nanango based on the town of Kingaroy is maintained on different boundary alignments.

An overall weakness in general is that some proposed electorates are not within numerical enrolment limits.

Gold Coast: *The Liberal Party submission suggests that there are sufficient enrolments for a new electorate in the Carrara area. We acknowledge that a new electorate is required for the Gold Coast region. The weakness of the proposals for this region is the non-conforming projected enrolments for proposed Surfers Paradise which may impact on proposed electoral arrangements.*

The Nationals is ambivalent towards the renaming Gaven to Helensvale and Waterford to Beenleigh.

Brisbane South: *The Nationals have no specific comments. The high projected enrolments in proposed Redlands and the low projected growth in proposed Capalaba, Greenslopes and Woodridge are weaknesses.*

Brisbane North: *The Nationals have no specific comments. The high projected enrolments in the growth area of proposed Pine Rivers, Murrumba and Kallangur coupled with under projected enrolments in Stafford, Kurwongbah, Mt Cootha, Brisbane Central, Nudgee, and Everton are weaknesses which may impact on the overall proposals for Brisbane North and flow to proposed Sunshine Coast proposals.*

Sunshine Coast: The Nationals acknowledge the complexity of complying with the guiding principles off Section 46 of the Electoral Act particularly in the high growth areas of Brisbane North and the Sunshine Coast.

A weakness of concern is the high projected growth in proposed Coolumb, Kawana and Pumicestone; the high proposed actual enrolment for proposed Pumicestone and Kawana and the proposed low projected enrolment for proposed Noosa. Non-conforming bandwidth enrolments have impacts on proposed boundary arrangements for the Sunshine Coast and electorates to the north and west.

The Nationals is unsupportive of the proposed arrangements for the Sunshine Coast region including the creation of a new electorate in the area. We are of the view that better electoral outcomes may be achieved with the high enrolment growth as suggested in our submission.

North Queensland: The Nationals is supportive of the general suggestions for the region but a weakness is the incompleteness of the proposal for Hinchinbrook, Cook and other electorates.

2.10 All regions

QRC/S 19 Labor Party Section 45 and 46 of the Electoral Act and all regions:

2.10 11 The Nationals comment

The Nationals acknowledge the general concepts and the few specific suggestions provided in this submission. Without a summary of proposed electoral districts actual and projected enrolments it is impossible to address the suggestions other than in general terms. It is possible that in the actual redistribution process adjustments may be necessary to several existing electorates that the submission indicates no change.

Sections 45 and 46 Electoral Act: The Nationals note the comment pertaining to Sections 45 and 46 of the Electoral Act and is of the view that the Redistribution Commission has a wide discretion to take into account the necessary research materials in determining proposed boundary recommendations.

Growth Trends: The Nationals note 3.10.5 - "The ALP suggest that the growth estimates provided be utilised only to indicate a general trend and that the Redistribution Commission seek specific and objective advice on the impact of statutory planning regimes."

We believe the Redistribution Commission is an independent statutory body with a wide discretion to obtain input into its decision making processes including growth patterns. We are unsupportive of the utilisation of alternative growth projections to that already provided by the Commission. The source of growth projections will not change the reality that rural and regional Queensland may lose up to 3 existing electorates in favour of the south-east corner.

General Methodologies: The Nationals is supportive of these comments.

In particular we support the primacy of regional urban centres (4.1.1) and their capacity to service surrounding non-urban areas. The Nationals agree with the comments in 4.1.7 and the suggestion that adjustments to the 'weighted electorates' be kept to a minimum for the reasons enunciated.

North Queensland (Cook, Barron River, Cairns, Mulgrave, Tablelands, Hinchinbrook, Townsville, Mundingburra, Thuringowa, Burdekin, Whitsunday:- The Nationals is of the view that Cairns and Barron Rivers should be included in the transfer of electors where necessary (4.2.2)

Specifically, The Nationals objects to the extension of the southern boundary of the Hinchinbrook electorate from its current southern boundary of the Black River to a new southern boundary of the Bohle River, an area currently contained in the Thuringowa electorate.(4.2.3) In the previous redistribution of state electorates, the then Commission proposed in the draft boundaries to extend Hinchinbrook south of the Black River on the eastern side of the Bruce Highway only, to take in the rapidly expanding suburbs of Bushland Beach and Mt Low.

The former Member for Hinchinbrook, Marc Rowell, successfully objected to this proposal on community of interest grounds, proposing the inclusion of more area around the South Johnstone, Wangan and Mundoo areas just south of Innisfail in the electorate. These arguments were accepted by the previous Commission. We believe there is a precedent for not extending the Hinchinbrook electorate any further south into the City of Townsville on community of interest grounds.

The Hinchinbrook electorate extends well north of the City of Townsville to just south of the township of Innisfail. Its closest provincial city is Cairns rather than Townsville. We stand by our submission for proposed Hinchinbrook (extending the boundary north to the Mulgrave River). This will create a regional electorate between the provincial cities of Cairns and Townsville that has common economic and community interests. Proposed Hinchinbrook looks to a provincial city, but is not itself provincial which means the electorate has uniform issues to consider, rather than a mixed rural / urban electorate, which would then be split in its economic and community interests.

Western Queensland (Mount Isa, Charters Towers, Gregory, Callide, Warrego, Darling Downs, Cunningham, Southern Downs: The Nationals is generally supportive but oppose the specific suggestion (4.3.2) to transfer the Biloela community to proposed Fitzroy. Biloela is the main service town for the Callide Valley and is the dominant centre in the existing Callide. We stand-by our submission that Fitzroy be abolished.

Central Queensland (Mackay, Mirani, Keppel, Rockhampton, Fitzroy, Gladstone, Bundaberg, Hervey Bay Maryborough):-The Nationals is opposed to the scenario suggested in 4.4 predicated on transferring the Biloela community to proposed Fitzroy "confirming it an electorate containing mining communities." As said above Biloela is the main service town for the Callide Valley. Biloela is also the dormitory town for both the industrial and agricultural sector such as the Callide "A", "B", & "C" Power Stations, Callide and Boundary Hill coal mines and Teys Bros Meatworks.

South East Queensland (Balance (Gympie, Nanango, Lockyer, Ipswich West, Toowoomba North, Toowoomba South, Beaudesert): - The Nationals is generally supportive of some suggestions but oppose the proposed changes to Callide 4.5.2; the renaming of Nanango (4.5.3) the proposed transfer of the localities of Newtown and Toowoomba City to Toowoomba North (renamed) from Toowoomba South (renamed)(4.5.6) and the consequential adjustments to Toowoomba South (4.5.7) that substantially alters its community of interest.

Specifically referring to 4.5.6 and 4.5.7: - The Nationals reject this proposal and is of the view that the existing Toowoomba North/Toowoomba South common boundary should remain. The proposal destroys

the community of interest for both electorates sharing the Central Business District to service the respective adjacent urban voters, non-urban voters and the surrounding industrial and agricultural sectors.

Toowoomba is the service city for the wider geographic area of Darling Downs and the South West and the common boundary ensures that both Toowoomba North and Toowoomba South share the responsibility. This is emphasised by the recent local government reforms which resulted in the formation of the Toowoomba Regional Council based on Crows Nest, Rosalie, Jondaryan, Millmerran, Pittsworth, Toowoomba, Clifton and Cambooya which surround the city of Toowoomba.

Numerically, it is clear that both existing electorates require additional enrolments. We stand by our suggestions for the necessary adjustments to existing Toowoomba South and Toowoomba North.

It is observed that Electoral Commission decisions have moved away from electorate names being geographically tagged with South or North. All of the electorates that cover the State's regional cities carry that city's name. It is our preference for the two Toowoomba based electorates to carry the name of the City in addition to some differentiation tag.

Sunshine Coast (Noosa, Nicklin, Maroochydore, Kawana, Glasshouse, Caloundra, Pumicestone):
The Nationals is generally supportive of the thrust of the proposal but as it is a high growth area it is impossible to determine the numerical and community of interest impacts on individual electorates without more definitive work.

Gold Coast (Broadwater, Gaven, Southport, Surfers Paradise, Mudgeeraba, Robina, Burleigh, Currumbin):
The Nationals is of the view that in view of Currumbin, Surfers Paradise, Broadwater high actual enrolments, adjustments may be required to these electorates which will require flow adjustments to surrounding electorates. As it is a high growth area it is impossible to determine the numerical and community of interest impacts on individual electorates without more definitive work.

Brisbane – North Region: - The Nationals have no comment other than it is impossible to determine the numerical and community of interest impacts on individual electorates without more definitive work.

Brisbane – South Region - The Nationals have no comment other than it is impossible to determine the numerical and community of interest impacts on individual electorates without more definitive work.

QRC/S 22 The Nationals All regions

2.10.12 The Nationals comment

Comments have been received from our Party units, networks and individuals on our submission. It attracted to us generally favourable, to concerned, to hostile comments and undoubtedly to the Commission. These have ranged from the location of the seats proposed to be abolished, to proposed boundary alignments and unwise community of interest arrangements.

We acknowledge the existence of proposed uncomfortable boundary alignments and outcomes for some communities but believe our submission to be worthy of the Commission's consideration in its deliberations.

Strong opposition was received to our Burdekin proposal. As shown in the attached clipping from the 28 November 2007 Townsville Bulletin (page 13) and the following comment:

"The Burdekin electorate at present extends to the southern outskirts of Townsville, including Wulguru, Stuart, Oonoonba and the Lavarack Army Barracks.

If the number of voters in the Burdekin electorate needs to be increased then the most practical solution is to move north and take in part of the Mundingburra electorate.

As the Ross River already forms a natural boundary to CCD areas within the Mundingburra electorate, a number of areas south of this boundary could be added to the Burdekin electorate to bring the numbers in the Burdekin electorate up to the Queensland Electoral Commission's guidelines.

As the Burdekin electorate moves to take numbers from the Mundingburra electorate, Mundingburra could incorporate part of the Thuringowa electorate, including the Kelso area. This would be a much more practical idea than Burdekin electorate taking over Kelso.

When looking at a map showing the boundaries of the electorates of Burdekin, Mundingburra, Townsville and Thuringowa, an area of Thuringowa (Kelso) projects south into the Burdekin electorate and it would seem logical for this area to be included in the Burdekin electorate. However, in practice, this area cannot be directly accessed from the Burdekin electorate, even though on the map it seems as if it can. Owing to geographical constraints, (mountain ranges and rivers), to drive from the Kelso area of Thuringowa, to the electorate of Burdekin, one would have to drive past electorate offices in both Thuringowa and Mundingburra. Most constituents from Thuringowa would feel that if they must be transferred to another electorate, than at least it should be an adjoining electorate. It is illogical and impractical to expect Thuringowa residents to drive through an adjoining electorate (Mundingburra) to the Burdekin electorate in order to see their local member, and constituents would be most aggrieved by this if this were the situation.

As the Burdekin electorate moves north into the Mundingburra electorate, this would enable the areas of Hinchinbrook planned to become part of the Burdekin electorate to be absorbed by Thuringowa, with the Kelso area and necessary surrounds incorporated into Mundingburra."

We respectfully ask that these views and proposed arrangements be preferred over our suggestions for Burdekin.

Attention is drawn to concern expressed about our proposed Gympie boundaries on the basis of community interest particularly the extension of proposed Nanango into Cooran and across the Mary Valley. The preference expressed is for adherence to the new Gympie Regional Council local government boundaries.

This view is respected. Numerical limits and the objective to utilise projected high growth areas to advantage low growth rural areas, such as for our proposed Nanango suggests our proposal remains worthy of consideration.

Attention is drawn to concerns about our proposed Nanango and the preference to reflect the new South Burnett Regional Council local government boundaries. We respect this view but our objective is to show that high growth areas such as on the Sunshine Coast could benefit low growth rural areas.

QRC/C 32

2.11 Naming of electorates

QRC/S 5 K McElligott Re naming of electorates – cease naming State electorates based on local government boundaries. Name after e.g. prominent Queenslanders in the fields of politics, sport, etc.

2.11.13 The Nationals comment

The Nationals is supportive of this suggestion.

—oo00oo—

Attachment



SDOC0319.pdf

Kelso to join Ayr on map

By LIZ McGINN

KELSO is set to join the Burdekin in new State electorate boundaries proposed by the National Party.

National Party State director Michael O'Dwyer has issued a controversial submission to the Queensland Redistribution Commission calling for the sweeping changes, which has left local leaders gobsmacked.

Thuringowa MP Craig Wallace has vowed to fight tooth and nail to stop the plan.

He is preparing to write directly to all Kelso residents asking them to support his opposition to the plan.

The submission reads that the locality of Kelso is transferred from Thuringowa to proposed Burdekin.

"These people obviously have no idea about Thuringowa," Mr Wallace said.

"Kelso is part of the Upper Ross, it belongs to Thuringowa. It shouldn't be represented by someone in Ayr."

"Instead of travelling about 20km to my Thuringowa electorate office, Kelso people will have to jump in the car and drive around 100km to Ayr."

"I think that someone from the National Party in Brisbane sat down after a few too many beers and drew lines on a map to come up with this crazy idea."

The changes are being made because the Burdekin electorate needs to pick up another 6000 people to operate as it is under the commission's guidelines. The Burdekin has 24,163 electors compared with Thuringowa's 24,066, according to latest statistics.

Mr O'Dwyer said the plans were not finalised and were available for public comment.

He said it was a mammoth task redrawing boundary changes, which was going to have a ripple effect through electorates State-wide.

"Sometimes compromises have to be made. Kelso is being looked at because it is an area considered urban/rural," Mr O'Dwyer said.

"It's a community of interest and a way of putting a population into the Burdekin."

"Sometimes it can be hard in people's minds to justify this change. It's a difficult task."

Burdekin National MP Rosemary Menkens was livid about her party's proposal, arguing it was not acceptable for the Townsville community.

She has made a submission against the plan stating the criteria of urban/rural they had used to make the adjustment was not consistent and did not reflect the needs of the community.

The Burdekin electorate currently extends to the southern outskirts of Townsville, taking in some built up areas south and east of the Ross River, including Wulgura, Stuart, Oonoonba and Laverack Army Barracks.

Mr Wallace has written to the Redistribution Commission pointing out his objection and has also asked Local Transition Committee chairman Tony Mooney to support his opposition to the transfer.

Objections must be lodged to the submission by December 17.

Tville Burdekin 22/11/07.

QRC/C 33

Craig Riedel
Po box 837
Malanda
QLD
4885
PH (07)40951236



RE-QRC/C

Dear Secretary

I would like to submit a comment regarding a submission to the Electoral Commission of Queensland.

The comment regards a submission to change the boundaries in North Queensland which, in particular, may or will, affect the Tablelands electorate.

I have lived within the Tablelands electorate on and off for a substantial number of years and have found that the people are a unique group of Queenslanders. This is demonstrated by their voting trends over the past few years and can be verified quite simply by looking at the statistics.

It is for this reason alone that I wish to oppose any proposed changes to the Electoral Boundaries that will affect the Tablelands electorate. This will ensure that this small population of unique voters continues to be properly represented.

Yours Truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Craig Riedel", written over a horizontal line.

Craig Riedel

PRC/C34



Zoe Brooks
10 Kuradilla Street
Ravenshoe QLD 4888
Phone 07 40976877
10-12-07

DEAR SIR/MADAM,

I CAN WELL UNDERSTAND WHY YOU WANT TO SCRAP THE TABLELAND DIVISION, OBVIOUSLY YOU ARE BOTH PAID AND RULED BY THE MAJOR PARTIES, YET WE CONTINUOUSLY RE-ELECT OUR ONE NATION AND INDEPENDENT REPRESENTATIVES, BOTH OF WHOM LISTEN TO US, STAND UP FOR US, AND KNOW ALL OUR PROBLEMS. WE PROVIDE SO MUCH MONEY TO THE STATE COFFERS THROUGH OUR MINING, AGRICULTURAL AND TOURISM BUSINESSES, THAT SURELY WE SHOULD HAVE EVERY ASSISTANCE TO MAINTAIN OUR VIABILITY AS A "CASH CON"?

WHY SHOULD THE BRISBANE AREA BE SO FAVOURED? BECAUSE "EVERYBODY" LIVES THERE? GET "EVERYBODY" UP HERE TO SEE AND EXPERIENCE FOR A YEAR THE STATE OF OUR ROADS, THE DISTANCES WE HAVE TO TRAVEL FOR SPECIALIST MEDICAL TREATMENT, THE CONDITION OF BATHURTON HOSPITAL, THE LACK OF OVERTIME FOR THE POLICE HERE, WHERE TEENAGE CRIME IS AS HUGE AS IN BRISBANE. IN OTHER WORDS, GET REAL.

AS YOU CAN SEE, I DO NOT WISH TO HAVE OUR TABLELAND ELECTORATE REMOVED!

YOURS VERY SINCERELY,

Zoe Brooks

PRC 35

64 Anderson Rd
MALANDA 4885

Phone 07-40966554
Fax 07-40966435
Email pot047@iprimus.com.au



5 December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
BRISBANE 4001

REFER: ORC/C

It appears that the three major political parties have each included in their suggestions for the redistribution of electoral boundaries in Queensland, a suggestion to abolish the seat of Tablelands and amalgamate it with adjoining seats...solely to provide an extra two seats in the South East corner of the State.

