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

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Facsimile: (07) 3229 7391
Website: www.ecq.qld.gov.au
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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggestion No.</th>
<th>Name/Organisation</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mr Vic &amp; Mrs Val Rogers</td>
<td>11 Prenzlau Crescent WINDAROO Q 4207</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mr Kevin J Conway</td>
<td>100 Rode Road WAVELL HEIGHTS Q 4012</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dr Jonathan Lelliott</td>
<td>5/12 Magdala Street ASCOT Q 4007</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mr Anker Laursen</td>
<td>96 Herses Road EAGLEBY Q 4207</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ms Wendy J Richardson</td>
<td>21 East Park Ridge Drive BRINSMEAD Q 4870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ms Dorothy Pratt MP Member for Nanango</td>
<td>Shop 2/34 A Alford Street KINGAROY Q 4610</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mr Derek L Weier</td>
<td>764 Talgai West Road VIA ALLORA Q 4362</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Mr Lachlan and Ms Sacha Moncrieff</td>
<td>306 Kelso Drive KELSO Q 4815</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ms Judith Ellis</td>
<td>Email Address Provided</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ms Margaret Sainsbury</td>
<td>6 Grau Street AHERTON Q 4883</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Mr Sean and Ms Lynette Austin</td>
<td>50 Kunde Street CORNUBIA Q 4130</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Ms Lesley Tunks</td>
<td>34 Martin Avenue MAREEBA Q 4880</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mr W Kaye Yelds and Mrs W Yelds</td>
<td>PO Box 13 RAVENSHOE Q 4888</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Mr W P Womersley and Mrs M G Womersley</td>
<td>PO Box 556 RAVENSHOE Q 4888</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Mr Michael Taylor Hon Secretary Sunshine Coast Ratepayers and Residents Association</td>
<td>PO Box 1324 MOOLOOLABA Q 4557</td>
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<td>Mr David Baker</td>
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<td>Mrs L N Richards</td>
<td>3 Durston Street MAREEBA  Q  4880</td>
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<td>Mr T E Akers</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Mrs H E Akers</td>
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<td>Ms Coral Ernst</td>
<td>6 Smerdon Road GYMPIE SOUTH  Q  4570</td>
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<td>Mr L J Pointing</td>
<td>33 Old Maryborough Road GYMPIE  Q  4570</td>
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<td>Ms N Plozza</td>
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<td>Mrs Bronwyn Kirkegard</td>
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<td>Mr Ross and Mrs Jan Loughton</td>
<td>32 Mabel Street ATHERTON  Q  4883</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Ms Kellie M Potter</td>
<td>19 Fifth Avenue KEDRON  Q  4031</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Ms Henrietta McAlister</td>
<td>PO Box 118 MAPLETON  Q  4560</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Mrs M E Pisko</td>
<td>PO Box 285 ATHERTON  Q  4883</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Mr E G McCarthy</td>
<td>PO Box 839 ATHERTON  Q  4883</td>
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<td>Mr William Ingledew</td>
<td>PO Box 384 ATHERTON  Q  4883</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Mr V M, Ms J C and Mr G D Falvo</td>
<td>PO Box 1737 MAREEBA  Q  4880</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Ms Georgina Watling</td>
<td>26 Azalea Street ATHERTON  Q  4883</td>
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### LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