The Electoral Commission, in making its final decision, needs to consider that boundaries should not be set on voter numbers only. There also needs to be a greater weighting given to Regional areas based on such factors as Primary Production, Export Earnings, Tourism, Size (area) of the electorate, Accessibility and Distance from the Capital City and simply, Quality of Life.

Concentrating voter representatives in the SE corner naturally concentrates power, development and spending on infrastructure by the Government of the day, in the SE, to the detriment of the voters in the wealth creating regional areas of the State. Does all of the State want this? Doesn't the SE already have major problems in keeping up with infrastructure to meet the demands of the population explosion of the SE (encouraged by the Government)? Can any regional area ever hope to obtain funding for development and infrastructure when their representative is a voice in the wilderness?

Voters in regional areas generally have much more direct contact with and reliance on their elected representative than those in metropolitan areas. The representative becomes part of the communities they service (hardly the case in metropolitan areas) and have to travel long distances to do this as we, the voters, also do. All of a sudden, this is to become even harder, even longer distances to travel.

In addition, many of us in the Tablelands electorate are extremely suspicious of the three major political parties motive in disbanding this electorate. They have been trying for years to win this seat but because our sitting member has been so effective in serving the people, they have failed time after time. How convenient is it now? If you can't win fairly, any (foul?) means will do. The Queensland Labour Party, in particular, is highly hypocritical in trying to split the Tablelands as only a few months ago, it used the argument that the four tableland shire council areas were of the same ilk and had so much in common, they therefore should be lumped together.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robin Potter".

Robin Potter



PRC/C 36

Gary Rozynski
1 Rozynski Road
IMBIL. QLD. 4570

10TH December, 2007.

The Secretary
Qld Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
BRISBANE. QLD. 4001.

Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to Public Suggestion No. 22 re Nationals proposed electoral boundary redistribution I wish to voice the following opinions:-

I live near Imbil in the current Gympie electorate and the Nationals propose to transfer the towns of Traveston, Cooran, Amamoor, Kandanga, Imbil and Brooloo to be part of the Nanango electorate which makes no sense to me.

The reasons I object to this proposal are-

- All of our services are in Gympie including our schools, sporting clubs, service clubs, community services, banks and business and health services so why would we want to be part of the Nanango electorate.
- There is a mountain range with no road which effectively separates Nanango and the Mary Valley towns in the Gympie electorate.
- The Mary Valley towns of Imbil, Kandanga and Amamoor have a rapidly growing population.
- A small redistribution for areas around Cooroy should be annexed to another electorate and leave the Mary Valley voters in the Gympie electorate.
- With the rapidly growing population within two terms there will need to be a further redistribution because of the population growth.

Yours faithfully,


.....
Gary Rozynski

THE COMMISSIONER
E.C.P.
G.P.O. BOX 1393
BRISBANE, QLD
4001.
RE



DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES IN THE
STATE OF QUEENSLAND.

DEAR SIR,

SHOULD SUCH CHANGES OCCUR WITH A RESULT
IN THE LOSS OF THE TABULAND SEAT, OUR REGIONAL
REPRESENTATION WOULD BE GREATLY DIMINISHED IF
THE SEAT WERE TO BE FRAGMENTATED INTO
NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

THE PRESENT DELEGATE IS A VERY POPULAR
PERSON WHOM IS FULLY DEDICATED TO THE REGION, AND, IS
HELD IN HIGH RESPECT BY ALMOST ALL OF THE
CONSTITUENTS, NO MATTER WHICH POLITICAL INFLUENCE
THEY SUPPORT. THE FEDERAL SEAT OF KENNEDY IS
VERY SIMILAR.

THE REGION WITH ITS WIDE RANGE AND
RICHNESS IN DIVERSITIES, IF COUPLED WITH NEIGHBOURS,
CAN ONLY COMPOUND DIFFICULTIES FOR ANY DELEGATE TO
SUCCESSFULLY UNDERSTAND ALL FACETS, AND YET AT THE
SAME INSTANCE BE EXPECTED TO FULLY REPRESENT THEIR
CONSTITUENTS REQUIREMENTS.

BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY OF THE INCONVENIENCES
THAT MAY UNWITTINGLY BE THRUST UPON PEOPLE SHOULD
THEY WISH TO VISIT WITH THEIR DELEGATE. THERE COULD

VERY WELL BE SITUATIONS ARISE WHEREBY A CONSTITUENT MAY NOT BE ABLE TO AWAIT THE NORMAL ROTATIONAL VISIT, AND HENCE FIND THEMSELVES TRAVELLING VAST DISTANCES, DURING SOME SEASONS, OVER ROUGH ROAD CONDITIONS AND EVEN FLOODED CREEKS/RIVERS, LET ALONE THE (\$) DOLLAR FACTOR LOST THRU EXTRA TRAVELLING COSTS, PLUS PERHAPS SOME ACCOMMODATION, TIME AWAY FROM EMPLOYMENT OR, LOSS OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES DURING THAT PERIOD.

AGAIN, THE FEDERAL SEAT OF KENNEDY CERTAINLY REFLECTS THE DIFFICULTIES, THRU ITS' SHEAR SIZE, FOR ANY DELEGATE TO ENDURE IF FULL REPRESENTATION TO ITS' PEOPLE ARE TO BE PRACTISED. TRULY, IT IS NOT FAIR TO EXPECT ANY ELECTED DELEGATE (AND FAMILY) TO BE PLACED UNDER SUCH AN ENORMOUS STRESS LOAD, NOR IS IT FAIR TO ALSO EXPECT THE CONSTITUENTS TO TOLERATE DIFFICULTIES ARISING OUT OF SUCH LARGE GEOGRAPHICAL SEATS.

THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERING FUTURE ELECTORAL BOUNDARY ALIGNMENTS, MORE EMPHASIS SHOULD REALLY BE PLACED UPON A GIVEN AREA, RATHER THAN ON POPULATION DENSITY FOR THE PURE SAKE OF PROFITEERING.

IT IS UNQUESTIONABLE, REGIONAL/RURAL AREAS CONTRIBUTE ENORMOUSLY, DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY, TO THE BETTERMENT AND WELL BEING OF THIS, OUR BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY. QUESTION IS, WHY SHOULD THESE PEOPLE, BECAUSE THEY CHOOSE TO LIVE IN THE COUNTRY, BE CONTINUALLY INCONVENIENCED IN ALL FACETS OF SERVICE?

"DRC/C37"

WHEN AT THE SAME INSTANCE, THEIR "CITY COUSINS" POP
AROUND THE CORNER FOR DAILY NEEDS. FOR THE SAKE
OF A FEW LOUSY (\$5) DOLLARS, WHY NOT STRIVE TO GIVE
OUR RURAL AUSTRALIANS A FAIR GO AND A CHANCE FOR A
BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE? AFTER ALL, I THOUGHT A HUMAN
LIFE WAS FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE ALMIGHTY DOLLAR!
MAYBE I'M WRONG.

IT IS QUITE EVIDENT THAT THOSE WHOM ARE SEEKING
CHANGES DO NOT, I REPEAT, DO NOT HAVE THE INTERESTS,
NOR THE WELL BEING, OF THEIR "RURAL COUSINS" AT HEART.
RUMOURS ARE FLYING FAST AND THICK AROUND HERE, WHETHER
THEIR TRUE OR NOT, I DON'T KNOW, THAT IT SEEMS ONE NATION
CANNOT BE VOTED OUT, SO OTHER POLITICIANS HAVE COME
TOGETHER TO RID THIS STATE OF ONE NATION BY FOOLISHLY
PERFORMING AN ACT OF "FOLLY" THROUGH REDISTRIBUTION OF THE
TABLELAND SEAT. IF SUCH BE THE CASE, ONE WOULD HAVE TO
SERIOUSLY QUESTION HOW "LOW" HAVE THE ETHICAL STANDARDS
SOME OF OUR FRANCHISED REPRESENTATIVES ALLOWED
THEMSELVES TO DECLINE. SUCH ACTIONS ARE A SLUR TO ALL
FELLOW AUSTRALIANS.

FINALLY SIR, I LOVE MY COUNTRY AND OUR PEOPLE AND
PERSONALLY AM AGAINST ANY ATTEMPT TO DISSOLVE THE
TABLELAND SEAT. ONE SINCEARLY TRUST THAT COMMON SENSE
SHALL PREVAIL IN THE END.

I WISH YOURSELF, FAMILY AND ALL STAFF MEMBERS A
GLORIOUS MERRY XMAS AND A WONDERFULLY HAPPY NEW YEAR.

YOURS RESPECTFULLY



PRC/C 38



Cnr Russell & Guller Rds.

10/5 1575

Malanda Q. 4885

To the Commissioner,
Electoral Commission of Qld
GPO Box 1395
Brisbane 4001.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re the proposed redistribution of
the electoral boundaries in Queensland.

Submissions have already been
made by the Nationals, Liberals & Labor Parties
that the seat of Tablelands be one of those to be
abandoned or even consumed by surrounding electorates
to make way for new seats in the south-east
corner of the State.

This does not take into account the
rapid growth & diversity of the Tablelands. It is a
growing & vibrant area & should have much
attention as it has almost every industry except
sheep & wheat. Much of Queensland's wealth comes
from the Tablelands.

The proposed changes would force
Tablelanders to travel vast distances to visit their
Members of Parliament & would prevent many
people from having personal contact with their
Members.

Recently the State Government
made the decision to amalgamate the Lower
Shires of the Tablelands without referring to
the community & giving people the democratic
right to voice their opinion.

The proposed split-up of the Tablelands
would force the new regional Councils & residents
to lobby two or three different State Members, all
of whom will have the majority of their constituents
outside their region.

If this occurs, any advantage which may have come from the coming forced amalgamation of the four Tablelands Councils will be lost.

Why does not the State Government form two or three new shires in the South-East area as the population is increasing, rather than making larger & more unwieldy country shires?

City people have all the advantages of city life & do not have to travel long distances to see their Members of Parliament.

Country people here, many of whom are still recovering from Cyclone Lacey, have many difficulties to surmount, some of them brought upon them by government policies.

We would request due consideration of the above points when the proposed redistribution takes place.

Yours faithfully,

(Mrs) Enid Wilma Willis.

for Roland Arthur Clement Willis

Signature - R. Clement

& Enid Wilma Willis.

Signature - E.W. Willis.

David & Lesley Stephen
"Woollaman Valley Downs"



10 December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

We are residents at the address below in the current Beaudesert Shire and will be included in the newly proposed Scenic Rim Council.

The Woollaman Creek has been decided as the boundary (hatched in yellow on the attached map) between the newly proposed Scenic Rim Council and the enlarged Logan City. This creek is crossed three times by Wild Pig Creek Road which is 13 km long and due to mountainous topographical constraints, has only one access from Undullah Road (currently in Beaudesert Shire), and which will then be in the newly proposed Logan City.

My concern is that Wild Pig Creek Road which is a dirt road, and is currently maintained by Beaudesert Shire Council, crosses the Woollaman Creek three times, and each time it does, will enter a different local government area. This is the only access/egress for approximately twelve families, and I fear that by virtue of Wild Pig Creek Road's newly created geographical isolation, the new boundary alignments will discourage the maintaining of this road by the new Scenic Rim Council, ultimately causing considerable harm and damage to vehicles.

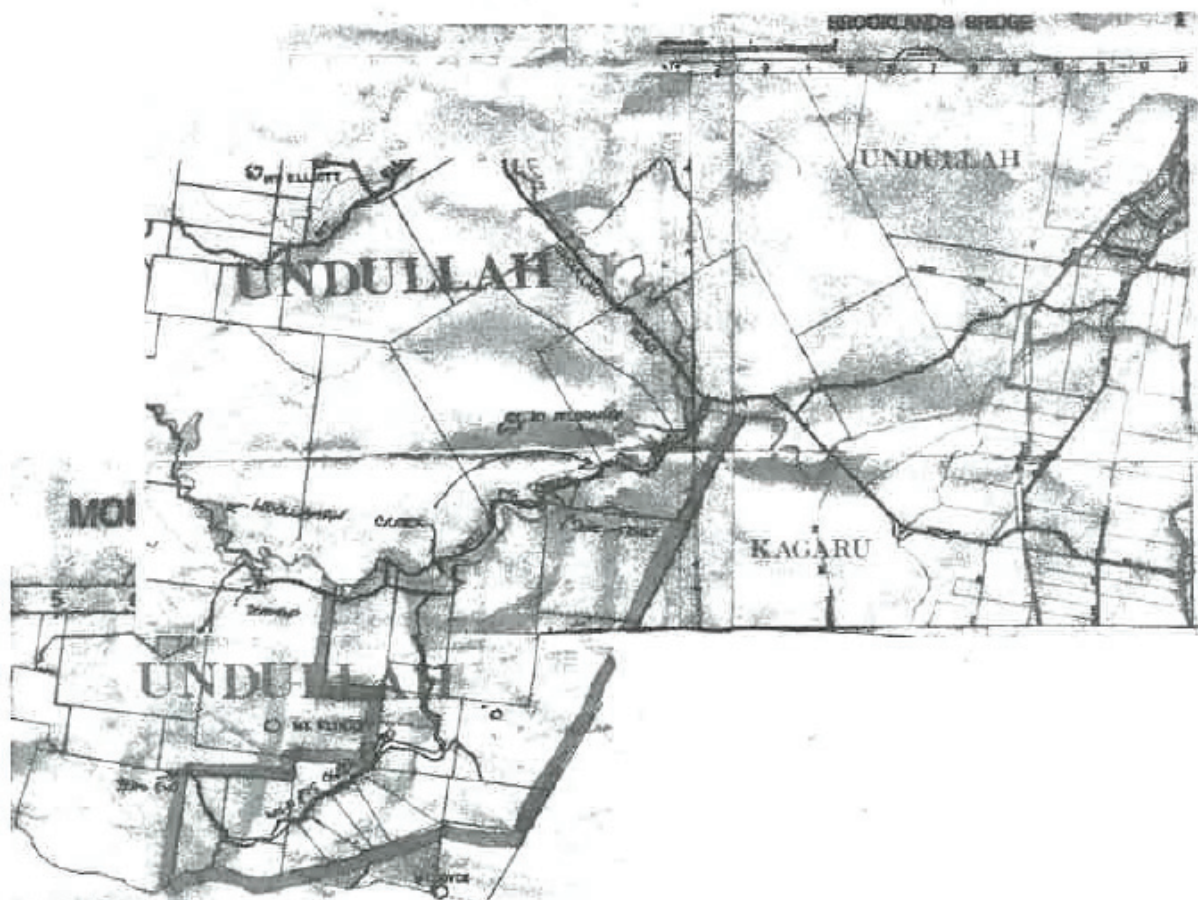
Currently all the equipment used, viz. rollers, graders, front-end loaders, water-tankers and tip-trucks, come from a depot which after amalgamation will be located in the new Logan City. The nearest depot after amalgamation in the Scenic Rim Council will be Beaudesert, where all the roads are sealed, meaning the type of equipment used for servicing our dirt road will be costlier to transport, with no use in between, and a nuisance for the council.

If therefore the properties outlined in green on the attached map, were included in the proposed Logan City, then Wild Pig Creek Road would be maintained by Logan City without any overlapping confusion.

Yours Faithfully,


DAVID STEPHEN.

Wild Pig Creek Rd. Undullah, Via Beaudesert Qld. 4285
Correspondence: PO Box 5801, Gold Coast Mail Centre, Bundall, Qld. 9726
Telephone: (07) 55 433 069 Mobile: 0412347640



Revised boundary correct local city
and state land records.

— Suggested adjustment to boundary.

RE OF BOONAH



PRC/C 40

G.R.C.



P.O. Box 92

Malanda 4885

13 Dec. 2007

G.R.C. Locked Bag 3326
Brisbane 4001.

Re scrapping of brother-in-laws.

Dear Sirs,

As a elderly voter, I am very much opposed to dividing the Tableland electorate into other Divisions. First & foremost I like a personal contact with my members, to talk face to face which would be impossible if Tablelands was split between back & charter towns.

Travelling long distances would be out of the question. Secondly, The Tablelands Electorate is growing in potential, maybe not as fast as the S.E. at present but in the long term (which should be considered) the Tablelands area is just starting to show its potential. Hoping my objection to your Redistribution will be considered.

Yours faithfully
(Mrs) Margaret H. Buckley.

Neil Reynolds
32 Storer Street
Atherton Qld 4883
(07) 4091 2970
11th December 2007

PRC/C 41



**RE: Electoral Boundaries,
Redistribution of Tablelands Electorate.**

Dear Sir,

I wish to submit the following proposal in relation to the redistribution of the Tablelands electorate.

The Atherton Tablelands is a unique area of the "wet tropics". It encompasses the Atherton, Mareeba, Eacham, and Herberton Shires, which have been listed for amalgamation by the Queensland Government. It makes common sense that this area stays together for sport, electoral, medical, and travel reasons.

If this electorate is broken up to join other existing electorates, the unique cohesion currently existing will be lost. I understand that the electorate is only a few thousand short of a full quota. There is already an anomaly in that the Kuranda/Myola area, part of the Mareeba Shire, votes with a coastal electorate. If this is added to the Tablelands electorate, the quota will be fulfilled and the area restored to unity.

A further consideration is that the current Atherton Health Service District extends to include Georgetown and Mount Surprise. That is a natural extension of the Atherton Tablelands.

The inclusion of these two areas would boost the Tablelands Electorate from 25300 to 27100, which is just over the quota required.