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<td>Mr Michael O'Dwyer</td>
<td>PO Box 5940&lt;br&gt;WEST END Q 4101</td>
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<td>State Director</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>Mr Craig Riedel</td>
<td>PO Box 837&lt;br&gt;MALANDA Q 4885</td>
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<td>34</td>
<td>Ms Zoe Brooks</td>
<td>1D / 30 Kurradilla Street&lt;br&gt;RAVENSHOE Q 4888</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>Mr Robin Potter</td>
<td>64 Anderson Road&lt;br&gt;MALANDA Q 4885</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Mr Gary Rozynski</td>
<td>1 Rozynski Road&lt;br&gt;IMBIL Q 4570</td>
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<td>Mr Les Buglar</td>
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<td>Mr Roland and Mrs Enid Willis</td>
<td>Cnr Russell and Fuller Roads&lt;br&gt;MS 1575&lt;br&gt;MALANDA Q 4885</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>Mr David and Mrs Lesley Stephen</td>
<td>PO Box 5801&lt;br&gt;Gold Coast Mail Centre&lt;br&gt;BUNDALL Q 9726</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>Mrs Margaret H Buckley</td>
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<td>Mr Neil Reynolds</td>
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<td>Mr B Gill</td>
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<td>43</td>
<td>Mr Shane Knuth MP Member for Charters Towers</td>
<td>Stock Exchange Arcade&lt;br&gt;2/76 Mossman Street&lt;br&gt;CHARTERS TOWERS Q 4820</td>
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<td>44</td>
<td>Mrs Grace O'Brien</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>Mr Mario Leonforte</td>
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<td>Mr Eric Gosper</td>
<td>158 Byrnes Street MAREEBA Q 4880</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>Mr Matthew Rowe</td>
<td>PO Box 8167 WOOLLOONGABBA Q 4102</td>
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<td>49</td>
<td>Ms Rosa Lee Long</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>Ms K Trevillion</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>Ms E Thomas</td>
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<td>Ms D Henderson</td>
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<td>55</td>
<td>Mr J A Hill</td>
<td>PO Box 279 ATHERTON Q 4883</td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>Ms Mary Graham</td>
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<td>Mrs G E Pinkersgill</td>
<td>Support and Information Centre Kandanga Railway KANDANGA Q 4570</td>
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<td>(on behalf of Save the Mary River Coordinating Group)</td>
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<td>58</td>
<td>Dr Darren Delaney</td>
<td>PO Box 142 NORTH CAIRNS Q 4870</td>
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<td>Mr M T Garland</td>
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<td>Ms Gai Jackson</td>
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<td>Ms Kellie McKenzie</td>
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<td>Ms S Holmes</td>
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<td>Ms H Fowler</td>
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<td>71</td>
<td>Mr David Gibson MP</td>
<td>PO Box 1277 GYMPIE Q 4570</td>
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<td>Member for Gympie</td>
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<td>72</td>
<td>Mr David Beard</td>
<td>1 Francesca Court UNDERWOOD Q 4119</td>
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<td>73</td>
<td>Mrs Janice Ottone</td>
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<td>74</td>
<td>Mr John Santowski</td>
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<td>Ms Bronwyn Francis Manager Tableland Canegrowers Ltd</td>
<td>PO Box 1359 MAREEBA Q 4880</td>
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<td>76</td>
<td>Mr David &amp; Ms Janine Bohanna</td>
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<td>Mr Colin &amp; Ms Maureen Dow</td>
<td>RL 11029 Kennedy Highway EVELYN CENTRAL Q 4888</td>
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<td>Mr Colin &amp; Mrs Robyn McDowall</td>
<td>2 Jamieson Street MAREEBA Q 4880</td>
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<td>Mr Thomas &amp; Mrs Mary Wyatt</td>
<td>446 Lake Barrine Road MALANDA Q 4885</td>
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<td>80</td>
<td>Ms Sharon Dennis Secretary Malanda Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>PO Box 560 MALANDA Q 4885</td>
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<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>Ms Jo Doecke (on behalf of Christine Doan)</td>
<td>PO Box 700 ATHERTON Q 4883</td>
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<td>82</td>
<td>Ms Lannette Hampton</td>
<td>17 Mt Perseverance Road JULATTEN Q 4871</td>
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<td>83</td>
<td>Mr Matthew Hyde Acting Chief Executive Officer Eacham Shire Council</td>
<td>PO Box 3 MALANDA Q 4885</td>
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<td>84</td>
<td>Ms Colleen McIvor Spokesperson for SHAME</td>
<td>Railway Lane ATHERTON Q 4883</td>
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<td>85</td>
<td>Councillor Mick Venardos OAM Mayor Cooloola Shire Council</td>
<td>PO Box 155 GYMPIE Q 4570</td>
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<td>86</td>
<td>Hon Craig Wallace MP Member for Thuringowa</td>
<td>PO Box 1375 THURINGOWA Q 4817</td>
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<td>Mrs Vicki Ormond</td>
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<td>AMAMOOR  Q  4570</td>
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<td>Mr Mark Ormond</td>
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<td>Mr Richard Channell</td>
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<td>Ms Jennifer R Mengel (on behalf of The</td>
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<td>Mengel Family)</td>
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<td>Ms Sally Mackay</td>
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<td>Mr Bob Richardson</td>
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<td>Mr Alan Lambert</td>
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<td>100</td>
<td>Ms Desley Gyetvay</td>
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<td>101</td>
<td>Ms Sue Nicholls Business Coordinator Carinya Home for the Aged</td>
<td>PO Box 522 ATHERTON Q 4883</td>
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<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>Mr Christopher Pang Way</td>
<td>14 Herberton Road ATHERTON Q 4883</td>
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<td>103</td>
<td>Ms Beryl Klye</td>
<td>PO Box 326 MALANDA Q 4885</td>
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<td>104</td>
<td>Mr E E Aburn Co-Ordinator Local Government Residents Association Nanango Branch</td>
<td>No Address Provided</td>
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<td>105</td>
<td>Ms Kay Bagley Secretary Herberton Memorial Bowls club Inc</td>
<td>PO Box 81 HERBERTON Q 4887</td>
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<td>106</td>
<td>Mr Bill Leet Chairman Tepon Equestrian Club Inc</td>
<td>PO Box 475 HERBERTON Q 4887</td>
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<td>Mr Peter Hodge</td>
<td>39 Main Street ATHERTON Q 4883</td>
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<td>Mr C Adams</td>
<td>38 Cambrian Avenue ATHERTON Q 4883</td>
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<td>Mr Gordon Malcolm Chief Executive Officer Herberton Shire Council</td>
<td>40 Grace Street HERBERTON Q 4887</td>
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<td>Mr Alan Kirkegard</td>
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<td>Ms Helga Hill</td>
<td>“Benyule” Happy Jack Creek Road COOROY Q 4563</td>
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<td>112</td>
<td>Ms Jan Watt</td>
<td>PO Box 107 IMBIL Q 4570</td>
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<td>113</td>
<td>Mr Arthur Boothby</td>
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<td>114</td>
<td>Ms Carla Durnan</td>
<td>5 Excelsior Road GYMPIE Q 4570</td>
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<td>115</td>
<td>Mr David R Sims</td>
<td>Linham Road KANDANGA Q 4570</td>
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<td>116</td>
<td>Mr Steve &amp; Ms Kathleen Dennis</td>
<td>26 Callemonda Road BROOLOO Q 4570</td>
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<td>117</td>
<td>Ms Amanda Watt</td>
<td>PO Box 107 IMBIL Q 4570</td>
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<td>118</td>
<td>Ms Robyn Sutton</td>
<td>4 Elizabeth Street IMBIL Q 4570</td>
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<td>Ms Carol Bloomfield</td>
<td>45 Diamondfield Road AMAMOOR Q 4570</td>
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<td>Ms Kathryn Hawke</td>
<td>1 Chippindall Road KANDANGA Q 4570</td>
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<td>Ms Tracy Kurtz</td>
<td>62 Marroo Road BROOLOO Q 4570</td>
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<td>119</td>
<td>Mr David Jefferson</td>
<td>59 Main Street KANDANGA Q 4570</td>
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<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>Ms Adrienne Dan Secretary / Treasurer</td>
<td>PO Box 16 KANDANGA Q 4570</td>
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<td>Friends of Kandanga</td>
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<tr>
<td>121</td>
<td>Mr Eric Cleghorn and Ms Avril Brown</td>
<td>PO Box 71 HERBERTON Q 4887</td>
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<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td>Ms Sian Beatty</td>
<td>6 Kenilworth Road Tuchekoi VIA GYMPIE Q 4570</td>
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<tr>
<td>123</td>
<td>Mr Kevin Ingersole</td>
<td>205 Hasthorpe Road KANDANGA Q 4570</td>
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<td>124</td>
<td>Mr Geoffrey D Houston</td>
<td>63 Driers Road COORAN Q 4569</td>
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<td>125</td>
<td>Ms L A Alba and Mr M Alba</td>
<td>PO Box 1008 MAREEBA Q 4880</td>
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<tr>
<td>126</td>
<td>Councillor Evan McGrath OAM Deputy Mayor Mareeba Shire Council</td>
<td>PO Box 154 MAREEBA Q 4880</td>
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<td>127</td>
<td>Ms Mary Sims</td>
<td>Linham Road KANDANGA Q 4570</td>
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<td>128</td>
<td>Mr Bill Teunissen</td>
<td>73 Riversdale Road KANDANGA Q 4570</td>
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<td>129</td>
<td>Ms Jill Killen and Mr Tom Killen</td>
<td>MS 47 Hiliary Road Carters Ridge VIA COOROY Q 4563</td>
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<td>130</td>
<td>A R Turnbull Treasurer Malanda Bowls Club Inc</td>
<td>PO Box 40 MALANDA Q 4885</td>
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<td>131</td>
<td>Ms Janine Gledhill</td>
<td>197 Little Bella Creek Road VIA IMBIL Q 4570</td>
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<td>132</td>
<td>Mr Scott Sutton Chairman Gympie South Branch The National Party of Australia - Queensland</td>
<td>18 Ilga Road GYMPIE Q 4570</td>
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<td>133</td>
<td>Ms Judy Jenner Secretary Ravenshoe Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>PO Box 277 RAVENSHOE Q 4888</td>
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<td>134</td>
<td>Mr &amp; Mrs G H McIntyre</td>
<td>PO Box 150 YUNGABURRA Q 4884</td>
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<td>135</td>
<td>Mr Don Gibbs</td>
<td>197 Little Bella Creek Road VIA IMBIL Q 4570</td>
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<td>136</td>
<td>Mrs L Perry &amp; Mr P Dance</td>
<td>12 Toomey Street TRAVESTON Q 4570</td>
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# LIST OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

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<td>Mr Keith Watt</td>
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<td>IMBIL  Q  4570</td>
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<td>138</td>
<td>Mr Kent Hutton</td>
<td>416 Scrubby Creek Road</td>
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<td>Mr Warren Smith</td>
<td>1269 Noosa Road</td>
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<td>MOTHAR MOUNTAIN  Q  4570</td>
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<td>140</td>
<td>Ms Carol Pilcher</td>
<td>52 Monarch Road</td>
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<td>141</td>
<td>Mr Dave Ross</td>
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<td>142</td>
<td>Ms Shaaron Linwood</td>
<td>PO Box 213</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>HERBERTON  Q  4887</td>
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<td>143</td>
<td>Mrs Shirley Prout (Snr)</td>
<td>20 George Street</td>
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<td>MALANDA  Q  4885</td>
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<td>144</td>
<td>Mr George Thomas</td>
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<td>President</td>
<td>MARSDEN  Q  4132</td>
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<td>145</td>
<td>Councillor Tony Mooney</td>
<td>Townsville City Council</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mayor of Townsville</td>
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<td>TOWNSVILLE  Q  4810</td>
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<td>146</td>
<td>A &amp; R Brooks</td>
<td>1A Empress Avenue</td>
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<td>HERBERTON  Q  4883</td>
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<td>147</td>
<td>Mr Darren Edward</td>
<td>179 Hansen Road</td>
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<td>DAGUN  Q  4570</td>
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<td>148</td>
<td>Mr Victor Hill</td>
<td>192 Happy Jack Creek Road</td>
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<td>VIA COOROY  Q  4563</td>
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<td>Ms Margaret Teunissen</td>
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Dear Sir,

I would like to express my gratitude for your kind letter of recommendation dated 2nd March, 2001. However, I regret to inform you that I will not be able to attend your Spring Conference in Puerto Rico. As you may know, I am currently engaged in a number of other commitments, including my work as a freelance writer. I am confident that my experience and expertise will be valuable to the conference.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
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 know 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 28,081.

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
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

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 Kenech 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 Heres Road
Eagleby QLD 4207
0400 044 985 / 3287 5817
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 form 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
Ph 4034 2248
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 Calilfide 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
To the Secretary, Queensland Redistricting Commission, dated 30-12-64.

To whom this may concern, My Experience of Agglomeration over 40 years with Shire of Allora - Warwick, Becoming Agglomerated in 1944-5. The above sound today, the real reason why not of Allora in financial trouble - Allora was well off money in the Bend, and Big Falls. Warwick approached Allora to join with them. Without any appeal to the Rate Payers of the Allora Shire. Allora Shire became Agglomerated with the Warwick Shire. Taking into Deal with The Warwick Shire Council. Allora took in a nice size sum of money. Some plant workers. No Representative on the Council. Community Allora only had 2 reps to sit on City Council. The 2 Reps came from The Allora Town Area. The Rural Area of the Shire had no Representative and has no Reps. 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 work done themselves. I get no take up to 3 years to get it done. With the pushing of that particular Rate Payer either the job is done or money and work to be done when finished instead of waiting.
As for Rate. Rates have jumped 400% in my area. The amalgamation found 927 acres of land. My Rates were $1100 per acre. When father died, my rates became unknown. I have a debt of $315,000.00. Three hundred seventy five thousand dollars. This was a big selloff of land, cattle, plants, all for asking price. I still own 72 acres of land. My rates now would be $5000 per year. For nothing has changed in the area since amalgamation of farms. I feel the only reason Warwick wanted to amalgamate because it had more than Warwick was broke at the time, still is, currently. Warwick debt is $1600,000.00 and still growing. If I don't sell in Starko's as well, the debt will even be bigger. Warren is trying to do more work with the workers which is impossible. To cover costs, Warren is now charging people to drive up to the farm. 3 new cottages in Rates in next 2 years. This is the first time since my parent settled here in 1945 that I can not pay my Rates as during the drought I've been forced to sell off 125 acres of land in 1940. From drought I having to rebuild from the ground up. Initially, I just can't afford to pay $100 a month. All junior is $410.00 a month not out of that. I have a $100 a month for.
payment of Replacement Freeze up with 
$26,000 a month, my milk producers paid until I am nothing I come I have been fighting against Allegator with Clayton Shire I don't want to see (they get caught up in High Rate) (Her Council Rep) The Shire of Allegator is losing the battle of war. The Shire Allegator Shire Pool is no longer it is [unreadable] Shire Pool gone to war. Allegator Chire Pool plus the Shire Pool Heads of Grain in a clock plus the own rice behind the Heads how much longer Before the name of Allegator Town is gone something else on the system put Allegator back to a Shire ofown Council & Division So this Shire can take after its Shire people at less cost to Allegator.