I want to emphasize that the Atherton Tablelands is a unique area. It is separated from all the coastal area by the Great Dividing Range, which is a considerable obstacle to travel and communication. There are 4 main access routes – the Rex Range to Mossman and Port Douglas, the Kuranda Range to Smithfield (Cairns), the Gillies Highway to Gordonvale and the Palmerston Highway to Innisfail. During cyclones and heavy rain, many of these roads become blocked by landslips and rockfalls. There is an inherent cohesion between the residents of the Tablelands that should not be broken, especially if our Political Representative is located off the Tablelands and in an area like Charters Towers, with whom we have absolutely nothing in common.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Reynolds
Dip Min, ADM.

PRC/C 42

MR B GILL

6 Butler Cr Rd.

Gombil Q, 4510



11-12-07.

The Secretary

Queensland Redistribution Commission

Locked Bag 3304

Brisbane Q 4001.

I am responding to Public Suggestion no 22
(The Nationals) proposed electoral redistribution.
I live in the Mary Valley in the current Gympie
electorate.

The Nationals proposal is to transfer the
localities of Traveston, Casan, Amasser,
Wandanga, Gombil and Broolaa to an enlarged
Nanango electorate.

Anyone who looked at a map of Queensland
would see that the Mary Valley is no where
near Nanango. We will be forgotten. We are
just too far away from Nanango to even think
it might work. Life in the Mary Valley is
'Hell' at the moment. You would think the
dew issue is more than enough to contend
with, without this proposal.

QRC/C 42

I just wish we could have a little hint
of commonsense around here. As for
Christmas looks very bleak indeed.

Yours sincerely,

B. Gill

Charters Towers
Electorate office:
Stock Exchange Arcade
2/76 Mossman Street
CHARTERS TOWERS 4820
Email address:
Charters.towers@parliament.qld.
gov.au
Phone: (07) 4787 2139
Fax: (07) 4787 3919
Freecall:
1800 811 103



SHANE KNUTH MP
MEMBER FOR CHARTERS TOWERS

PRC/C 43

Clermont
Electorate office:
Shop 6-7 Turners Arcade
Capella Street
CLERMONT 4721
Email address:
Charters.towers.clermont@parlia-
ment.qld.gov.au
Phone: (07) 4983 2856
Fax: (07) 4983 2860
Freecall:
1800 245 247

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane, QLD. 4001

7th December, 2007.

Dear Secretary,

I would like to respond to the submissions sent to the commission regarding the redistribution of the state's 89 electoral districts. I have concerns with submissions suggesting the transfer of the shires of Flinders and Richmond from the electorate of Charters Towers into the electorate of Mt Isa.

I believe that the enrolment figures of the Mt Isa electorate are not a true indication of the actual population in this electorate. With the massive expansion in mining industries in the area, there is much expectation that enrolment figures and the population will increase rapidly over the next few years. The current boom is already affecting the liveability of the city and any boundary changes will affect the Member's ability to represent fairly the constituents of the area particularly if the abovementioned shires are included within the electorate.

My concerns for the removal of both the Flinders and Richmond shires are based not only on the expected population increase in Mt Isa, but also on the physical location of the major towns in these shires.

Residents of these shires have traditionally used all the services available in the eastern cities of Charters Towers and Townsville. The major towns of Richmond and Hughenden are physically closer to Charters Towers and as traditional users of the services within Townsville and Charters Towers have more in common with the electors of these communities.

Mt Isa Health Service does not cover the Flinders or Richmond shires. Both these shires are covered by the Townsville Health Service. Remote and rural people access educational facilities in Charters Towers as well as elderly residents who require high care normally reside in Charters Towers aged care facilities.

The communities in both these shires have a strong rural industry base with a broad number of community based industries. This is a shared interest with some of the other communities within the electorate of Charters Towers. The representation of these shires would be more effective if they remained within the Charters Towers electorate boundaries.

The mining boom is also affecting the population figures within the electorate of Charters Towers. Moranbah, Capella, Clermont and Tieri enrolment figures are not indicative of the actual populations in these towns. Projections prepared by the Department of Local Government indicate that by 2011 the expected population of the Belyando Shire alone will increase from 11 000 in 2006 to more than 16 000 in

PRC/C 43

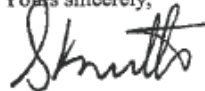
2011. I expect the enrolment figures to begin rapidly increasing showing a more accurate enrolment total dramatically affecting the current variance.

The electorate of Charters Towers covers an area already of more than 260 000 square kilometres and includes the shires of Aramac, Belyando, Dalrymple, Etheridge, Flinders, Jericho, Peak Downs and Richmond as well as the city of Charters Towers and a small portion of the Bowen Shire. The current enrolment figures are 18 834, with an adjusted electorate number of more than 24 000.

The electorate combines mainly traditional rural and community based industries, and mining industries.

I believe that all nine shires currently within the Charters Towers electorate boundaries should remain. The current deviation in enrolment figures in the Charters Towers and Mt Isa electorates will be addressed by the mining industry boom and the forecasted population influx this will result in.

Yours sincerely,



Shane Knuth MP
Member for Charters Towers
Shadow Minister for Mines & Energy

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DRAFT LETTER - SUGGESTION.

QRC/C 44

11/12/2007

Your name and Address GRACE O'BRIEN
460 SPRINGS RD
MARFEEBA 4550

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19) which either specifically nominate my electorate of Tablelands for destruction, or create a situation where that is likely.

I believe the seat of Tablelands must remain as

ETC.

Yours sincerely

Grace O'Brien

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DRAFT LETTER - SUGGESTION

QRC/C 45

11/12/2007

Your name and
Address

WARIO LEONFORTE
SPRINGMONT RD
WALKAMIN

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19) which either specifically nominate my electorate of Tablelands for destruction, or create a situation where that is likely.

I believe the seat of Tablelands must remain as

ETC.

Yours sincerely

M. D. Leonforte

~~*****~~
DRAFT LETTER - SUGGESTION.

QRC/C 46

11/12/2007

Your name and
Address

IAN ASKIN
460 SPRINGS RD
WARRARA 4850

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19) which either specifically nominate my electorate of Tablelands for destruction, or create a situation where that is likely.

I believe the seat of Tablelands must remain as

ETC.

Yours sincerely

JK Askin

From: eric gosper [mailto:atouchofcountry@bigpond.com]
Sent: Saturday, 15 December 2007 9:21 AM
To: ECQ User
Subject: queensland State Redistribution

QRC/C 47

Eric Gosper
158 Bynes Street
Mareeba
QLD 4880

15/12/07

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S20), the Liberal Party of Australia (QLD Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19) Which either specifically nominate my electorate of Tablelands for destruction, or create a situation where that is likely.

I believe that the seat of Tablelands must remain as it is.

Yours Sincerely

Eric Gosper

18/12/2007

Liberal Party of Australia | Qld Division

PRC/c 48

MR / kc
17th December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
BRISBANE QLD 4001



Dear Secretary

In accordance with the Electoral Act 1992, I enclose the Liberal Party's response to your invitation for written comments on suggestions lodged on the Queensland State Redistribution for the Redivision of Queensland's 89 Electoral Divisions.

I am also enclosing a computer disk with a file of our comments.

If the need for further information arises we would be prepared to provide this in either written or oral form.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Rowe'.

Matthew Rowe
General Secretary



LIBERAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA (QUEENSLAND DIVISION)

**COMMENTS ON
PUBLIC SUGGESTIONS (NOVEMBER 2007)**

**QUEENSLAND REDISTRIBUTION OF ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
2007**

Preamble:

Having studied all of the Public Suggestions received by the Queensland Redistribution Commission the Liberal Party contends that our submission more properly addresses the various issues which have to be taken into account.

This is especially so with regard to addressing the population growth in various areas, some of these being massive, recognising communities of interest, transport corridors and natural boundaries. The Liberal Party has also tried to achieve minimum disruption to current seats and hence give electoral continuity to residents. This has been done while recognising the un-avoidable need for some significant redrafting of boundaries.

The Liberal Party strongly contends that it is essential to create three new seats in the south-east corner of the State in order to properly address population numbers.

With regard to 'coastal' seats we submit that their boundaries should, where possible, recognise their immediate hinterland area that they service.

With the Liberal Party original submission firmly in mind we would make the following brief comments on some of the other submissions and issues.

Other Submissions:

The Liberal Party believes that the Australian Labor Party submission is fundamentally flawed in suggesting the creation of only two new electoral districts (from Albert, Beaudesert and Gaven and from Kallangur, Kurwongbah and Murrumba) and the consequent abolition of two existing districts.

The Labor Party states:

We suggest that the Redistribution Commission consider concerns that the projected population data does not reflect the growth outlined in the South East Queensland Regional Plan and other statutory planning documents.
(Submission, para 5.3)

However, despite this, Labor itself ignores the rate of growth in the area between Noosa in the north and Currumbin in the south. As the Liberal Party submission indicates this area is entitled to 54.26 districts based on current enrolments alone. This equates to an additional 2.26 seats. Taking into account the projected rate of population growth championed by the Labor Party and the expected

currency of the proposed boundaries over at least two elections, the creation of three new districts in this region would better reflect future population movements. To create two only would lead to greater than required enrolment discrepancies, particularly at the election due in 2012.

The ALP also proposes unnecessary restrictions on the location of any new districts by suggesting that districts be confined to notional "regional blocks".

The Labor Party states:

... The following electorate analysis recognises these distinct regional blocks (using the ECQ's regional maps) and suggests courses of action for the Commission which acknowledge the inter-connectedness between electorates and regional groups of electorates.
(Submission, para 4.1.2)

These remarks ignore the fact that districts cannot be confined to these neat "blocks" when there is a need for significant boundary changes between districts and between regions. This is particularly so when at least two districts have been created in south-east Queensland necessitating the abolition of two existing districts. Again these remarks ignore the impact of population growth as referred to by the Labor Party elsewhere in its submission.

The Labor Party's submission does not look to the future. Despite its protestations it advocates a set of boundaries which are trapped in aspic and unable to meet the demands of rapid population growth. This is a recipe for unfairness which will be aggravated with the passage of time. By refusing to contemplate the creation of three new districts the Labor Party has ignored its own arguments.

The Liberal Party further has concerns about the ALP submission in that it ignores the massive growth on the Gold and Sunshine Coasts entirely and creates a new seat without regard to where the growth actually is.

Their submission also has serious flow on effects in that the new seat to be created in the Logan area which flows down into the northern Gold Coast ignores communities of interest. The area in which it is most likely to be established sits on the new boarder between the new Gold Coast City Council area and the area, now in Logan, which was recently excised from the Gold Coast City Council. If the committee thought that the areas of Beenleigh and the northern Gold Coast are different communities of interest for the purposes of the recent changes to Council boundaries there seems to be very little reason to unite these areas again in a state seat.

If the ALP submission were implemented it would require all seats on the Gold Coast to undergo radical changes to their boundaries to deal with both their actual growth and the projected growth without the addition of an extra seat wholly within the GCCC area.

These changes are likely to mean that some, if not all, of the seats on the Gold Coast would loose their current communities of interest with many of the boundaries of seats on the Coast being drawn according to population rather than communities of interest. The Liberal Party submission recognises the need for an

extra seat on the Gold Coast and places it in an area which has a clear community of interest while retaining the communities of interest in all other Gold Coast seats.

In looking at the Sunshine Coast and northern Pine the Liberal Party is supportive of the establishment of a new seat in the northern Pine Rivers area to reflect the actual and projected growth in that area. However it is our submission that the ALP proposed re-drawing of the Sunshine Coast does not take into account either the existing boundaries of the seats or their communities of interest. The Liberal Party submits that there is a need to significantly re-draw the boundaries of seats on the Sunshine Coast but disagrees with the manner in which the ALP has done so.

We note that the ALP submission has been very non-committal by not nominating the two seats to be abolished to create its two new proposed seats.

Additionally the ALP submission did not provide any maps, making it difficult to fully assess their recommendations.

Naming of New Seats:

The Liberal Party submits that the most appropriate name for a new seat (given Queensland State seats are generally named after towns, suburbs and/or regions) is the logical centre for a community of interest within the seat.

In the Liberal Party submission for the new South Coast seat the name Carrara is recommended, a corruption of the Murri name "Karrara," an area which traditionally extended from Nerang, into Carrara and, at its most easterly point into an area presently constituting Broadbeach Waters. We contend that this is a more appropriate name, identifying the seat/area clearly for electors.

We note that another submission has chosen the name "Pine" for what is essentially a similar new seat to the Liberal Party submission. While we basically accept this name we contend the addition of "Rivers" more clearly describes the area and hence should be used.

Again the same logic applies to the recommended name of "Coolum".

This also applies to our recommendation to re-name "Gaven" to "Helensvale" in view of recommended boundary changes leading to Helensvale being more truly the centre of the seat. Again the seat of "Waterford", with its boundary changes, is recommended to be more aptly named "Beenleigh".

We note that the ALP submission states that the Toowoomba North and Toowoomba South seats be "renamed". However, details available to the public on the ECQ website do not state the new names. The Liberal Party contends that given these two seats should retain their essential character/boundaries their names should also be retained.

QRC/C 49

Rosa Lee Long MP

Member for Tablelands

Electorate Office

210 Byrnes St, Mareeba, Far North Queensland 4880

14/12/2007

The Commissioner
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane QLD 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Redistribution of State Government Electorate boundaries and suggestions made by the National Party - QRC/S22, Liberal Party - QRC/S20 and Labor Party - QRC/S19.

I wish to make comments re the above and in particular, on suggestions that the Seat of Tablelands be abolished.

These suggestions, which I strongly oppose, clearly demonstrate a lack of knowledge of the current position of the Tablelands electorate.

I submit that the population of Far North Queensland is growing rapidly, at a rate second only to that of South East Queensland.

Most of this growth is taking place on the Atherton Tablelands and also in Cairns, particularly the outer suburbs contained in the electorates of Barron River and Mulgrave.

Cairns is currently within the margin of tolerance. Barron River and Mulgrave are currently on or above Quota. Tablelands is only 3.6 per cent below the margin of tolerance after having gained nearly 3 per cent since the 2006 election. All of these electorates are undergoing significant annual enrollment growth of between approximately 3 and 8 per cent.

The Tablelands electorate, on its existing natural growth, could be expected to be within the margin of tolerance by the next State election.

Cook is outside the margin of tolerance by 2% after "weighting" and is showing only marginal growth rates.

However I believe the strong growth in the other Far Northern electorates can be utilized to bring Cook within the margin of tolerance with only minor boundary adjustments.

Hinchinbrook is significantly under quota by 21.82% and outside the margin of tolerance by 12%. Like Cook, it is showing only marginal growth.

ARC/C 49

Hinchinbrook can be brought in to alignment with a similar exercise utilizing the strong growth of the Thuringowa electorate.

I believe there is no need for any Far Northern seat to be eliminated and, in fact, as the second fastest growing area of the State, it may be likely in the near future that additional representation is required.

The following detailed comments spell out a wide range of factors supporting my position that Tablelands should remain as a distinct State Electorate.

Yours sincerely

Rosa Lee Long MP
Member for Tablelands

**COMMENTS ON SUGGESTIONS TO
THE QUEENSLAND REDISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE**

"The Atherton Tablelands is a unique geographic area with no natural barriers between the various communities". (Local Government Reform Commission 2007).

1. INTRODUCTION

Far North Queensland generally is one of the fastest growing regions in Queensland, in fact in Australia. The Tablelands region is also experiencing significant growth with new industry development, value adding to existing operations and housing construction. This has and will continue to give rise to population increases. The regional planning proposals for the Far North Queensland area entail major residential expansion including Tablelands. This expected expansion of the region is a key issue for consideration in any proposal impacting on the future State representation of the Tablelands population.

This submission focuses on the broad issues that need to be taken into account in any redistribution affecting the Tablelands. Recommendations will also be made to bring the FNQ electorates into quota.

CURRENT NUMERICAL STATUS – TABLELANDS AND SURROUNDING ELECTORATES

Quota for the current redistribution is 29,081. The numerical situation for the northern electorates as per the ECQ website date as at 17 November 2007 is as follows:

Electorate	Enrolled voters	% deviation from actual quota	% outside margin of tolerance
Tablelands	25,232	-14.38	-3.6
Barron River	29,795	1.10	
Cook	25,648	-12.97	-2.0
Cairns	27,353	-7.19	
Mulgrave	29,164	1.04	
Hinchinbrook	23,041	-21.82	-12
Thuringowa	34,764	17.96	8.7

(Calculation: quota 29,081 less 10% margin of tolerance = 26,173.
This makes Tablelands 941 (3.6%) voters under 26,173)

Of the 7 electorates, six - Cook, Tablelands, Cairns, Mulgrave, Hinchinbrook and Barron River are all on or under Quota. Of these Cook and Tablelands are outside the margin of tolerance by relatively small amounts. Hinchinbrook is significantly under and Thuringowa is substantially over this margin.

A rationalisation of enrolments across the 7 electorates to bring them all within the margin of tolerance is contained in the Recommendations.

2. PERTINENT ISSUES FOR THE COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER:

2.1. TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL BOUNDARIES; EXISTING ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

The natural borders for the proposed realignment of the Tablelands electorate boundaries in this submission are the escarpment of the Dividing Range in the north east and the boundary of the newly created Tablelands Regional Council in the west. The electorate also covers the slopes of the range in the south west abutting the volcanic country at Undara. In the south the boundary is the highland country skirting the Girringun National Park and then north to include East Palmerston and sections of Mena Creek and sections of Pin Gin Hill and Darradgee, areas with economic ties to the Tablelands.