Derek L. Water 164 Yalgora West Rd via Allegator 4362

P.S. If Allegator gets into the future way Shire town I need my word A lot of Rural Towns and Pennised Rural Shire have to live with in the town - a City Shire that have to do that I Dean Pope The Pennised Shire have to Pennised (City Towns) who don't rely on Rural Income The Rural Shire dig when the Primary Produce can't spend money Business can't pay there Credit plus Price if they cant keep going the close there door
From: Sacha Moncrieff [mailto:paragon9@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: Thursday, 6 December 2007 5:45 AM
To: ECQ User
Subject: Fw: Thuringowa - Redistribution Committee

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 26 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

Lochlan and Sacha Moncrieff
306 Kelso Drive, KELSO 4815

5/12/2007
From: Judith Ellis [tel43959@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: Thursday, 6 December 2007 12:41 PM
To: ECQ User
Subject: Regarding the redistribution

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of the Tablelands electorate. 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
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 degree 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 Forsyth... (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' farce.

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 eventually.

On another note, the Tableland community has been enraged 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 prohibitive (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 Borgi'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
Kinsmen of these 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 Saunders.
December 3, 2007

QRC/C
The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 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 farther 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
Old Distribution Commission

Dear Sir,

I hope you do not take the advice of the Major Political Parties to carve up the seat of Tabelands.

They have enough seats in the north east corner of the state. It is a known fact that they are the forgotten seats.

Cooto electorate is large and if Maraba was to merge with that, we would have no representation in that area.

Maraba and the Attenborough-Tabelands are growing rapidly.

I lived in Brisbane from the 1960's to the 1980's and few eastern boundaries change, and not always for the better.

I am sure if they do decide need a seat, look for the seat. They could lose one of the five seats from around Cairns, but not our Tabelands.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Banks
As 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 Parliament.

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

As long-time residents of the Tablelands, we object in the strongest terms to any interference or changes to the Tableland seat.

(email address)

Owen Kyle Smith
To The Electrol 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,

[Signature]

[Address]

Box 556
Raven St. 4888
6-12-07.
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Electors</th>
<th>Over Preferred Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gympie</td>
<td>32647</td>
<td>3556 (12.23%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noosa</td>
<td>34853</td>
<td>5772 (19.85%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicklin</td>
<td>31529</td>
<td>2448 (8.42%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glasshouse</td>
<td>32576</td>
<td>3495 (12.45%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caloundra</td>
<td>32702</td>
<td>3824 (12.45%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kawana</td>
<td>36650</td>
<td>7569 (26.03%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pumicestone</td>
<td>32182</td>
<td>3101 (10.66%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maroochydore</td>
<td>31911</td>
<td>2830 (9.73%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 i.e: 29081. This will facilitate future growth over the long term.

PO Box 1324
Mooloolaba, Qld 4557
Ph-Fax 07 5444 4341
suncoastra@optusnet.com.au
Those outer Sunshine Coast Electorates, i.e. 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 / Dicky 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.
Suggesting that Minyama, Budina 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.
Queensland Redistributon Commission,

I am writing to express my concern over the major parties' recommendations to divide my state electoral seat of Tablelands. It fell to me that this is a very grave step that none of the major parties have been able to take this seat from the sitting member.

I am a Greens/Labor voter and my views can often clash diametrically with those of the sitting member, I am certainly not defending Rose Lee Long. I am defending what appears to me to be another step in the process of dragging 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 divided under such circumstances 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 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 get 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.
L.N. RICHARDS
3 DURSTON ST.,
MAREEBA N.Q. 4880

6.12.07

QR c/o
Queensland Distribution Commission
Locked Mail Bag 3704,
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 booming. 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 1456 subdivision lots and there are a further 629 in process 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 (ms)
Mr T E Rhee

Sandra Lane St
Nundah
06-11-07

Dear Sir,

May I say that I am alarmed that our electorate is being deserted by people in the north.

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

Yours faithfully

J Allen

[Stamp: Electoral Commissioner Queensland, 11 Dec 2007]
Dear Sir,

I am thoroughly disgusted at those who ruined the peace in Brisbane, thinking no consideration for those of us here in the north. If I have been a rational Liberal supporter all my life as they have lost credibility so far as I'm concerned. Just because they don't have a representative in the area they agree to wipe us out.

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

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

[Stamp: Electoral Commission Queensland]

[Date: 11 Dec 2007]
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.
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 Travesion 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
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.
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
Old Distictions Commision
Ledak Rep 3304
Brisbane 4001

Dear Sir,

I am hoping you do not take
the desire of the major Political parties to cover
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

Yours sincerely,

P. Coggs
Bronwyn Kirkegaard  
228 Little Bella Creek Rd  
Bella Creek 4579  
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, Cooroe, Amamoor, Kandanga, Imbil and Brookoo 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, Brookoo, and Kandanga residents would be on the western side of the dam and Amamoor residents to the north of the dam, with Traveston and Cooroe residents to the east. At the moment there are no new road alignments available for comment, nor any other public services announced. It is hazardous 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 fascinating 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 residents to cross through the Nanango electorate to get to Gympie.
4. Existing electoral boundaries.
There is a naturally occurring 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 snatching Cooroy and Pomona to the South, and taking on Kilwiven and Tiaro to the north would maintain our population quota.

Common sense needs to prevail in this redistribution.
The residents of the Mary Valley have been through enough trauma 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, 
Bronwyn Kirkegaard
Ross Loughton and Jan Loughton  
32 Mebel Street  
Atherton Qld 4883

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

[Signatures]

Ross Loughton  
Jan Loughton
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 Chermside.

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
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.
Representatively yours,

Henrietta McAllister
PO Box 118
Mapleton 4560

Ph: 5445 7987

10 December 2007
Dear Sir,

In re: Redistribution of Boundaries.

I definitely reject the redistribution of the Tablelands electorate into Milperra. At present the area is rapidly growing and 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 Market.

There are a large number of people employed in these industries, both in the field & as support. We need our elected member here, before the action is, not down the coast.

Please let us retain the Tablelands electorate as it is.

Yours Sincerely,

[Signature]

P.S. M.E. Pisko
Dear Sir,

Just who are these "faceless bureaucrats," that sit behind closed doors and come up with stupid ideas.

It was thought that after Garrett, the dictators, forced through the proclamation of our 43 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 blazed down the political track over the years, and guess what? It hasn't 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 have they not noticed. So why, why, the change or is this a case of some charade?

If they really, really listened to the electorate maybe, just maybe, the faceless ones would be told to draw a line somewhere north of Mackay. 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 decisions ask the electorate to decide.

I oppose any change

Yours sincerely

E.G. McCarthy
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
P. O. Box 1737,
MAREEBA, Q. 4880
Phone/Fax: 07 40 935256
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,

[Signatures]

(V.M. Falso)

(J.C. Falso)

(G.D. Falso)
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

Georgina Waling
26 Azalea Street
ATHERTON 4863

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 (CH 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 Waling
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
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**2.2.2 The Nationals comment**  
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### 2.3 Clayfield electorate

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**2.3.3 The Nationals comment**  
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### 2.4 Lockyer electorate

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**2.4.4 The Nationals comment**  
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| QRC/S | 18 | R Stevens MP |

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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.

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 139 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/S 11 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 T Rickse 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 Hawke 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.

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/S 17 M Taylor Re numerical limits and creation of new Buderim.

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 ReCurrumbin, Burleigh, Robina, Mudgeeraba, Surfers Paradise, Southport, Gaven (renamed Nerang) Coomera (new electorate) Albert (renamed Beenleigh)
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
CRC/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. Existing 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 population 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 St George. An example of the resulting dysfunctional 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):

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 45 (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

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 Coochin 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 are ambivalent towards the renaming Gevan to Holensvale 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, Murumba and Kellangur coupled with under projected enrolments in Stafford, Kurwongbah, Mt Cotton, 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 of 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 Coolum, Kawana and Pumicestone; the high proposed actual enrolment for proposed Pumicestone and Kawana and the proposed low projected enrolment for proposed Noosa. Non-conforming bandwith 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 in completeness 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, Mundubbera, Thuringowa, Bundaberg, Whitsunday): The Nationals is of the view that Cairns and Barron Rivers should be included in the transfer of electorates 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 Powell, 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, Kepel, Rockhampton, Fitzroy, Gladstone, Bundaberg, Harvey 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 (Balanced) [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 Newtowm 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, Jordan Springs, Millmerran, Pittsworth, Toowoomba, Clifton and Cania Gorge 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, Nindinha, Maroochydore, Kawana, Glasshouse, Caloundra, Pumicestone): The Nationals generally support 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, Currimbim): The Nationals is of the view that in view of Currimbim, Surfers Paradise, Broadwater high actual enrolments, adjustments may be required to these electorates which will require few 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 Weegurn, Stuart, Conconka and the Levarock 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, then 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 area 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.
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.

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Attachment

SD0000139.pdf
Kelso to join Ayr on map

By LIZ MCNAMARA

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 lodged a controversial submission with the Queensland Redistribution Commission calling for the sweeping changes, which has left local residents bemused.

"Burdekin MP Craig Wallace has vowed to fight to the bitter end to stop the plan. He is preparing to write directly to all Kelso residents seeking them to support his opposition to the plan.

The submission made 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 couldn't be represented by someone in Ayr."

"Instead of travelling 15 minutes to my Thuringowa electorate office, Kelso people will have to jump in the car and drive around 100km to Ayr."

"I think that people from the National Party in Brisbane, down south, are going to have to put their hand up and say to the Thuringowa electorate, do you really want to send a Member of Parliament to Kelso?"

Mr Wallace has written to the Redistribution Commission pointing out his objection and has also asked Local Government Commission chairman Tony Ninane to support his opposition to the changes. Councillors must be lodged in the submission by December 17.

Tville Express 20/11/07
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

Craig Riedel
Dear Sir/Madam,

I can only 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, is that surely we should have every assistance to maintain our viability as a "cash cow"?

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 Aroona Hospital, the lack of overtime for the police here, whose teenage crime is as high 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,

[Signature]
5 December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
BRISBANE 4001

REPLY: ORCC

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 seats were of the same ilk and had so much in common, they therefore should be lumped together.

Robin Potter
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.O.
C.P.O. Box 1393
BRISBANE, QLD
4001.

DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES IN THE STATE OF QUEENSLAND.

Dear Sir,

Should such changes occur with a result in the loss of the Tarugland seat, our regional representation would be greatly diminished if the seat were to be fragmented into neighbouring districts.

The present Delegate is a very popular person whom is fully dedicated to the region, and is held in high regard 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 deal with their Delegate, there could...
Very well the 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 $X$ dollar factor lost thru extra travelling costs, much perhaps some accommodation, time away from employment, loss of business opportunities during that period. Again the Federal seat of Kennedy certainly reflects the difficulties, thru its sheer size, for any delegate to ensure 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 huge 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 ofmaf 二胎p.