2.2. GOVERNANCE AND REPRESENTATION

State Government: According to the 2006 Census, the Tablelands Electorate represents 38,315 residents of which approximately 73.1% (28,000) were of voting age. This is at odds with the enrollment figure of 25,232 people for the electorate. By comparison, the 2001 Census showed a population of 35,842 of which 71.5% (25,949) were of voting age. This is an increase in adults over 18 years of 8.2% in five years.

The abolition of the state seat of Tablelands, as suggested by the above parties, would seriously reduce representation and disadvantage the Tablelands population.

2.3. TABLELANDS COMMUNITY OF INTEREST

The Local Government Reform Commission made a number of relevant observations relating to the community of interest that exists across and within the Tablelands region and the homogeneity of the population.

Their report stated that *"The Atherton Tablelands is a unique geographic area with no natural barriers between the various communities"*. The Commission noted that *"the focus of the region revolves around Atherton and Mareeba with most major educational, health, commercial, retail, government and financial activities being undertaken in either or both of these towns."*

In addition, *"the major towns and settlements are in relatively close proximity....."*

When considering the future interests of residents of Mareeba, the Local Government Reform Commission observed that *"the residents of Mareeba have very strong links with the other communities of the Atherton Tablelands. These links extend to utilising the various recreational facilities, the importance of agriculture and tourism to the region, the movement that occurs between towns in the region for employment and to access services, the common geographic area and the shared interest in the development of the Kuranda Range Road and the upgrade of the main Tablelands highway (Kennedy Highway)." This statement is at odds with the suggestions made by the above-mentioned Parties to have Mareeba enrolments transposed to Cook.*

History, culture, people

The Tableland region has a rich and diverse history, the consequences of which are apparent today. The Tablelands were shaped as a distinct and independent region 150 years ago with early settlement patterns. Cairns was settled due to it having a natural port, and then a way was found up the Great Dividing Range to the interior and the goldfields. The range then and now creates a natural division between the humid tropical coast and the cooler fertile plateau which is the Tablelands. The Tablelands community has developed with distinct institutions and community organisations.

This history of settlement has created strong bonds between family groups. Continuity of family and business names in the townships and among descendants is a characteristic of the region giving rise to the strong social capital bonding which unifies the region.

2.4. TABLELANDS: A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY - SOCIAL CONNECTIVITY, SOCIAL CAPITAL, HOMOGENEITY

The Tablelands demonstrates many of the features of sustainable communities¹ in it's:

Demographic and economic characteristics:

- Community oriented towards economic innovation through value added activity and development of new/niche markets
- Economic activity oriented towards knowledge industry model
- Diverse economic base and high level of local ownership

Community characteristics:

- Capacity to cooperate
- Large stocks of social capital
- Collective recognition of problems/challenges
- Collective understanding of local advantages
- Openness to innovation
- Sense of common purpose and priorities
- Can do attitude
- Capacity to mobilize diverse knowledge networks

Institutional factors:

- Open and responsive local political system
- Integrated and timely government responses
- Political and bureaucratic support

It is these characteristics that foster the creation and sustainability of a cohesive and healthy community that would be under threat if the abolition of the Tablelands electorate were to proceed.

The Tablelands community has demonstrated the capacity to respond collectively to adverse economic impacts such as closure of the forestry and tobacco industries and deregulation of the dairy industry.

¹ Barraket, J Dr, 2001; Building Sustainable Communities: Cooperative Solutions to Rural Renewal", Australian Centre for Cooperative Research and Development

The Tablelands was recognised by the federal government as a distinct region when allocating the \$18 million Sustainable Regions funding. The community responded to develop as a strong growing economy.

The number of community and social service organisations and institutions across the Tablelands is overwhelming with many operating on a volunteer basis. This is indicative of the high level of community spirit and social capital with people prepared to give their time as volunteers for the community.

The Social Services Directory² provides an up to date list of 218 organisations and the Community Services Directory hosted by Atherton Shire Council lists 575 services and institutions available across the Tablelands Electorate.

The majority of the Tablelands electorate is significantly elevated compared with the coastal electorates and also to the western electorates, resulting in a much more temperate climate which sets us apart from these other communities.

2.5. EDUCATION

The Tablelands has education services and facilities geared to the specific needs of the community and local economy. For example, the Ravenshoe State School working dairy (for an industry spread across a large portion of the Tablelands) and proposals for Malanda High School to establish a Veterinary stream (Cattle and livestock across the entire electorate) and so on. A new independent school at Mareeba is attracting students from across the Tablelands. The Atherton High School provides an on campus TAFE facility while Mareeba has an agricultural college. Students from across the Tableland are utilising these facilities in a way that highlights the region wide handling of nationwide challenges.

2.6 RESEARCH

CSIRO's research in Atherton is aimed at increasing our understanding of the complex natural relationships within tropical rainforests and landscapes, to provide communities and land managers with the information they need to make sound decisions, and preserve the region's outstanding natural diversity.

The Atherton Lab provides a research base for scientists engaged in projects studying various aspects of the tropical environment as encapsulated across the Tableland's diverse geography, including:

- ecosystem goods and services
- biodiversity
- climate change
- rainforest dynamics
- sustainable futures
- conservation planning

² www.tablelandscommunity.org.au

2.6. CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS

While the majority of people speak English across FNQ, the other key languages spoken in the Tablelands Electorate are Italian, German, Dutch and Croatian. This differs to those in the adjacent electorates of Mulgrave (Hmong, Japanese, and Punjabi) and Barron River (Japanese, Italian, and French).

2.7. POPULATION GROWTH

Far North Queensland is the State's fastest growing region outside the South East Queensland corner with between 3,500 and 4,500 new residents moving into the region each year. As a result of this growth it is only the second region in Queensland to be the subject of a statutory regional plan to manage FNQ's high population growth³.

New residents are the foundation for emerging opportunities and economic development for the region.

There is strong anecdotal evidence from town planners, real estate agents and businesses that the Tableland demographic is changing. There are new settlers from coastal and inland Queensland along with many from interstate and overseas. It is an attractive region with a most livable climate and attracts many people intent on lifestyle enhancement, retirees and 'tree changers'. A new phenomenon is a growing wave of people seeking to settle in the region due to its ample water supplies, to escape water restrictions in southern cities.

The value of building work approvals in Mareeba Shire has steadily increased over the past few years from \$31.9million in 04/05 to \$38.5 million in 05/06 (+72%) to 51.9million in 06/07 (+55%). In the same period 1,648 applications for residential reconfigurations were approved with another 439 pending. At an average of 2 residents per lot this would add over 4,000 new residents in this one shire alone. Many of these will not as yet be reflected in the Electoral Commission register of voters for the Electorate.

Atherton Shire is also experiencing remarkable growth rates. In the last financial year, there were 167 dwelling and unit approvals worth some \$52 million. This places the shire growth rate at around 2.5% per annum. In addition, some 1600 allotment subdivisions were approved which do not as yet reflect in building approvals.

Planning Information and Forecasting Unit (PIFU) (Dept of Infrastructure & Planning) figures as at October, nevertheless reflect robust growth, as indicated in the following extract from the PIFU fact sheets:

Dwelling activity increased in Atherton Shire in the year ending June 2007 with 173 approvals, 86.7 per cent of them for separate houses. Compared to 108 approvals in the previous year, these figures represent an increase of 60.2 per cent in dwelling activity.

In the case of Herberton Shire, the equivalent increase was 64.5 per cent and for Eacham Shire a 28.0 per cent increase in dwelling activity.

³ FNQ 2025 Statutory Regional Plan website

The aging population in Australia is also having an impact on the Tablelands Electorate. While housing in Cairns is now reaching par with capital city prices, land and house prices on the Tablelands are still seen as more affordable. The region is now a 'life-style region' and a destination for retirees. This has seen a recent plethora of medium density retirement living developments. At least four major projects of this type are in the development stage in the Electorate at present. The final numbers of dwelling units are not finalized, but these four would encompass some 800 units, with one alone announced as having 300 dwelling units. These developments will progressively begin to impact electoral registrations for the electorate over the next twelve months.

The FNQ 2025 regional planning exercise is underway. It is a statutory regional plan which will not include the Shire of Cook.

The earlier 2010 Plan identified an area of the Tablelands (Myola) which is currently in Cook electorate as a future growth node with a projected population of some 11,000.

Lotus Glen: The announcement in the 2007 State Budget of some \$9.5 million to be invested in a 300 cell expansion of the Lotus Glen Correctional Centre which services Cape York, Torres Strait and Cairns and Far North Queensland regions. The current inmate population is 60-70% Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander. The current capacity of the Centre is 396 secure and 115 open inmates and the Centre functions at or near full capacity. A further 300 cells would lift the total to 811. A recent High Court decision secured voting rights for those prisoners serving sentences less than 3 years duration.

2.8. TABLELANDS ECONOMY AND PROJECTED DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION

Two organisations which encompass the entire Tablelands Electorate area are the Tablelands Futures Corporation and Tropical Tablelands Tourism. Both are committed to spearheading the economic development of the region and are operating in a coordinated manner to bring about sustainable development and expansion.

Both these organisations have been supported by the state and federal governments to oversee the coordinated and sustainable development of the Tablelands region, yet further evidence of the institutions held in common, the unity, collaboration and coordination of the Tablelands community and industry.

Industry and Employment Base

The Local Government Reform Commission when commenting on amalgamation of the four shires of the Tablelands region observed that:

"All shires have similar economic interests with a heavy dependence on agricultural output. The agricultural output is more diverse than in other regions although beef cattle production is predominant in Mareeba Shire and Herberton Shire. Other agricultural production includes dairy products, vegetables, fruit and sugar cane."

This rural agricultural base is reflected in the agricultural production and also in the nature of the tourism enterprises being successfully established.

The reliance on agricultural production and farm management is reflected in the occupation statistics from the 2006 census (ABS). Indeed, the contrast to the adjacent electorates to the east (Mulgrave and Barron River) in the employment pattern is obvious. The majority of

workers in Tablelands are classified as managers (18.5%), labourers (15.9%) or technicians/trades (14.1%) while in Barron River the key occupations are professionals (19.6%) and technicians/trades (16%) or clerical administrative (14.3%) and in Mulgrave the make up is technicians/trades (17.7%), labourers (16.1%) or clerical/administrative (13.6%).

The figures relating to 'industry of employment' from the 2006 census clearly demonstrate the agricultural foundations with fruit and tree nut growing, beef and cattle and grain farming making up 7.8% of those aged 15 and over employed in the area. This contrasts to the industry of employment data for Barron River (accommodation, hospitals, cafes, restaurants, takeaway and residential building construction accounting for 14.9%) and Mulgrave (local government, school education, supermarket and grocery stores, cafes, restaurants and takeaway food accounting for 17.1%).

2.9. TABLELANDS INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE PROVISION

Roads: The Tablelands exists as a service centre for not only its own region, but the wider Cape, Gulf and inland savannah regions.

The Tablelands transport networks make it the gateway to Cape York Peninsula and the Gulf of Carpentaria. Four highways link the Tablelands Electorate to the coastal road systems including the Palmerston, Gillies and Rex Highways and the Kuranda Range Road.

A railway built in 1887 connects the Tablelands to the East Coast through the spectacular scenery of the coastal escarpment. However rail services have all but disappeared and the line is severely limited in capacity due to Heritage-listed tunnels restricting the size of trains able to use it.

The road access from the Tablelands to other centres suggested in the above-mentioned submissions are all of poor standard. The road to Charters Towers is dangerous, single lane bitumen over long sections and shared with mining and stock road trains. The Gillies Highway to Gordonvale (Mulgrave) is a winding mountain road (approximately 160 tight bends which is recognised as causing travel sickness). The Kuranda Range Road is so dangerous the Queensland Government has just reduced the speed significantly (from 80km/h to 60km/h) in the interests of safety. The Palmerston Highway and Bruce Highway to Ingham (Hinchinbrook) are subject to poor road surfaces and frequent disruption in the wet season.

Transport: The Tablelands region is not well serviced with public transport into and out of the region. There is no public transport between Tablelands and Ingham, Tablelands and Gordonvale or Tablelands and Charters Towers and only very limited bus availability between the Tablelands and Cairns. There are no regular, scheduled passenger rail services of any kind between Tablelands and any of these centres.

Goods and services

There is little need for Tablelands residents to travel to Cairns for supplies, services and goods. Further, the continued growth in available services and outlets, including national franchises, shows what little need exists is rapidly being met locally. This lack of appeal is even truer for other, smaller centres such as Gordonvale, Ingham or Charters Towers – the location of electorate offices Tablelanders would be forced to access under the above proposals.

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In fact the main reason for residents to travel to Cairns is for the domestic and international airport.

Water:

Tinaroo Dam is a major item of water infrastructure which holds about ¾ the volume of Sydney Harbour and is located within the Tablelands Electorate. The dam was completed in the late 1950s to provide irrigation for farming in the Mareeba - Dimbula area. Today farming remains the major industry for the Tablelands. The Dam is now also a key tourism destination for visitors and locals alike with an estimated 500,000 visitors per annum. It would not be an exaggeration to say that Tinaroo Dam is a Tablelands icon and a unifying factor for the whole community.

Future water requirements:

The impact of global warming and climate change will elevate the significance of the Tablelands water resources, a factor of keen interest to the Tablelands community.

The Federal Government Northern Australia Land and Water Task Force visited the area, indicating its significance in future planning. There have been suggestions in the media and from political circles to move agriculture north rather than transport water south. The Tablelands is an attractive option for expansion and development and this interest will swell in the future as the availability of water resources for agriculture becomes a premium. The Queensland Government has funded a \$6 million feasibility study now underway into a new dam (Nullinga) on the Walsh River in this electorate. Should this proceed, it could be anticipated that this will underpin even greater population growth rates.

3. SUMMARY: RATIONALE FOR RETAINING TABLELANDS ELECTORATE

The key issues for retaining the Tablelands electorate relate to:

Community of interest: The existence of a strong community of interest and community homogeneity. The social capital stocks in the Tablelands are extremely high resulting in community strength and sustainability. The extremely high number of community and social organisations is testament to that fact.

Future growth projections: population increase, housing approvals and business expansion point to a very conservative annual growth of 2-3%.

Regional economic development: new industries and innovation are creating a vibrant economic environment which is attracting new settlers.

Regional Organisations: the Tablelands economic and tourism bodies are coordinating sustainable development within the region and collaborating with external agencies and government departments to ensure a balanced development program in tune with the objectives and wishes of the Tablelands community.

Global and national trends: The Tablelands has already proven to be a region which is attractive to life style settlers, 'tree changers', 'oasis seekers' and those seeking retirement.

Due to the profound effect the number of retiring 'baby boomers' will have on our society over the next ten years or so in particular, this is expected to significantly increase the Tablelands Electorate voting population, in view of it being a cool green, lifestyle destination.

Infrastructure: All necessary services are available on the Tablelands. However the quality of the road access to centres such as Ingham, Charters Towers, Gordonvale and even Cairns is currently sub-standard, in some cases single lane bitumen.

3.1 IMPACT OF REDISTRIBUTION PROPOSALS REFERRED TO ABOVE

Issues that have been considered include:

- negative impact on community interests
- inadequate road infrastructure network and communication;
- poor access to elected representatives – distance, poor roads, topography.

All of the above submissions either specifically or by implication suggest the elimination of the seat of Tablelands by its partitioning between some or all of the surrounding electorates, regardless of impact.

I strongly oppose any of these suggestions especially as Tablelands is demonstrably able to meet quota requirements with relatively minor adjustments that would NOT reduce the level of State representation in FNQ.

3.2 SUGGESTIONS BY NATIONAL, LIBERAL AND LABOR PARTIES (essentially similar, so dealt with together)

These proposals have the Tablelands electorate split between Cook, Mulgrave, Barron River, Hinchinbrook and Charters Towers (Labor omit Barron River).

Barron River and Mulgrave. The issues facing residents of the Tablelands who would, under these suggestions, be forced into Barron River and Mulgrave are dissimilar to those of the coastal residents of these seats. Tablelanders' issues would be swamped by the majority coastal, urban populations of Mulgrave and Barron River which, it has been demonstrated, are very disparate, with different professions, industries, languages etc. Those forced to travel to Cairns to access the Barron River MP would have to traverse the dangerous Kuranda Range Road. Those forced to seek representation from Mulgrave would have to travel the Gillies Highway, with its 160 hairpin bends. Gordonvale (Mulgrave) offers little or no other reason for Tablelanders to travel this road, as it does not offer any significant retail, service, industry or support functions not already present on the Tablelands.

Cook. It is suggested Mareeba Shire (community) be moved in to Cook electorate. The Liberal Party nominate that Mareeba "has more in common with that community". There is no possible basis for this assumption as the cultural, social and economic foundation of Mareeba and hinterlands differs markedly from that of the communities of Cape York Peninsula to the north. There are significant social, cultural, environmental, developmental, industrial, services, transport, communication and other differences. Residents would also be forced to travel much further (to Cairns) to access their MP, including having to traverse the dangerous Kuranda Range Road.

PRC/C 49

Hinchinbrook has been identified as potentially absorbing part of Eacham and Johnstone Shires presently in Tablelands electorate. The Eacham Shire has no links whatsoever with Ingham which is the centre of Hinchinbrook. It would force southern Tablelands electors to travel to Ingham, some 300Km to the south, simply to see their MP. There is no public transport between these centres, severely limiting accessibility. This is in addition to difficulties caused by the Bruce Highway's poor condition and flood-prone nature. Nor is there any existing reason for Tablelanders to otherwise visit Ingham.