It is unquestionable, regional/rural areas contribute enormously, directly and indirectly, to the wellbeing 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?
WHEN AT THE SAME INSTANCE, THEIR CITY COUSINS POP AROUND THE CORNER FOR DAILY NEEDS, FOR THE SAKE OF A FEW HUNDRED 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 WHO ARE SEEKING CHANGES TOO DO NOT, IN REPART, 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 RIDE THIS STATE OF OUR NATION BY FOOLISHLY PERFORMING AN ACT OF "POLLY" THEY REDISTRIBUTION OF THE THURSDAY'S SEAT. IF SUCH BE THE CASE, ONE WOULD HAVE TO SERIOUSLY QUESTION HOW LOW HAVE THE ETHICAL STANDARDS SOME OF OUR ELECTED 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 DISOLVE THE THURSDAY'S SEAT. ONE SINCERELY TRUST THAT COMMON SENSE SHALL PREVAIL IN THE END.

I WISH YOURSELF, FAMILY AND ALL STAFF MANY HAPPY, MERRY HOLIDAYS AND A WONDERFULLY HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Yours Respectfully
To the Commissioner,
Electoral Commission of Qld
G70 Nov 1875
Malanda Q. 1885

[Handwritten text]

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am proposing a redistribution of the electoral boundaries in Queensland.

Considerations have already been made by the Nationals, Liberals & Labor Parties that the seat of Tablelands be one of those to be altered or new created by surrounding suburbs. To make way for new seats in the South-East Coast of the State.

This does not take into account the rapid growth & density of 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 place Tablelanders in forced re-votes distances to visit their Member of Parliament & result in many people not having personal contact with their Member.

Recently the State Government made the decision to amalgamate the three parts 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 Council residents to register into one of three different seats. Members of parliament will lose 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 places in the north west area as the population is increasing, rather than making larger and more unwieldy country places?

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

Country people here, many of whom are still recovering from Cyclone Larry, have many difficulties to overcome, 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,

[Signatures]

[Signatures]

[Signatures]
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,

[Signature]

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
As a member, I am very much opposed to dividing the Tableland electorate into other divisions. First of all, I like a personal contact with my members to talk face to face which would be impossible if Tablelands was split between both chambers.

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

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

[Name] Margot K. Buckley
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 locate off the Tablelands and in an area like Charters Towers, with whom we have absolutely nothing in common.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Neil Reynolds
Dip Min, ADM
I am responding to Public Submission 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, Garon, Amamoor,
Yandaring, Cundinup and Brolga to an enlarged
Mamango electorate.

Anyone who looked at a map of Queensland
would see that the Mary Valley is no place
near Mamango. We will be forgotten. We are
just too far away from Mamango to even think
it might matter. Life in the Mary Valley is
"Hell" at the moment. You would think the
death rate is more than enough to contend
with, without this proposal.
I just wish we could have a little bit of common sense around here. So far Christmas looks very bleak indeed.

Yours sincerely,

Bill
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 above-mentioned 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. Morayfield, 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
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, Beyando, Dalrymple, Etharidge, 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
11/12/2007

Your name and Address

Grace O'Brien
460 Springs Rd
Maleny 4552

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
Your name and Address

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

[Signature]

11/12/2007
11/12/2007

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 (Clid Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S18) 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
IAN ARKIN
From: eric.gosper [mailto:abouchofcountry@bigpond.com]
Sent: Saturday, 15 December 2007 9:21 AM
To: ECQ User
Subject: Queensland State Redistribution

Eric Gosper  
156 Bymea 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/520), the Liberal Party of Australia (QLD Division) (QRC/579) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/519) 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
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

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 Murarrie) 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 border 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 Bealeigh 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 those 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 GCCG area.

These changes are likely to mean that some, if not all, of the seats on the Gold
Coast would lose 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 “Beenieleigh”.

We note that the ALP submission states that the Toowomba North and Toowomba 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.
Rosa Lee Long MP  
Member for Tablelands  
Electorate Office  
210 Byrne St, Mareeba, Far North Queensland 4880

14/12/2007

The Commissioner  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane QLD 4001

Dear Sir,


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

Those 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 3.8 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.
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 Lao 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 EOC website date as at 17 November 2007 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Electorate</th>
<th>Enrolled voters</th>
<th>% deviation from actual quota</th>
<th>% outside margin of tolerance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tablelands</td>
<td>25,232</td>
<td>-14.38</td>
<td>-3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barron River</td>
<td>29,795</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook</td>
<td>25,648</td>
<td>-12.97</td>
<td>-2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cairns</td>
<td>27,353</td>
<td>-7.19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulgrave</td>
<td>29,184</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinchinbrook</td>
<td>23,041</td>
<td>-21.82</td>
<td>-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thuringowa</td>
<td>34,784</td>
<td>17.96</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Calculation: quota 29,081 less 10% margin of tolerance = 26,173.  
This makes Tablelands 941 (3.2%) 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 Tin 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 enrolment figure of 35,233 people for the electorate. By comparison, the 2001 Census showed a population of 35,842 of which 71.5% (26,040) 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 utilizing 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 Marenda 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 descendents 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 stock 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 Barakat, I 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 Directory 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 Tablelands 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 encapsulated across the Tableland’s diverse geography, including:

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

1 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 3,600 and 4,600 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 growth1.

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 liveable 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 $31.9 million in 2005 to $38.3 million in 2006 (+72%) to 51.2 million in 2007 (+55%). In the same period 1,849 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 182 dwelling and unit approvals worth some $82 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 of 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, 66.7 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.

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1 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 600 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 (Myela) 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 $2.5 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 306 secure and 115 open inmates and the Centre functions at or near full capacity. A further 300 cells would lift the total to 311. 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 (13.9%).

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 7.9% 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 14.3%) 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 network makes 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 1897 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 brumen 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.
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 ¼ 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 - Dimbulah 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 600,000 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 blumen.

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 FNO.

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 those 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 180 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.
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 homogeneous 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 homogeneous 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, Vaigrow, Hinchinbrook and Thuringowa while recognizing that most are already within the allowable variation from the new quota. Taking in to 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 Kowanyarr Beach and Trinity Beach.
- Barron River: extend southern boundary to include a greater portion of Cairns.
- Cairns: extend boundary southwards to include Edmonton.
• 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 5 years. Recent figures for the past 12 months show an increase in enrolments of approximately 500. 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 407 voters from Cook electorate (the Kuranda Booth) and 1223 from Barron River Electorate (Kuranda Booth) adding an additional approximately 1630 electors to Tablelands. (These figures are per EQC 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 Kurara Beach and Trinity Beach adding 5591 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 (5591 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 (2215 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 (3853 voters) all of which centres have a community of interest with Innisfail. This would force the northern boundary of Hinchinbrook south.
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 Doonagun, Northern Beaches and Kirwan from Thuringowa would add 7,939 votes to Hinchinbrook.

Thuringowa: by transposing these northern enrolments into Hinchinbrook, Thuringowa would be restored to the required quota level.
**Impact Table – voter numbers reallocations as a result of the recommendations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Electorate</th>
<th>Current enrolment (ECQ numbers at 30/11/07)</th>
<th>Move from/to (2005 enrolment numbers)</th>
<th>New enrolment nos.</th>
<th>Conservative growth projection 2% per annum - 3 year projected enrolments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tablelands</td>
<td>26,232</td>
<td>Kuranda from Barron River (+1223 voters) Kuranda Booth from Cook (+437 voters)</td>
<td>26,282</td>
<td>26,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kuranda to Tablelands (+1223 voters)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trinity Beach to Cook (+3591 voters)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Smithfield, Edge Hill, Whitfield, North Cairns from Cairns (-2819 voters)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook</td>
<td>25,548</td>
<td>Kuranda Booth to Tablelands (-457 voters) Trinity Beach from Barron River (+3591 voters)</td>
<td>28,002</td>
<td>30,530</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cairns</td>
<td>27,353</td>
<td>Smithfield, Edge Hill, Whitfield, North Cairns to Barron River (+2819 voters) Edmonton from Mulgrave (+3,158 voters)</td>
<td>27,660</td>
<td>28,355</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulgrave</td>
<td>29,164</td>
<td>Edmonton to Cairns (-3159 voters) Tully, Mission Beach &amp; Cardwell from Hinchingbrook (+3065 voters)</td>
<td>29,060</td>
<td>30,933</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Hinchingbrook</td>
<td>23,041</td>
<td>Tully, Mission Beach &amp; Cardwell to Mulgrave (+5055 voters)</td>
<td>27,625</td>
<td>29,600</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Daeragun, Northern Beaches &amp; Kirwan Daeragun, Northern Beaches &amp; Kirwan from Thuringowa (+7939 voters)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thuringowa</td>
<td>34,764</td>
<td>Daeragun, Northern Beaches &amp; Kirwan to Hinchingbrook (-7939 voters)</td>
<td>26,625</td>
<td>26,434</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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15
Final Comment

Those estimates have been arrived at through combining the latest (November) QRC enrolment figures and the 2005 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 it 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
Hedley Group breaks new ground
Prison works to create jobs

The first steps in the expansion of the Letham Glen prison facility have begun with the State Government last week launching design, costing and progress work.

The Governor-General has been planning stages of a 500-bed expansion of the maximum security prison at Jinwah State Bungalow, and last week allocated almost $100,000 for detailed design and costing work.

Premier Anna Bligh said the FDD funding would enable the advanced design and engineering of the expansion and enable a tender process to provide architectural styling, buildability and programmatic advice.

At this early stage we moved additional cells at Letham Glen to be used by late 2011, with the full expansion completed by 2014," Ms Bligh said.

Member for Redcliffe Ross Leng welcomed the Government's announcement.

This project was announced in last year's budget and it is wonderful news to see the early beginnings to fruit." Ms Leng said. "Letham Glen has proven itself as one of the major employees on the Tablelands and this expansion will only increase its ability to offer jobs to Tablelanders."

"The male prison currently has the capacity to hold 500 male prisoners while a further 100 can be housed at the low security prison forms. After the expansion, the male prison will be increased by 500 secure male beds while the prison farm will be expanded by 100," Ms Leng said.

Ms Leng said the project would create 15 new staff positions from Cairns and the Tablelands.

"This expansion will ensure that prisoners who have a better chance of being released into their communities will be provided for social reintegration," Ms Leng said.

"Combined with the new Magistrates' Court and Court House Justice Project, in a number of ambulance stations and other projects, there is substantial Government funding flowing into Tablelands developments."
Mt Mulligan reborn

This report is about the Mt Mulligan Mine, which is a coal mine located in the Energy and Resources Section.

Mine exploration rights

Malanda drawcard

This report is about the Malanda drawcard, which is a scenic spot located in the Malanda area.

The report mentions the scenic views and the nearby attractions.

The report concludes by discussing the impact of tourism on the local economy.
14/12/2007

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 into 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

[Signature]
14/12/2007

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G A Thomas
14/12/2007

UNTRIMMED

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14/12/2007

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[Signature]

[Handwritten note: Henderson]
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Among changes suggested are the movement of Mareeba from the Tablelands Electorate into 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, D Henderson
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/S23) 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 in 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@ledenet.com.au]
Sent: Monday, 17 December 2007 4:39 PM
To: ECQ User
Subject: Queensland State Redistribution

Mary C. Graham
56 Avolo Dr
P. O. Box 440
MARREEBA 4880

Dear Sir

RE: Queensland State Redistribution

I write to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/822), the Liberal Party of Australia (Old Division) (QRC/823) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/819) 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 see change population now is not the time to change what has worked well for so long.