Charters Towers is over 400Km away largely via single lane bitumen roads for Tablelanders wishing to see their local member under these proposals. This would **not** create good governance and would in fact be a social injustice. Recent surveys of travellers on the Savannah Way have raised considerable concern at the dangerous nature of the single lane bitumen roads, particularly when competing with mining and stock road trains as would be the case in travelling to Charters Towers. Once again there is no public transport and also, no commonality of interest or community. The Wet Tropics dairying industry is totally foreign to dry, inland Charters Towers. Nor is there any existing reason for Tablelanders to travel to this centre.

Conclusion: These proposals would not only split a unified and homogenous Tablelands community but would also impose severe restrictions on the capacity of the electors to engage with their state representatives.

The proposal is socially and politically unjust. By adopting any of these proposals the Tablelands electors would be disadvantaged with the communication and travel constraints associated with accessing electoral offices with elected representatives based in or around Cairns or even much further south in Ingham or Charters Towers to the south-west.

The clearly homogenous community of the Tablelands would be split several ways and longstanding associations and the social capital that makes the Tablelands a unified region with a strong identity would be threatened.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS TO BRING TABLELANDS AND ADJACENT ELECTORATES INTO QUOTA

Overview:

It is my view that it would be better to distribute electors across all the northern electorates of Cook, Tablelands, Barron River, Cairns, Mulgrave, Hinchinbrook and Thuringowa while recognizing that most are already within the allowable variation from the new quota. Taking into account natural growth I submit that relatively minor adjustments will meet the requirements of the redistribution. Therefore my recommendations are, in summary, as follows:

- **Tablelands:** boundaries should be transposed westwards and eastwards to take in the whole of the existing Mareeba Shire.
- **Cook:** boundary moved southwards to include Kewarra Beach and Trinity Beach.
- **Barron River:** extend southern boundary to include a greater portion of Cairns
- **Cairns:** extend boundary southwards to include Edmonton.

ORC/C 49

- **Mulgrave:** to commence south of Edmonton and extend southwards to Cardwell Range (southern boundary of existing Cardwell Shire).
- **Hinchinbrook:** enrolments south of Cardwell Range (Shire boundary) to extend into Thuringowa which is 17% over Quota.
- **Thuringowa:** enrolments should be transposed northwards to Hinchinbrook to balance out Quota.

In detail (see page 15 for Impact Table):

Tablelands (currently 3.6% under the margin of tolerance): With the conservative projected growth for the Tablelands of between 2-3% annually it would be expected to be on par with the Quota within 3 years. Recent figures for the past 12 months show an increase in enrolments of approximately 900. Combined with housing approvals and other information to hand, this growth is likely to be exceeded over the next several years. This would put Tablelands, as it stands, within the margin of tolerance before the next State Election.

Tablelands should generally retain its existing boundaries with the exception of expanding to include the entirety of the existing Mareeba Shire. This will take approximately 437 voters from Cook electorate (the Kuranda Booth) and 1223 from Barron River Electorate (Kuranda Booth) adding an additional approximately 1660 electors to Tablelands. (These figures as per ECQ Statistical Returns, Queensland Election 2006). This will reduce Cook and Barron River. However, the Kuranda area is part of Mareeba Shire and is located on the Atherton Tablelands with which it has a greater community of interest. Further, the natural boundary of the Great Dividing Range would be adopted.

(Another option may be to expand the existing southern boundary of Tablelands in the Pin Gin Hill, Daradgee and Mena Creek areas.)

Cook: (currently 2% outside margin of tolerance): Cook would lose 437 voters in Kuranda Booth but more than make up for this by moving the boundaries south in to include Kewarra Beach and Trinity Beach adding 3591 voters. It is worth noting that the electorate office for Cook is presently located within the city of Cairns. I strongly oppose the proposition that Mareeba Shire (community) be moved in to Cook electorate.

Barron River: (On quota). Barron River would lose 1223 voters in Kuranda to Tablelands and Trinity Beach (3591 voters) to Cook but will be compensated by having its' boundary transposed further south to include the inner northern Cairns suburbs of Smithfield, Edge Hill, Whitfield and North Cairns (2819 voters).

Cairns: (Within the margin of tolerance). The southern Cairns boundary could be relocated further south to take in the growing area of Edmonton (3159 voters) which has more in common with Cairns than the agricultural areas to the south. This would more than compensate for the loss of the northern suburbs to Barron River. The southern corridor to Edmonton is now intrinsically a suburb of Cairns.

Mulgrave: (On Quota). The southern boundary should be relocated south at the Cardwell Range (southern boundary of existing Cardwell Shire), a natural boundary and to take in Tully, Mission Beach and Cardwell (3055 voters) all of which centres have a community of interest with Innisfail. This would force the northern boundary of Hinchinbrook south.

PRC/C49

Hinchinbrook: (Currently well under quota (-21.82%) and 12% below the margin of tolerance). The southern boundary should move south into Thuringowa which is 17.96% over quota thus increasing Hinchinbrook enrolments. Thuringowa includes the suburban fringe of Townsville city, an area of significant and sustained population growth (witness present over-enrolment). The addition of Deeragun, Northern Beaches and Kirwan from Thuringowa would add 7939 voters to Hinchinbrook.

Thuringowa: by transposing these northern enrolments into Hinchinbrook, Thuringowa would be restored to the required quota level.

PRC/C 49

Impact Table – voter numbers reallocations as a result of the recommendations

Electorate	Current enrolment (ECQ numbers at 30/11/07)	Move from/to (2006 enrolment numbers)	New enrolment nos.	Conservative growth projection 2 % per annum - 3 year projected enrolments
Tablelands	25,232	Kuranda from Barron River (+1223 voters) Kuranda Booth from Cook (+ 437 voters)	26,892	28,505
Barron River	29,795	Kuranda to Tablelands (- 1223 voters) Trinity Beach to Cook (- 3591 voters) Smithfield, Edge Hill, Whitfield, North Cairns from Cairns (+ 2819 voters)	27,800	29,468
Cook	25,648	Kuranda Booth to Tablelands (- 437 voters) Trinity Beach from Barron River (+ 3591 voters)	26,802	30,530
Cairns	27,353	Smithfield, Edge Hill, Whitfield, North Cairns to Barron River (- 2819 voters) Edmonton from Mulgrave (+3,159 voters)	27,693	29,355
Mulgrave	29,164	Edmonton to Cairns (- 3159 voters) Tully, Mission Beach & Cardwell from Hinchinbrook (+ 3055 voters)	29,060	30,803
Hinchinbrook	23,041	Tully, Mission Beach & Cardwell to Mulgrave (-3055 voters) Deeragun, Northern Beaches & Kirwan from Thuringowa (+ 7939 voters)	27,925	29,600
Thuringowa	34,764	Deeragun, Northern Beaches & Kirwan to Hinchinbrook (- 7939 voters)	26,825	28,434

PRC/C 49

Final Comment:

These estimates have been arrived at through combining the latest (November) QRC enrolment figures and the 2006 polling booth figures, which it is appreciated add current with older figures. However these are the only polling booth figures available. It is anticipated that if 2007 figures were available, the logic of what is proposed would be strengthened.

It is also noted that in view of the strong population trends in North Queensland overall, within the next normal redistribution cycle (9 years), all the above seats will be at least on and many over quota.

Clearly, in light of the strong and sustained population growth of the Far North, as recognized by the State Statutory Planning Process, there is no good reason to reduce the number of seats in this region.

It is also highly likely that, within the expected life of this Redistribution, that more than one Far Northern seat will EXCEED the upper limits of the margin of tolerance.

Combined with the extremely well-established uniqueness of the Tablelands region, suggestions that seat of Tablelands be abolished are not only badly mistaken, but if followed would prove highly counter-productive.

Therefore I believe suggestions to remove Tablelands would, in fact, only guarantee that Far Northerners would rapidly find themselves in the same situation as the south east does at present – and which was the trigger for this entire process.

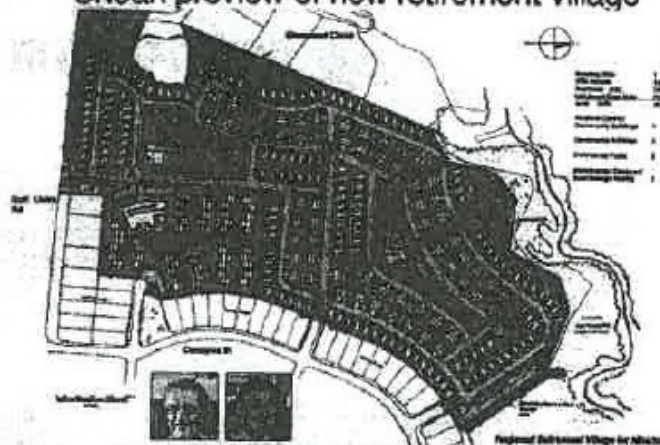
I urge the Redistribution Committee to consider the above arguments in drafting its proposals.

Rosa Lee Long MP

Member for Tablelands

Recent media regarding Tablelands issues and growth plans.

Sneak preview of new retirement village



For more info on the book, visit www.manning.com/9781617291114

Hedley Group breaks new ground

17



Lotus Glen prison expansion plans have been met with strong community approval.

Prison works to create jobs

THE first steps in the expansion of the Lotus Glen prison facility have begun with the State Government last week launching design, costing and program work.

The Government announced \$5m for planning stages of a 300-bed expansion of the maximum security prison in June's State Budget, and last week allocated almost \$10m more for detailed design and costing work.

Premier Anna Bligh said the \$2.65m funding would enable the schematic design and design development for the expansion and engage a building consultant to provide professional costing, buildability and programming advice.

"At this early stage we expect additional cells at Lotus Glen to be in use by late 2010, with the full expansion completed by 2011," Ms Bligh said.

Member for Tablelands Ross Lee Long welcomed the Government's commitment.

"This project was announced in this year's budget and it is welcome news to see the cash beginning to flow," Ms

Lee Long said. "Lotus Glen has proven itself as one of the major employers on the Tableland and this expansion will only increase its ability to offer jobs to Tablelanders."

The main prison currently has the capacity to hold 396 male prisoners while a further 115 can be housed at the low security prison farm.

After the expansion, the main prison will be expanded by 300 secure male cells while the prison farm will be expanded by 24 beds.

Ms Lee Long said the prison had recently appointed 12 new staff drawn from China and the Tableland.

"This expansion will ensure that northern offenders have a better chance of being closer to their families, while more jobs are created for locals," Ms Lee Long said.

"Combined with the new Marcella Police Station and Court House Justice Precinct, in a number of unmet needs and other projects, there is substantial Government funding flowing into the Tablelands electorate."

PRC/C49

Mt Mulligan reborn

Roger Dickson
Adelaide, South Australia

THE revival of the Mt Mulligan and mine near Marsden has the potential to create 100-150 jobs, provide electricity to the local community and put the Marsden rail line back into serious commercial action.

The closure of Mt Mulligan was again because the Mt Mulligan only coal producer of the Port Phillip and the Mt Mulligan's production of Trafford Coal Pty Ltd.

Trafford holds an option to buy an 87 per cent stake in the exploration rights to both Mt Mulligan's coal deposits and associated coal seam methane.

Mt Mulligan chairman Martin Robinson said that "all things being well" production could begin in three years.

"But we understand that there are some things in the way of which is not the case held by the Kooka Shire people," he said.

"However, we have a company policy regarding future title to such an extension between exploration and mining activity and the preservation of natural sites and coal seam methane."

Mr Robinson said that 1 per cent of the deposit, which would also be used as a main and source not be even out, had been extracted in the mines previous working life between 1914 and 1937.

The yield of the remaining 500 million tonnes in the deposit, 144 million was



More than 100 jobs could be created by the revival of the Mt Mulligan coal mine near Marsden.

of grade deemed suitable for export. Mr Robinson said the project also had the potential to generate gas power and electricity to feed into the current grid and that the State Government would benefit through export duties and tax revenue.

Up to 100 jobs will be created at the mine when exploration begins to begin within 12 months and production within three years.

"I would expect in early stages about 30 jobs and building up to 100 over a period of years," Mr Robinson said.

Jobs may also be created in the possible rehabilitation of the Mt Mulligan in the future when the mine is closed. The mine has been in China once used to feed copper from the mine and the mine has been shut down and abandoned. "We would prefer to use it," Mr Robinson said.

mine exploration rights

Malanda drawcard

By David Barrett

THOUSANDS of people are set to visit Malanda town with the major celebrations on the way.

"If you build it they'll come," developer Tim Hickey has told the community.

"It's a great part of the country and Malanda is a great little country town."

The developer said he had put the Malanda town on the map and was now looking for investors to build the town's infrastructure and the town's infrastructure.

The town is set to be built on a 1000 acre site and is expected to be completed by 2000.

"We'll hopefully start on site work after the next season," he said.

"There's no rush to build it, it's a steady process."

Malanda Mayor Ray Syme agreed, saying he welcomed the development.

"We have had anecdotal evidence from people on the site of available land in Malanda for some time," he said.

Mr Syme said demand had increased the need to trigger development by subdividing a 25 ha development close to town.

The 1000 to 2000 acre site

blocks will be auctioned on Saturday, November 17.

Mr Syme said the development would be a town for business and help to improve the town's infrastructure.

Mr Hickey said the southern Malanda development and Malanda was a drawcard for people moving to the area, particularly returnees.

The job has now been developed in Malanda was recently given approval.

"The Malanda's right for people to return to and (Malanda) is growing now and slowly with modern facilities and new shopping centre."



Tim Hickey

Market appeal for help

QRC/C 50

14/12/2007

K Ineullen,
7th LUD STREET,
MAREEBA 4880.

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

Among changes suggested are the movement of Mareeba from the Tablelands Electorate in to the Electorate of Cook. I strongly oppose this suggestion as I do not believe the Mareeba community has any community of interest with Cook.

The Cook electorate is based on Cape York Peninsula which has a very different population make up, it has significantly different community issues and challenges compared to Mareeba Shire.

It would also mean our local MP would be much further away, in Cairns. This would make it much more difficult to get to see our State Member, thus severely reducing our political representation.

Yours sincerely *K. Ineullen.*

QRC/C 51

14/12/2007

1/5 SMALLWOOD ST
MAREEBA
4580

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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Yours sincerely *C. A. Thomas*

QRC/C 52

14/12/2007

UNIT 11
5 SMALLWOOD ST
MAREEBA
4880

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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The Cook electorate is based on Cape York Peninsula which has a very different population make up, it has significantly different community issues and challenges compared to Mareeba Shire.

It would also mean our local MP would be much further away, in Cairns. This would make it much more difficult to get to see our State Member, thus severely reducing our political representation.

Yours sincerely *R. G. Thomas*

QRC/C53

14/12/2007

10 LANNY ST.
MAREEBA
NQ

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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The Cook electorate is based on Cape York Peninsula which has a very different population make up, it has significantly different community issues and challenges compared to Mareeba Shire.

It would also mean our local MP would be much further away, in Cairns. This would make it much more difficult to get to see our State Member, thus severely reducing our political representation.

Yours sincerely *L Henderson*

QRC/C 54

14/12/2007

*D Henderson
10 Lunnay St.
Mareeba 4680
PP*

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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The Cook electorate is based on Cape York Peninsula which has a very different population make up, it has significantly different community issues and challenges compared to Mareeba Shire.

It would also mean our local MP would be much further away, in Cairns. This would make it much more difficult to get to see our State Member, thus severely reducing our political representation.

Yours sincerely

D Henderson

QRC/CSS

17/12/2007

Joseph Hill
PO Box 279
Atherton Q 4883

The Secretary,
Queensland Redistribution Committee,
Locked Bag 3304,
Brisbane Q 4001.

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write in response to the invitation for public submissions regarding the review of electoral boundaries, and particularly the Liberal (QRC/S20) and National (QRC/S22) Parties submissions proposing the absorption of the Tablelands electorate. As a constituent from that seat, I feel strongly the seat should remain. A variety of reasons exist for that strongly held belief, some of which are listed below:

While the voting population may be below the quota sought (29081), at 25232 it is some 13.3+ % , which is only slightly outside the variances desired. (i.e. +/- 10%). This electorate's variance is considerably less than that of other seats, and it would appear not to be equitable to dissipate this seat, to, in effect, reward electorates which are not maintaining standing, numerically.

This seat of Tablelands, represents a reasonably closely settled area, which is not coastal. In the perceived goal of decentralisation, it would appear to be a thoughtful step to allow the area to maintain its standing as an electorate, rather than treat it as an annexure of coastal Queensland.

This area is primarily a farming area, and the people who live here have similar issues - climate, infrastructure, services, industries etc. Being recognised as an electorate, allows those people a consistent, democratic voice. To break up the electorate, and attaching parts of it to other electorates, minimises that voice, and dissipates their voice.

The region is growing strongly, and I believe it would not be long before the situation of a below average voter population is reversed. The situation could even be further addressed by allocating to Tablelands areas near Kuranda which are currently split over two electorates of Cook and Barron River. This area is a common area, and has more in common with the country area of Tablelands, than the urban centre of Cairns, nor the sparsely populated region of Cape York.

Yours Sincerely,

J.A. Hill

From: Mary Graham [mailto:vincent@ledanet.com.au]
Sent: Monday, 17 December 2007 4:39 PM
To: ECQ User
Subject: Queensland State Redistribution

QRC/c 56

Mary C. Graham
55 Avolio Dr
P. O. Box 440
MAREEBA 4880

Dear Sir

RE: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19) which either specifically nominate my electorate of the Tablelands for destruction, or create a situation that is likely.

I believe the seat of Tablelands must remain as is so that the people continue to receive representation that they need by a local member. With the 15% growth in this area due to mining and the sea change population now is not the time to change what has worked well for so long.

Yours Sincerely
Mary C Graham

Mary Graham

17/12/2007

PRC/C 57



Save the Mary River Coordinating Group
Support and Information Centre, Kandanga Railway, Ph: 5488 4800
<http://www.savethemaryriver.com>

Monday, 17th December 2007

The Secretary,
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane 4001

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Submissions for Queensland State Redistribution impacting on the
Gympie Electorate**

We would like to provide comment on the recent public submissions that propose the reallocation of areas from the Mary Valley in the Gympie electorate into the Nanango electorate.

The Save the Mary River Coordinating Group Inc (STMRCG) is a community based group formed two days after the Queensland Government's surprise announcement that it intended to dam the Mary River at Traveston Crossing in the Mary Valley. It has a committee comprising of landholders in the region of the dam footprint; a membership of over 300 members and demonstrated very substantial community support for its legitimacy and its actions. It has members from a wide range of professional backgrounds including landholders, scientists and engineers.

We have concerns regarding this reallocation based on the local topography and our community interests.

We recommend that the Mary Valley should remain part of the Gympie electorate for the following reasons:

Local Topography

Nanango is geographically remote from the Mary Valley. We have a mountain range between us and Nanango. There is no public access via road over the mountains. Therefore we would have to go through the electorate of Gympie to get to Nanango. A

DEC/c 57

round trip would take approximately 4 hours. In light of the proposed dam at Traveston Crossing, should this dam obtain approval there will be further significant changes to the physical features of the Mary Valley.

Community of Interest

The city of Gympie is where most of the business and personal transactions of residents of the Mary Valley are enacted, and generally where we go to conduct local and state government business. Schools, churches, sporting clubs, community services and community service clubs, banks and businesses and health services are all located in Gympie.

Alternative Suggestion

As an alternative suggestion we would strongly support any realignment of the boundary that follows the new Gympie Regional Council boundary. Areas of Cooroy and Pomona and Cooran could be located with the Noosa Electorate as they have a greater community interest with Noosa than they do with the city of Gympie.

I look forward to your consideration of the matters raised in this letter.

Finally, if any part of this submission is unclear, or if you require further information please contact the undersigned.

Yours Sincerely,



Glenda Pickersgill on behalf of the Save the Mary River Coordinating Group Inc
Ph 07 54843150 Mb 0411443589 Email: pickersg@tpg.com.au

PRC/C58

Dr. Darren Delaney

BSi, MBBS, GCertAusMgLow&Pres, GDipAppFinance, MHA, FAICD, FAIM, FFin, FRACGP

Cairns Private Clinics

The Pier, Cairns Marina
Mezzanine Level, Shangri-La Executive Suites
Tel: (07) 4041-8000 Fax: (07) 4051-7382

Provider: 224394BK

Postal Address: PO Box 142
North Cairns QLD 4870

17/12/2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane QLD 4001

I have read with great interest all 24 responses to the Electoral Redistribution Commission and provide comments below for your consideration. Of particular note is the very important commonality of references to community of interest and geographical boundaries. This is all the more important in rural and regional centres that rely on strong local communities and industry both economically and socially. I have taken the liberty to provide feedback on individual submissions.

Submission 2:

Paul Freeman notes that Kuranda residents are proportionally more represented by residents on small acreages. He also notes the Kuranda Range (Macalister Range) as a 'geographic fence' between the Barron River suburb of Smithfield and Kuranda. He further notes the communities of Myola, Kowrowa, Russet Park, Mona Mona, Top of the Range, Speewah, Koah, Grove's Creek, and Clohesy all call Kuranda home. Furthermore the Far North Queensland (FNQ) 2010 study notes strong population growth of the region which also rightly falls under Mareeba Shire's Strategic Plan. It would therefore make sense for the broader changes incorporating the Mareeba shire should extrapolate to Kuranda. I am cognisant of the fact that Cook electorate will no doubt need to be extended further south to accommodate the growth of the South-East Queensland corridor. The natural inclination on this submission would be to incorporate Kuranda into Cook electorate.

Submission 7:

Harold Westaway makes the very sensible distinction that the northern beaches of Cairns have little, or I would go further to say no regional, economic, social, or other interest with the wider Cook electorate. These beach suburbs are intrinsically entwined in the culture of Cairns and are separated significantly from the remainder of Cook by some 45 minute drive. Mr. Westaway continues to point out significant similarities in economy between the Tablelands, Mulgrave, and Hinchinbrook electorates, namely farming, agriculture, and cattle industries. Acknowledging that the South-East Queensland corridor growth profile far outstrips that in Far North Queensland the amalgamation of and contraction of at least two of these

PRC/C 58

electorates makes a lot of sense in view of the broad state redistribution requirement.

Submission 9:

Lance Royce cites the Cairns Plan and the FNQ 2010 study with sensible redistribution criteria applied to the relevant areas within the Cairns basin. Inclusion of the northern beaches into the Barron electorate and integrating Kuranda and surrounds into the broader Cook electorate is achievable and common sense. Should Cook extend to incorporate regions of the Tablelands then it would also be practical to incorporate Kuranda and much of the Mareeba Shire. This recommendation accommodates for the South-East Queensland growth requirements. He rightly acknowledges, like Mr Freeman (Submission 2), that Kuranda is wrongly excommunicated from its electorate. However, unlike Mr Freeman's suggestion of an independent Kuranda electorate I propose that Mr. Royce's suggestion to include Kuranda and surrounds into the widened Cook electorate makes perfect and arguable sense in view of the imperative to establish two new South-East Queensland electorates. I further agree with the messy divide between Mulgrave and Cairns which becomes all the more poignant in rural and regional settings. A clear divide along a natural geographical feature remains not only in line with the scope of the redistribution but allows for certainty and clarity in electors minds.

Submission 11:

Russell Beer acknowledges an inherent truth which must not be overlooked. Cairns and Far North Queensland continues to have the highest rate of growth second to the South-East Queensland corner. Increasing density and the increasing rate of population growth demands that consideration to representation be maintained in this unique part of the state. The cue to the Commission is that Cairns is and remains the central hub for Far North Queensland. This requires consideration to maintain and not contract the current number of electorates in the direct Cairns region. I would hazard to say that Far North Queensland could one day soon find itself the district with the highest growth in population in Queensland. Mr. Beer, consistently highlights, as have previous submissions, that a region of economic interest is extremely important in judging/determining the correct electoral border placements. The political representation, as purported by Mr. Beer, for the Cairns region should continue into the foreseeable future.

Submission 19:

Milton Dick, the State Secretary of the Australian Labor Party (ALP), highlights the concept of 'community of interest' as a crucial determinant in the boundary formation for state electorates and that '... wherever possible matching government service to electoral boundaries...'. Communication and transport considerations highlight a paramount disparity between the urban and rural/regional electorates. There is a distinction in urban areas where roads form arterial lines of segmentation compared to the rural electorates where great divides and physical barriers are formed. Of particular importance is the recognition that substantial changes to Far North Queensland electorates will be required to remain within noted tolerances. It is without doubt that electors within the Tablelands, Cook, Charters Towers, Hinchinbrook, and Mulgrave will require transfer.

Submission 20:

Geoff Greene's submission on the Cairns region highlights an electoral list 8% under quota and Barron River just under quota. I agree with the submission that these electorates could potentially be expanded to incorporate the northern beaches of Cairns. However, I would consider that Port Douglas has little to do with the direct northern beach region and northern suburbs of Cairns which lie in the Barron River electorate. I further agree that Mareeba Shire is best placed in the Cook district with commonality in industry, economic bases, and social infrastructure. I would go further to say that it would be sensible

ORC/C 58

including the Mareeba Shire districts, including Kuranda, into the Cook district for the same reason.

Submission 21:

I congratulate Paul Blackman's contribution extending all the way from Gulf Port, Mississippi, USA and I hope the Commissions deliberations and decisions are not as testing as reapportionment and redistricting in the United States of America. His opening statement of course is the clinch pin that continuity of interest is maintained across all boundaries in line with the criteria set by legislation.

Submission 22:

Michael O'Dwyer highlights that Mareeba Shire be released into Cook and that components of the Douglas Shire be converted to Barron River. I would highlight that the northern beaches of Cairns should be destined to the Barron River electorate as has been highlighted previously. However, it does not make sense to incorporate Douglas into Barron River. This would no doubt increase numbers beyond those limited by quota. I am uncertain about the reference and recommendations pertaining to Anderson Road. However, incorporating some of the southern Barron River suburbs into Cairns legitimately represents economic and social precincts which form part of Cairns.

Submission 24:

I commend Wendy Richardson's submission is both succinct and pragmatic and aptly reflects the situation in Far North Queensland. I support her suggestion of extending Cairns border north, Barron River should extend to include the northern beaches, and the southern boundary of Cairns needs 'cleaning up'. Cook could sensibly extend into the Mareeba Shire/Tableland region as has been reflected elsewhere many times before while maintaining consistency in economic and social variables defining that region.

I commend these suggestions and responses to you for consideration and look forward to reading other submissions in due course. Should any of the above need clarification, please feel free to contact me on Telephone (07) 4041-8000, or E-mail me at darren.delaney@cairnsprivate.com.au.

Yours sincerely,


Dr Darren Delaney

QRC/C 59

14/12/2007

8 Junction St
Mareeba 4480

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

Among changes suggested are the movement of Mareeba from the Tablelands Electorate in to the Electorate of Cook. I strongly oppose this suggestion as I do not believe the Mareeba community has any community of interest with Cook.

The Cook electorate is based on Cape York Peninsula which has a very different population make up, it has significantly different community issues and challenges compared to Mareeba Shire.

It would also mean our local MP would be much further away, in Cairns. This would make it much more difficult to get to see our State Member, thus severely reducing our political representation.

Yours sincerely



M. T. GARLAND

QRC/C 60

14/12/2007

139 BYRNES ST.
MAREEBA QLD
4870

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

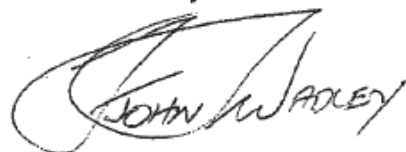
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It would also mean our local MP would be much further away, in Cairns. This would make it much more difficult to get to see our State Member, thus severely reducing our political representation.

Yours sincerely



QRC/C 61

14/12/2007

PO Box 998
MAREEBA QLD 4880

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

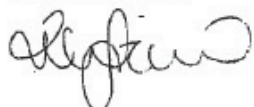
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Yours sincerely



DEC/C62

14/12/2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

*61 Sandy Creek Rd
Dimbulah Qld 4872.*

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution


I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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Yours sincerely


Gai Jackson

QRC/C 63

14/12/2007

P.O. Box 1005.

MAREEBA 4880

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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Yours sincerely

Gracemith

QRC/c 64

14/12/2007

*167 Candace ST
Mareeba
4580*

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution


I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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Yours sincerely



QRC/C65

14/12/2007

Teresa L. Tallarico
P.O. Box 1931
Mareeba, 4880 NQ.

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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Yours sincerely

T. L. Tallarico

QRC / C 66

14/12/2007

Hellie McMenzie
31 Costin Street
MAREEBA

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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Yours sincerely



QRC/C 67

14/12/2007

Sara Holmes
31 page SL
MBA

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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Yours sincerely



QRC/c 68

14/12/2007
CHRISTINE WEST
3 JACOBSEN ST
MAREEBA 4880

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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Yours sincerely

C. M. West

QRC/c 69

14/12/2007

7 McLeod St
Mareeba 4880
Queensland

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

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Yours sincerely *L. Trevillion*.

QRC/c 70

14/12/2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

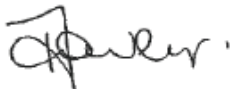
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Yours sincerely



W. FAWLER
P.O. Box 1643
MAREEBA
QLD
4880



Friday, 14th December 2007

The Secretary,
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane 4001

To Whom It May Concern:

**Re: Submissions for Queensland State Redistribution
impacting on the Gympie Electorate**

I would like to provide comment on the recent public submissions that propose the reallocation of areas from the Mary Valley in the Gympie electorate into the Nanango electorate.

It is clear to me as the local member for the Gympie Electorate that these suggestions were made without consideration of the local topography or community of interest.

I respectfully suggest that the Mary Valley should remain part of the Gympie electorate for the following reasons:

Geographical Factors

Nanango is geographically remote from the Mary Valley. We have a mountain range between us and Nanango. There is no public access via road over the mountains. Therefore we would have to go through the electorate of Gympie to get to Nanango. A round trip would take approximately 4 hours.

Any submission that includes the Mary Valley in the Nanango electorate would see a boundary change that extends both east and west of the Great Dividing Range. Nanango itself would be on the south western side and the Mary valley on the north eastern side,



David GIBSON MP
Member for Gympie

Shadow Parliamentary
Secretary to:

Shadow Minister for
Infrastructure,
Shadow Minister for State
Development,
Shadow Minister for
Employment and Industrial
Relations

Member, Public Accounts
Committee

ELECTORATE OFFICE:

Cinema Complex,
82 Monkland Street,
GYMPIE
PO Box 1277
GYMPIE QLD 4570

Phone: (07) 5482 3551
Freecall: 1800 812 919
Fax: (07) 5482 6711

Email:
Gympie@parliament.qld.gov.au

BRISBANE OFFICE:

Parliament House
George St, BRISBANE 4000
Phone: (07) 3406 7190

ORC/C 71

In light of the proposed dam at Traveston Crossing, should this dam obtain approval there will be further significant changes to the physical features of the Mary Valley. Whilst there is uncertainty regarding the future of the Mary Valley it would be prudent to resist making any changes.

Community of Interest

The city of Gympie is where most of the business and personal transactions of residents of the Mary Valley are enacted. and generally where we go to conduct local and state government business. Schools, churches, sporting clubs, community services and community service clubs, banks and businesses and health services are all located in Gympie.

Government Services and Infrastructure

As far as I am aware all Government departments run a region that includes the Mary Valley in the Gympie region. There is no connection between the Mary Valley and Nanango from a Government Services perspective.

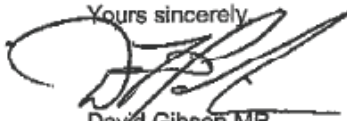
Should the flawed Traveston Crossing Dam go ahead, the Mary Valley would be further divided by this dam. Imbil, Brooloo, and Kandanga residents will be on the western side of the dam and Amamoor residents to the north of the dam, with Traveston and Cooran residents to the east. At the moment there are no new road realignments available for comment, nor any other public services announced.

Alternative Suggestion

As an alternative suggestion I would strongly support any realignment of the boundary that follows the new Gympie Regional Council boundary. Areas of Cooroy and Pomona and Cooran could be located with the Noosa Electorate as they have a greater community interest with Noosa than they do with the city of Gympie.

I look forward to your consideration of the matters raised in this letter.

Yours sincerely


David Gibson MP
Member for Gympie

QRC/C 72

David Beard
1 Francesca Court
Underwood 4119
16th December '07

QRC/C
The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Fax 3229 7391

I am writing in response to the invitation by the Queensland Redistribution Commission for public comments on public suggestions for the Queensland Redistribution of Electoral Districts.

In relation to my submission (24) I would like to reaffirm Logan City Council division 10 should be wholly in the electorate of Springwood. With all of division 10 in Springwood; the suburbs of Cornubia and Carbrook would then move from the Redlands electorate.

	Current enrolment 30/11/2007		Projected enrolment 28/09/2014
Springwood	27,833	(-5.56 %)	28,884
Redlands	32,937	(+11.76 %)	43,081
Quota	29,081		33,970

I surmise that Redlands will lose some areas to the adjoining northern electorates of Capalaba & Cleveland and maybe even Mansfield however due to Springwood being under the quota by more than 5%, Springwood seems to have a strong case to gain a number of areas from Redlands.

I also propose that the acreage allotments on the western side of Mount Cotton Road north of Gramzow road (Logan City Council boundary) also move from Redlands to Springwood.

This would include the area of Sheldon, Mount Cotton (west of Mount Cotton road) and Priestdale. The new boundary would turn south at Tingalpa Creek, then west along Ford road to Priestdale road and join up with the current boundary.

The Pacific Motorway would still be the (current) western boundary of the electorate running from north-west to south-east.

Should the Commission decide more population is required, the electorate could also gain all of Mount Cotton from Redlands not just the areas on the western side of Mount Cotton road. The new boundary would follow the Logan City Council boundary (all of division 10) to German Church / Habermann rd's cnr, north along German Church / Heinemann roads. Follow the dog leg, north along Kingfisher rd and west along Eprapah creek to Mount Cotton road and west to Tingalpa creek.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Yours Sincerely



David Beard

PRC/C 73

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane

Sir, Re Redistribution in North Queensland.