Yours Sincerely
Mary C Graham

17/12/2007
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 (STMRCO) 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 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
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 Pickering
on behalf of the Save the Mary River Coordinating Group Inc
Ph 07 54863180 Mbo 0411445589 Email: pickerr@iua.com.au
Dr. Darren Delaney  
Arb, MBBS, GCOSRT, OCAM, GCAM, GCAMF, APA, FACE, FIAM, FLACGP  
Cairns Private Clinics  
The Pier, Cairns Marina  
Mezzanine Level, Shangri-La Executive Suites  
Tel: (07) 4041-8000 Fax: (07) 4051-7382  
Provider: 224394 BK  
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 (Masalinter Range) as a “geographic fence” between the Barron River suburbs of Smithfield and Kuranda. He further notes the communities of Myola, Korora, Russet Park, Mona Mona, Top of the Range, Specetakah, Kookaburra Creek, and Cleebery all call Kuranda home. Furthermore the Far North Queensland (FNQ) 2010 study notes strong population growth of the region which also partly 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 cognizant 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, Malgrave, 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
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 excluded 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. 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 electorates 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 Dole, 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 voters within the Tablelands, Cook, Clarks Towers, Hinchinbrook, and Mulgrave will require transfer.

Submission 20:

Geoff Greens’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 beaches 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
including the Mareeba Shire district, 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 Commission's 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 increased 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) 4041-4000, or E-mail me at darren.delancy@cairnsprivate.com.au.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Darren Delaney
14/12/2007

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 into 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
The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

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[Signature]
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Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane Q 4001  

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Yours sincerely  

[Signature]
The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane Q 4001

61 Sandy Creek Rd  
Dimbulah Qld 4872

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Yours sincerely

Gai Jackson
The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane Q 4001  

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[Signature]
14/12/2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

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Yours sincerely

[Signature]
14/12/2007

Terese L. Tellerico
P.O. Box 1921
Mareeba, Q 4880

Dear Sir,

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[Signature]
14/12/2007

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Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

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Yours sincerely

[Signature]
14/12/2007

Sara Holmes
31 page 51
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,

[Signature]
14/12/2007
CHRISTINE WEST
3 JACOBSEN ST
MARESTA 4880

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

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Yours sincerely

C. M. West
The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane Q 4001  

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution

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Yours sincerely

Trevillion
The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

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Yours sincerely

[Signature]

L. Fowler  
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,
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
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 Springfield. With all of division 10 in Springfield; the suburbs of Cornubia and Carbrook would then move from the Redlands electorate.

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<tr>
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<th>Current enrolment</th>
<th>Projected enrolment</th>
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<td>Quote</td>
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I surmise that Redlands will lose some areas to the adjoining northern electorates of Capalaba & Cleveland and maybe even Mansfield however due to Springfield being under the quota by more than 5%, Springfield 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 Ormiston road (Logan City Council boundary) also move from Redlands to Springfield.

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 car, north along German Church / Heinemann roads. Follow the dog leg, north along Kingfisher rd and west along Fyrapah creek to Mount Cotton road and west to Tingalpa creek.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Yours Sincerely  

David Beard
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 Ottone
PO Box 290
MALANDA 4885

Ph: 40 965 150
Email: profan42@optus.com.au

December 17, 2007
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,

[Signature]

C.J. SANTONISKI
BOX 879
MAREEBA Q 4880
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 (GRC/322), the Liberal Party of Australia (QLD Division) (GRC/520) and the Australian Labor Party (GRC/519) 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 and 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 Mullgrave, 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

B Bronwsyn Francis
Manager Tableland CANEGROWERS Ltd
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
Milla Milla
Qld 4886
041-7739-374

17/12/2007
From: clemcow [mailto:clemcow@bigpond.com]
Sent: Sunday, 16 December 2007 9:58 PM
To: EQC User
Subject: Electoral Boundaries, QRC/S19, QRC/S20, QRC/S 22

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

15 December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Committee
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane Q 4001

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 (CRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (CRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (CRC/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 Kurunda, through Mareeba, Walkamin and Atherton to Malanda, Millaa Millaa, Herberton, Ravenshoe and Mt Garnet 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.
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
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
Dear Secretary,
Queensland Redistribution Commission

The Malanda Chamber of Commerce is concerned about the proposed abolition 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@qmail.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

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 region's communities with the State government forced council amalgamations, one of the most undemocratic moves ever made in this country. This sudden loss 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 line 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 Doacke
for
Christine Doan
Email: Info@cddressage.com
Website: www.cddressage.com
Office Phone/Fax: 07 4081 4593
P.O. Box 700, Atherton Queensland 4883 Australia

17/12/2007
The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane Q 4001

Forwarded via email to: eco@eco.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/322), the Liberal Party of Australia (Qld Division) (QRC/320) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/319). 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 455 kilometres from their ‘local’ representative (Mareeba 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.
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 Hinchinbrook, 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

Lanette Hampton.

LANNETTE HAMPTON.
14 December 2007

The Secretary
Queensland Redistribution Commission
Locked Bag 3304
Brisbane 4001
email: pred@qua.gov.au Attention: QRC/G

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 Altairton Tablelands. This Tableland is the only extensive area of subtropical to cool highland within the Australian tropics. It is bounded on the west 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 recognised by the State when it chose to adopt the recommendations of the Commission to combine the four Tablelands 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 officers located on the coastal Cairns, Barron River, Cook Mungrub 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 fits 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 Kooh (Cook) and surrounding districts. If the electors (about 100) from this area were added to Tablelands then the Electorate would fall within the 10% variance allowed for in determining the number of electors in each electorate.
6. This Council is confident that if electors in the Kurenda 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 NYDE
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 these 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.
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 one 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 environs 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 Barren, Karl, Tinnaan, Damballa and part of Barrine” (sic).

The suggestion that Mulgrave range 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 Hinchinbrook 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 HHitchinbrook (indel 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 Kinrara 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 in 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.
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 Eacaham 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


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/829
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.
- 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, Tinroo 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 rainforest 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
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 Cooloola 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,
tavel times and the wall of state forests to the west logically mean the Mary Valley is
linked closely with Gympie and Cooloola 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:
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 bound it 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 rail,
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 fact, but added Division 3 of Tiaro Shire Council and
the entire local government area of Kilcoy 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,

[Signature]

Cr Mick Venardos OAM
Mayor

[Stamp: RECEIVED 17 DEC 2007]