I am not familiar with numbers of voters in each electorate. What I live with every day are:

- Killing main roads and bridges
- Petrol Prices
- Price of general living rising every day
- Education-inadequate and under funded
- Disgraceful Law Representation availability
- Lack of Medical and Dental Facilities (all branches).
- Rural Telephone and Email/Web Connections
- Electricity -- Supply Failures for hours on end and with Surges wreaking havoc on Tvs, Microwaves, and Computers etc.
- Why are our Representatives not listened to and our needs considered?

I believe our electoral seat of TABLELANDS MUST BE LEFT ALONE. We have little or nothing in common with proposed alignment with most other seats and management of the proposed changes will be even less workable and our right of real representation nonexistent.

Yours Sincerely



(Mrs) Janice Ottonne
PO Box 290
MALANDA 4885

Ph: 40 965 150
Email: grohan42@tpg.com.au

December 17, 2007

QRC/C 74

14/12/2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

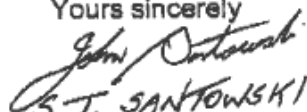
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Among changes suggested are the movement of Mareeba from the Tablelands Electorate in to the Electorate of Cook. I strongly oppose this suggestion as I do not believe the Mareeba community has any community of interest with Cook.

The Cook electorate is based on Cape York Peninsula which has a very different population make up, it has significantly different community issues and challenges compared to Mareeba Shire.

It would also mean our local MP would be much further away, in Cairns. This would make it much more difficult to get to see our State Member, thus severely reducing our political representation.

Yours sincerely


S.J. SANTOWSKI
BOX 879
MAREEBA Q 4880



Tableland CANEGROWERS Ltd

ACN: 114 759 376

Shop 11B, 94 Byrnes St, Mareeba, QLD, 4880

PO Box 1359, Mareeba, QLD, 4880

Ph: (07) 4092 6065 Fax: (07) 4092 5857

E-mail: tbl@canegrowers.com.au

QRC/C 75

17th December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write on behalf of the Board of Tableland CANEGROWERS Ltd to express our strong opposition to recommendations in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (QLD Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19) which will result in the loss of the Tablelands electorate.

The Tablelands (Atherton, Eacham, Herberton and Mareeba) Local Government has been forced to amalgamate because, after claimed extensive consideration and consultation by an independent body, the area was identified as being a unique, cohesive community with many similarities. To then consider dividing this cohesive community amongst electorates as vastly different as Charter Towers (dry, western, grazing and mining) and Mulgrave (wet tropics, coastal, sugarcane monoculture and tourism) is extremely inconsistent.

Any redistribution involving the elimination of a State seat should take place in an area where similarity of community and interests and strong transport and communication links, will mean little or no real change in representation. Clearly eliminating the Tablelands seat would mean that electors would be realigned into seats with vastly different community interests and climatic & physical features and the majority would be much greater distances from their "Local" representative.

A suggested redistribution in Far North Queensland could be for the Tablelands to absorb those portions of Mareeba Shire not currently within its boundaries. Any impact on the seat of Cook could be addressed by an adjustment of its boundaries with Barron River and as a flow-on, an adjustment of the boundary between Barron River and Cairns, Cairns and Mulgrave, Mulgrave and Hinchinbrook and Hinchinbrook and Thuringowa.

This would make it possible to maintain the six-seat representation Far North Queensland holds in Parliament, with all seats maintaining the core of their existing area and the continuity of community, social and economic interests.

Yours sincerely

BM Francis

Bronwyn Francis
Manager Tableland CANEGROWERS Ltd

From: David & Janine Bohanna [mailto:bohanna@aapt.net.au]
Sent: Monday, 17 December 2007 11:43 AM
To: 'ecu@ecu.qld.gov.au'
Subject: QRC/C

QRC/C 76

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to proposed redistribution of Electoral Districts.

My first point is why there is a limit of 89 seats?? Does this mean that if South East Queensland continues to grow as projected that the outcome in the future might be one huge Electoral District perhaps starting at Townsville going north?

I of course understand why the so called major parties would see the loss the District of "Tablelands" as an advantage to them as it not held by any of them at present and if you wish to see this as a conspiracy idea please go ahead as the major parties are in any case a conspiracy against democracy.

I find it abhorrent that we are dictated to by a bunch of statisticians who perhaps live in South East Queensland and therefore cannot see further than their noses/computers.

David Bohanna
7 Maple St
Millaa Millaa
Qld 4886
041-7739-374

17/12/2007

From: c&mdow [mailto:dimplecroft1@bigpond.com]
Sent: Sunday, 16 December 2007 9:58 PM
To: ECQ User
Subject: Electoral Boundaries, QRC/S19, QRC/S20, QRC/S 22

QRC/C 77

Colin & Maureen Dow,
RL 11029, Kennedy Highway,
Evelyn Central,
Qld. 4888

Sir,

I wish to express my strong opposition to the suggestions made by the Australian Labor Party[QRC/S19], The Liberal Party of Australia, Queensland Division,[QRC/S20, and The National Party[QRC/S22, which nominate the Tablelands Electorate for destruction, either specifically or indirectly.

I sincerely believe that The Tablelands Electorate should remain intact as is, and not be dissolved, then absorbed into other disparate electorates, with little in common with Tablelands interests.

The Tablelands region is growing rapidly, and it will be a mistake to try to attain proper representation from a distant member with no knowledge of the region, as well as the travel involved to seek personal attention from the member. The State Government Shire amalgamations, whilst unpopular, create a large, diverse region, and any split of the electorate will create divisions within the regional council area.

These proposals, if they eventuate, will result in the effective disenfranchisement of rural voters in favour of those living in urban areas, thus decreasing the representation of rural and regional, mining and agricultural viewpoints on major and local issues;- Education, Health, Police and Justice, Infrastructure etc.

The Tablelands, and other Electorates must remain intact to ensure an equitable voice in State Parliament for regional Queenslanders.

Yours Faithfully

17/12/2007

QRC/C 78

Colin Charles AND Robyn McDowall,
2 Jamieson Street,
MAREEBA 4880

15 December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Page 1 of 4

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution – Electorate of Tablelands

We write to express our strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

ELECTORATE OF TABLELANDS MUST BE RETAINED:

We believe the seat of Tablelands must generally remain as is with any

shortfall in voter numbers being transferred in from "The Cook Electorate" from the Mareeba Kuranda district, which now forms a part of the Mareeba Shire.

The State Government has recently decided to join the Local Government Areas of Mareeba, Atherton, Herberton and Eacham to form a new 'Tablelands Regional Council' with an area the size of the State of Tasmania and it is earnestly believed that the new Local Government should comprise the seat of Tablelands. This area has an annual growth of greater than 3% per annum and must form ONE ELECTORATE.

The State Government gave consideration to the following very important and critical matters when it decided to amalgamate the four tableland local governments and the Commission is also bound to give consideration to these very same matters/criteria:

- **Community of interest;**

Our Comment: All who reside in the area of the new Tablelands Regional Shire have a very real and tangible community of interest. We shop mainly in Tableland towns; We use the same hospitals and educational facilities; We compete in Tableland sporting competitions; We attend similar recreational facilities and events; We all live in the highlands; We are bound together in a common Tourism Body; We have a similar climate; Our area is easily defined and is separated from the coast by the coastal dividing range and The World Heritage Area which extends over the coastal ranges; The Wet Tropics clearly separates coastal development from that on the Tablelands; Our industries are mainly primary production and mining whereas the coast is mainly based on tourism.

- **Ways of communication and travel;**

Our Comment: A glance at a map showing the area of the new Tablelands Shire clearly indicates the road system that serves this area. All districts are interlinked by a comprehensive road system that focuses on the major regional towns, farming, mining and recreational features of the district. The closely settled areas from Julatten/Molloy to Kuranda, through Mareeba, Walkamin and Atherton to Malanda, Millaa Millaa, Herberton, Ravenshoe and Mt Garnett are a closely knit community, separated by short distances and **MUST NOT BE DIVIDED** for electoral purposes as we all work, play and live together. **We have and MUST retain our very close link with our Member.**

- **The physical features of each proposed electoral district;**

Our Comment: We all live on the Tablelands which are clearly separated from coastal communities by the coastal ranges and the World Heritage Area that prohibits all private development in the ranges. Long distances clearly separate our area from settled areas in adjoining electorates.

- **The boundaries of existing districts; and**

Our Comment: The problem of voter numbers for the Tablelands Electorate can be easily solved by increasing the present Tablelands boundaries to include all of the present Mareeba Shire within the new enlarged Tablelands Electorate.

- **Projected population growth or decline in particular areas;**

Our Comment: The increased area of the present Tablelands Electorate will increase the number of voters which when combined with the current annual rate of population growth should clearly meet the number quota for an electorate.

Another very important matter that must be considered and surely **must be given a real and significant weighting** is the need for the Member to serve the Electorate with a minimum of inconvenience and cost as well as providing for the needs of all who live in the Electorate to easily and at minimum cost contact and meet their Member.

Queensland's Rapid growth in population needs to be understood and its effect on the number of voters in each electorate (RE minimum and maximum number of voters in each electorate) needs to be administered in an equitable, sensitive and fair manner. A simple solution is to keep the same number of seats, increase the voter numbers for each and to strip Regional Queensland of electorates which will be added to the heavily settled south-east corner of the State. Regional Queensland will effectively be disenfranchised proportionately.

That is, a larger number of seats will represent the 'Cities' in the south-east and regional electorates will be manipulated to "fix the numbers" with little real weight being given to the very important and critical criteria listed above.

The rapid growth of population in the south-east is also happening in Far North Queensland, which in fact is the second fastest growing area in the state. It would be morally wrong to get rid of the Tablelands Electorate to solve a problem in the south-east.

REC/c 78

Page 4 of 4

THE SUBMISSIONS BY Labor, Liberal and National Parties must have surely been made "tongue in cheek" as any fair minded organization must surely recognize that the existing Tableland Electorate with its area slightly enlarged as suggested above would easily and completely meet the above mentioned criteria.

It should be noted that the Tablelands Electorate has been represented by a hard working independent Member for a number of terms. The Submissions by the Parties could be viewed as "sour grapes" and merely as a means of getting rid of this proud independent Electorate of Tablelands that will not be dictated to by party politics/policies that have decimated our industries, businesses and work opportunities for many years.

We earnestly and respectfully ask that the Tablelands Electorate be kept and enlarged to ensure that its voter numbers comply with the Act.

Yours sincerely,

.....
Colin Charles McDowall

.....
Robyn McDowall

B.Com, AAUQ, FCPA, FIMM, Dip. of Local Gov. Management

QRC/c 79

15.12.2007

Thomas & Mary Wyatt
446 L. Barrine Rd
Malanda 4885

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane 4001

Dear Sir,

RE: Queensland State Redistribution QRC/C

We object strongly to the proposed redistribution of the seat of Tablelands by the ALP QRC/S19, the Nationals QRC/S22, and the Liberals QRC/S20.

Already we have had the amalgamation of the Shires of Atherton, Herberton, Mareeba & Eacham with their existing diversities, forced upon us. To include such distant & diverse areas such as Charters Towers is extreme.

The Tablelands climate is vastly different from that of western areas, and the coast, making for great differences in industries & lifestyle. A representative would find it impossible to deal with every aspect.

A voter would have to travel at great expense and many hours, to have access to the local Member, added to the lack of public transport.

This electorate has rapid population growth & should contain areas of similarity & eliminate those where there would be least change in representation.

Yours sincerely,
Thomas Wyatt and Mary Wyatt

From: Malanda Chamber [mailto:malchamb@qld.chariot.net.au]
Sent: Saturday, 15 December 2007 3:13 PM
To: ECQ User
Subject: redistribution of Tablelands Electorate

DEC/C 80

Malanda Chamber of Commerce Inc



ABN: 21775187518

PO Box 560

Malanda Qld 4885

www.malanda.info

President: Mike Taylor

Vice Pres: Eddy Dennis

Secretary: Sharon Dennis

Treasurer: Carmel Panther

Email malchamb@qld.chariot.net.au

Dear Secretary,
Queensland Redistribution Commission

The Malanda Chamber of Commerce is concerned about the proposed abolishment of the Tablelands Electorate and strongly supports the submission by Eacham Shire Council. In so doing it would be fair to say that the Chamber is concerned about the effects this will have on communities across the Atherton Tablelands.

The Atherton Tablelands is a unique part of North Queensland and is currently facing rapid growth. The combining of the four Tableland Shires into one which will be known as the Tablelands Regional Council is obvious recognition of the cultural and economic ties common between the Atherton Tableland communities. Other Tableland Chambers of Commerce and Community Business Organizations shared their concerns at a recent combined Chambers of Commerce meeting convened by the Tablelands Futures Corporation.

The Malanda Chamber of Commerce is in agreement with the Eacham Shire Council in regard to the point in its submission that with population growth in the north and the predictions that much of Australia's agricultural industry will have to follow as a result of the effects of climate change, surely add weight to the Tablelands Electorate remaining as it currently is.

The Malanda Chamber of Commerce objects to the proposal to break up the Tablelands Electorate and believes it will be to the detriment of the Atherton Tablelands as it moves

17/12/2007

into this growth period. Further, the Chamber believes that the Tablelands Electorate is and will remain viable well into the future as a result of such growth.

Eacham Shire Council's submission outlines a valid point in suggesting that if the villages of Kuranda (Barron River) and Koah (Cook) and surrounding district were to be included in the Tablelands Electorate, then it would fall within the 10% variance allowed for in determining the number of electors in each electorate.

Respectfully, the Malanda Chamber of Commerce asks that your full and serious consideration be given to this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Sharon Dennis - Secretary
Malanda Chamber of Commerce
P O Box 560
Malanda Q 4885
Ph 07 4096 5884

17/12/2007

From: Christine Doan's Office [mailto:cddressage@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Christine Doan Office
Sent: Friday, 14 December 2007 3:22 PM
To: ECQ User
Cc: Tablelands@parliament.qld.gov.au
Subject: Objection to Tablelands boundary change

ORC/C 81

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to strongly object to the possibility, or even the suggestion of, changing North Queensland parliamentary boundaries to remove our Tablelands seat.

We have already suffered a major blow to this regions communities with the State government Forced council amalgamations, one of the most undemocratic moves ever made in this country.

This sudden 'law' has already caused major disruptions to both community and works, with the public being unable to access their usual local council staff members due to their increased workload, caused by both having to form amalgamation committees and from enormous development application increases, as people are worried that after these forced amalgamations they will not be heard by a local voice. And rightly so.

To attempt to take away our local parliament representation, in much the same lines as above, is totally ludicrous, and should certainly have some major local investigation and consultation before this is discussed again.

It seems that time and again, decisions for regional areas are made in cities 2000km and more away from the affected region, and from which the people making those decisions have absolutely no idea on local needs and conditions. It seems hard not to discriminate between city and country; yet the gap continues to widen as more and more of the city population become out of touch with reality.

Please contact me at the address below for any further discussion.

Regards
JO Doecke

for

Christine Doan

Email: info@cddressage.com

Website: www.cddressage.com

Office Phone/Fax: **07 4091 4593**

P.O. Box 700 Atherton Queensland 4883 Australia

17/12/2007

QRC/C 82

Lannette Hampton,
17 Mt. Perseverance Road,
Julatten, Qld. 4871.
Telephone: (07) 40941179
Email: lhamp@conxx.com

13th December, 2007.

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Forwarded via email to: ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au.

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19). These submissions either specifically nominate the electorate of Tablelands for elimination by being absorbed into surrounding electorates, or create a situation where that is likely.

I believe the seat of Tablelands must remain. Only a local representative can best serve the population, for many reasons some of which are outlined below:-

- **Justification:** The reason claimed for the recent forced amalgamation of the Tablelands (Atherton, Eacham, Herberton and Mareeba councils) after extensive consideration and consultation by an independent body, was that the area was identified as being a unique, cohesive community with many similarities.
- To then consider breaking it up and dividing this cohesive community among electorates as different and varied as Charters Towers (dry, western) and Mulgrave (super-wet, coastal) is extremely inconsistent.
- **Growth:** Far North Queensland is the second fastest growing area of the state after the South East. Reducing the number of seats in an area which is undergoing such significant population growth would be foolish and not in the interests of the population in general.
- **There are vast climatic differences to other areas outside the Tablelands.** Geographically it is higher and inland of the Great Dividing Range. This has created much greater activities in sport, recreation, tourism, agriculture, industry than exists in the much wetter areas of the coast. The expanding and diverse agriculture alone and the industry supporting it is unique to this area and extremely valuable to the nation.
- **Infrastructure.** The area's infrastructure needs and requirements are vastly different to other areas for the reasons stated above and for the topography.
- **Reducing elector's access to their MP.** No Tablelander, or very few, would be closer in travelling time to their MP if they were to be divided among surrounding electorates. Under some suggestions they would instead suddenly be up to 465 kilometres from their "local" representative (Malanda to Charters Towers as proposed by the Nationals).
- **Community needs.** The assistance given to all not-for-profit sporting and other community organizations is invaluable. It gives immediate access and information on grants and references to the clubs to submit with their grant applications. It provides the clubs with invaluable assistance with photocopying of programmes etc.
- **Redistribution.** Any redistribution to eliminate a State seat should take place in an area where similarity of community and interests, strong transport and communication and economic links mean little or no real change in representative.

PRC/C 82

Any redistribution in Far North Queensland would be better served to include into the Tablelands those portions of the Mareeba Shire not currently within its boundaries. Any impact on the seat of Cook could be addressed by an adjustment of its boundary with Barron River and as a flow-on, an adjustment of the boundary between Barron River and Cairns, Cairns and Mulgrave, Mulgrave and Hinschinbrook, and Hinchinbrook and Thuringowa.

This would maintain the six-seat representation Far North Queensland holds in Parliament, with all seats maintaining the core of their existing area and continuity of community, social, economic and other interests.

Yours sincerely

Lannette Hampton.

LANNETTE HAMPTON.

QRC/c 83

PO Box 3
MALANDA QLD 4885

EACHAM SHIRE COUNCIL



Ph: (07) 4096 5311
Fax: (07) 4096 5086

ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHALL
BE ADDRESSED TO THE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

If further information is required
regarding the contents of this letter
please contact:

Matthew Hyde

07 4096 7640

WHEN REPLYING PLEASE QUOTE:

File Ref: 13/ELE/04

Admin Ref: ms

Your Ref:

14 December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane 4001
email: qrc@qrc.qld.gov.au Attention: QRC/C

Dear Secretary,

Re: **Electorate of Tablelands**

At its ordinary meeting held on 13 December 2007, Council resolved to provide a submission with regard to the proposal to abolish the Electorate of Tablelands as follows.

Two recent submissions to you suggest that the Electorate of Tablelands be abolished. The general argument is that its abolition would assist in establishing another electorate in the SE of the State while providing a pool of electors to top up other northern electorates. Eacham Shire Council strongly objects to these proposals and respectfully suggests that you consider the following factors in making your determination.

1. By far the greatest part of the Tablelands Electorate lies on a unique natural feature, the Atherton Tablelands. This Tableland is the only extensive area of subtropical to cool highland within the Australian tropics. It is bounded on the east by an escarpment and rainforests of the Wet Tropics; to the north east by the mountains and forests of the Daintree; to the north and west by the dry savannahs of the Cape and the Gulf, and the south by the rugged ranges which are the headwaters of the Tully and Herbert Rivers.

2. One of the objectives set for the Local Government Reform Commission in its review of local government boundaries in Queensland was to recommend structural changes to ensure strong, effective and financially viable Councils capable of better managing economic, environmental and social planning consistent with regional communities of interest.

Obviously, the strength of cultural and economic ties among Tablelands communities was recognized by the State when it chose to adopt the recommendations of the Commission to combine the four Tableland Shires into one which will be known as the Tablelands Regional Council.

Given this, it is difficult to reconcile this outcome with the proposal to break up the Tablelands electorate.

3. At present there are 5 electoral offices located on the coast- Cairns, Barron River, Cook, Mulgrave and Hinchinbrook- the first 4 of which are located in or around Cairns. A more satisfactory and fairer outcome for residents of the Tablelands in terms of accessibility of their local member, would be to increase the size of the Tablelands electorate so that it falls within quota and reduce the number of electorates on the coast to 4. As indicated this would achieve a fairer arrangement.

4. The only significant part of the new Regional Council not included in the Tablelands Electorate is the villages of Kuranda (Barron River) and Koah (Cook) and surrounding district. If the electors (about 1500) from this area were added to Tablelands then this Electorate would fall within the 10% variance allowed for in determining the number of electors in each electorate.

PRC/C 8.3

5. This Council is confident that if electors in the Kuranda area are added, growth trends (unfortunately not yet apparent in some recently published statistical data) will allow Tablelands to continue as a viable electorate for long into the future. The general movement north by "tree changers" and the predictions that much of Australia's agriculture would have to move north to avoid the effects of climate change, add substance to this conviction.

Further notes on the relevant submissions put to you and some suggestions for achieving equitable outcomes, are attached

Yours faithfully,



MATTHEW HYDE
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Notes on Submission by Liberal Party of Queensland (Queensland Division)

The basis of this submission is that three additional seats need to be created in the south east and that to do this, three under quota seats will have to be absorbed into surrounding areas if the total in the House is to stay at 89 (as required by the Electoral Act 1992). The far northern electorate of Tablelands is one of three seats it suggests should go.

General comment

The rationale of closing under quota electorates and redistributing electors to neighbouring electorates does not make a lot of sense in the context of maximizing the degree to which electorates reflect common social and economic purpose. Indeed it would seem more effective to ignore whether the electorate selected to be closed was "under quota" or not and consider the physical size of electorates. The reasoning here is that the trauma to electors of splitting up a small electorate would in most, if not all instances, be much less than that which would occur for a larger electorate. Those which were in a small electorate are more likely to remain within a sphere of common social and economic interest, and still have ready access to their representative.

Specific comments

- a. "——— Mareeba should be moved into Cook, as it has more in common with that community"

We dispute this statement and would argue that the Mareeba community is predominantly supported by intensive agriculture and merges seamlessly with communities of the southern Atherton Tablelands.

- b. The suggestion that Mulgrave and Hinchinbrook move their boundaries westwards to take over parts of the Tablelands is also rejected on the grounds that the former are essentially coastal electorates with few common social and economic ties with the Tablelands. They are also separated from the Tablelands by a major escarpment and World Heritage rainforest.

PRC/C 83

Notes on submission by The National Party of Australia, Queensland

General comment

This submission closely resembles that for the Liberal Party. There is however a significant difference in that it suggests the abolition of two rather than three existing electorates. One of those proposed for abolition is again Tablelands.

Specific comments

- a. *"-----Mareeba Shire be incorporated into proposed Cook."*

See comment above that Mareeba Shire has more in common with southern Atherton Tablelands than it does with Cook.

- b. *"Charters Towers -----acquires additional enrolments and growth from former Tablelands territory by the inclusion of Herberton, Ravenshoe, Mt Garnet and Malanda"*

Should this recommendation be adopted, a large minority (about 8000 electors) would be left isolated in the far north east of Charters Towers electorate. While a relatively coherent group in themselves, they would have virtually no social or economic links with the rest of the electorate. For example Malanda is 465 km from the city of Charters Towers.

- c. *"The proposed Mulgrave ----- to include territory around Atherton and the localities of East Barron, Kari, Tinaroo, Danbulla and part of Barrine" (sic).*

The suggestion that Mulgrave move its boundaries westwards to take over parts of the Tablelands is also rejected on the grounds that Mulgrave is essentially a coastal electorate with few common social and economic ties with Tablelands. It is also separated from the Tablelands by a major escarpment and World Heritage rainforest. A similar comment could be made to a non specific suggestion that Hinckinbrook might also take up some Tablelands electors.

Notes on submission by the Australian Labor Party

General comment

While recognising the need for two additional electorates in the south east of the State, this submission does not argue for any specific electorate to be abolished.

Specific comment

"4.2.2 We suggest that electors will have to be transferred between Tablelands, Cook, Charters Towers, and Hinchinbrook (rural electorates) and to a lesser extent to Mulgrave."

With all these electorates below quota it is difficult to see how simple transfers among them will solve the problem. Other electorates such as Barron River and Cairns may have to become involved.

Alternative solutions

1. The solution which would have minimal impact and leave Tablelands as a geographic, economic and social entity would be to remove Kuranda and surrounding district from Barron River and Cook and add it to Tablelands. This would leave all three electorates under quota (Barron River fractionally) but within acceptable limits.

2. Alternatively, if an electorate must be sacrificed in the far north to make way for another in the south east, it is suggested that the electorate of Barron River be eliminated. Electors might be redistributed to bring quotas up to acceptable levels in Tablelands (see 1. above) and Cook with the remainder cascading through electorates to the south east. While the boundaries of some electorates would have to be shifted to the north, there is in general a continuity of social and economic interest throughout this coastal region and the impact on electors would be very limited.

PRC/C 84

Phone:
0409 721 258
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4091 3958
Email:
colleen@tablelandprinting.com

SHAME
Shires of
Herberton, Atherton, Mareeba, Eacham
Democracy in Action
Against Forced Shire Amalgamation

To: The Commissioner
Electoral Commission Queensland

From: Colleen McIvor
Spokesperson
SHAME

Dated: 12th December 2007

Re: Proposed Tablelands Electorate Boundary Changes



Dear Sir,

I am making the following comments on the submissions regarding proposed redistribution of Electoral boundaries in Queensland. I speak on behalf of SHAME Action Group representing the people of the 4 Shires of Herberton, Atherton, Mareeba and Eacham in the State Electorate of Tablelands.

I would hope that these comments are taken seriously and actually read by you and not handed to University students to give you a summary. This was the case with submissions against amalgamation and we can not help but ask the question. Are we going to be taken seriously or is this just another joke of pretending we, the people of this Tableland Electorate will be listened to?

Sir, the Far North and all rural areas in Queensland cannot afford to lose representation at a State level. The South East corner of Queensland is over represented now to the detriment of far north and rural areas. Those of us not living in the South East corner of Queensland have a difficult time trying to have representation and governments to listen to us as things stand. We cannot afford to have our Electorate taken away from us.

We have looked at the submissions of all the major parties and are very disturbed that they all want to delete the Tableland Electorate for their own gain in the South East where they have larger voting numbers.

We have just had the State Government telling us that there are common interests etc on the Tableland as part of their forced amalgamation push. If we have these similarities why fragment this proposed Mega Region

Labor: QRS/S19.

1.3

Ongoing growth in Queensland also refers to ongoing growth on the Tablelands. The 2025 Regional Plan underestimates the growth of the Tableland Region as Malanda has already exceeded the growth forecast. This growth must be taken into account when looking at the numbers required for each electorate.

3.6

Local community requirements and local pride and community spirit and the sense of belonging must also be taken into account.

The Tableland electorate as it stands has:

- Two hospitals (Mareeba & Atherton)
- Number of Private Doctors and Specialists
- Post Offices in every town
- Any amount of shopping facilities ie. Coles, Woolworths, IGA, Big W, McDonalds, Kentucky Fried, Solicitors, Hardware stores, Haberdashery and Manchester so we are self contained to a large degree. We have no reason to travel to Cairns.

3.7.1 Transport

- We have no public transport.
- In the Cairns Post on 10th December 2007 it stated that surveys have shown the Kuranda and Gillies ranges are the most dangerous roads in Queensland.
- To have to negotiate either of these two roads unless absolutely necessary is to take your life into the highest level of risk.
- To have to negotiate these roads to try and see a State MP is just not on.
- Tableland Electorate has great representation and the Local member ensures that all of her electorate sees her on a regular basis with no risk taking.

3.8 Physical features;

- All of the Tableland Electorate is on the Western Side of the Coastal Range and is quite a few thousand feet above sea level
- The Tableland has nothing in common with the coastal strip or with Cook or Charters Towers.

4.1.6

- The Far North and Rural areas of Queensland need their voice at a State level. It is unreasonable to expect these areas to have to travel vast distances to try to see their State MP.
- If because of growth the South East corner needs more electorates then so be it but not at the expense of the North or rural areas.
- Electorates or Shires outside the South East corner do without enough so please do not compound this matter by taking our State voice away.

4.2.2

- The Tableland Electorate needs to expand and take in all of Kuranda (which is in the Mareeba shire). Kuranda is split into Cook, Barron River & Tableland at this point of time

Sirs, we in the electorate of Tablelands ask that you give serious consideration into keeping the Tableland Electorate intact.

Labor can not have their cake and eat it too. They cannot force amalgamation of these four Shires by stating that they all have so much in common interest, lifestyle, natural boundaries etc. then turn around and fragment this Electorate saying we have a lot in common with the electorates around us.

This electorate of the Tableland could not be more fragmented if it were a glass bottle and dropped on the cement if these submissions are seriously considered.

Nationals QRC/S20

2.1

- Mareeba Shire has nothing in common with Cook Electorate. If the elected member resides in Cooktown, Mareeba people will never see them. The Cook Electorate is a huge enough area to cover with bad roads, where there are great distances involved this must be taken into consideration, not just the numbers.
- The South East may have larger numbers but they have very small distances to travel and their roads are sealed and in good condition unlike the distances in the North and the road conditions here.

DEC/C 84

- To place Herberton, Ravenshoe, Mt Garnet and Malanda into Charters Towers defies logic.
- There is no common ground. Lush rainforest, Dairying, crop growing, fruit and vegetable have nothing in common with the dry arid conditions, mining and grazing of Charters Towers. They do not even have the same problems.
- If the elected member lived in Charters Towers it would take at least a four hour drive from the Tableland to see them. That is if we don't have a big wet and the road through Greenvale is closed due to flooding. The road is narrow rough and a large number of trucks and semi trailers using this road make it very dangerous.

2.2

- To take in the lamb range into Cairns and Mulgrave to take East Barron, Kairi, Tinaroo and Atherton once again defies logic.
- The coastal strip is totally different to the lush Rainforest etc. of the Tableland. Apparently natural boundaries mean nothing to the three major political parties of Queensland.

To meet the requirements of the ECQ we propose that the Tablelands electorate take in all of Kuranda including those parts now in Barron River and Cook. This plus the growth of the Tablelands as forecast by the FNQ Regional Plan 2025 would give us the numbers required.

If the Commission are determined to take away electorates from the North and rural areas to give the South East more representation then we suggest you delete Barron River and place it with Mulgrave. This at least would give a coastal strip with a lot in common, with no distance to travel, whereas the coast and the lush rain forest of the Tableland have nothing in common.

Sir, I put it to you that the State Government are trying to take our Shires off us and now they want our State electorate. Maybe we should all move to the South East corner and not produce any meat, grain, vegetables, fruit, sugarcane or dairy products. Then the push would be to get us back on the land. One thing to come out of that move would be that we would have ample representation in all levels of Government!!

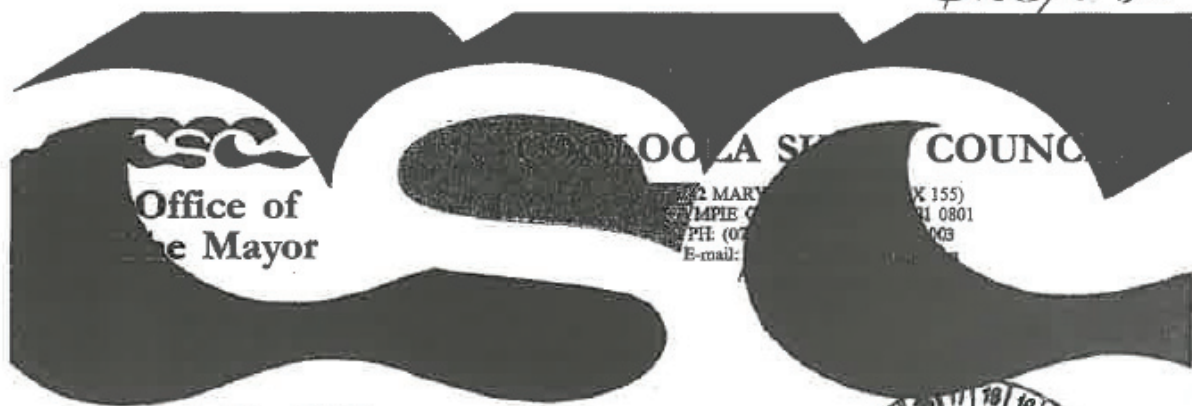
We would also like to suggest that some members of the ECQ travel this large State, speak to the people, see what these areas are really like and look at the differences and distances. I put it to you that sitting in Brisbane and looking at a map and saying this is what we will do, is not a very democratic or business like way of doing this. Things are different in the real world away from the South East than what one can see on a map. Come and see for yourselves what we see every day.

Yours Sincerely,



Colleen McIvor
Spokesperson for SHAME.
Railway Lane
Atherton Qld 4883

QRC/C 85



Our Ref: AC004050
Your Ref: QRC/C

14 December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Level 6
Forestry House
160 Mary Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000



Dear Sir/Madam

RE: COMMENTS ON SUGGESTIONS FOR THE REDISTRIBUTION OF THE
STATE ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

I thank the Commission for this opportunity to put forward these comments on suggestions regarding the proposed redistribution.

Geographically, this council believes that the entire area of Cooloolo Shire Council should be included in the one State Electorate.

Council understands suggestions have been put forward which would exclude the Mary Valley from the current Gympie electorate. This is most unacceptable. The strong community of interest which ties the Mary Valley to the region's hub, Gympie City, is unable to be disputed.

The Mary River system represents a common thread binding the smaller communities and areas together as one electorate, with Gympie City as the centre. Road networks, travel times and the wall of state forests to the west logically mean the Mary Valley is linked closely with Gympie and Cooloolo services.

Mary Valley students attending primary schools and the P1-10 Mary Valley College look to Gympie to continue their education at any one of the highly valued secondary schools:

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Gympie State High School, James Nash State High School, St Patrick's College, Cooloola Christian College or Victory College.

Given any analysis it is extremely clear that the Mary Valley is tied socially, economically and educationally to the north to Gympie City.

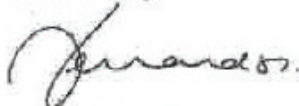
The loss of any Cooloola Shire township or rural area to an electorate not tied to the regional hub of Gympie, would destroy a community, the very fabric of a community that has bonded over numerous decades.

I also question how a State Representative would be able to properly and effectively service the people in the Mary Valley when there is not a direct route especially by road, thereby requiring hundreds of kilometres of travel.

The current Local Government Reform process has recognised this fact and not only kept the Cooloola Shire boundaries in tact, but added Division 3 of Tiaro Shire Council and the entire local government area of Kilkivan Shire Council reflecting a significantly expanded community of interest.

The new Gympie Regional Council boundaries require your close consideration in any redistribution proposal.

Yours faithfully,



Cr Mick Venardos OAM
Mayor

