



*ARC/c 86*

**Hon Craig Wallace MP**  
**Member for Thuringowa**  
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# Submission to the Queensland Redistribution Commission

**14 December 2007**

**Hon Craig Wallace MP,  
Member for Thuringowa.**

PRC/c 86

## **Introduction**

I welcome the opportunity to make a submission to the Electoral Commission of Queensland regarding the drafting of new boundaries for Queensland State electorates.

In particular my submission is an objection to the Queensland National Party's submission to include the area of Kelso in the electorate of Burdekin. A submission the Member for Burdekin has publicly stated she does not endorse.

In recent times there has been significant growth in the Townsville region specifically focused in my electorate of Thuringowa. This growth reflects the booming regional economy and the Thuringowa electorate's reputation as an attractive locality in which to live and work. It also confirms Thuringowa's place in the urban footprint of greater Townsville.

## **Numerical Criteria**

Section 45(1)(a-b) sets the requirement that redistributed electorates have a numerical tolerance of between plus/minus 10% of the average number of enrolled electors.

Thuringowa is currently approximately 17.96% over the average number of enrolled electors and will therefore need a boundary change.

Criteria 46(1)(a-d) deals with community of interest. The National Party submission to exclude the community of Kelso from the Thuringowa electorate is contrary these criteria.

## **Community of Interest**

The community of Kelso is geographically, socially and in all facets part of the Thuringowa electorate and therefore should not be included in the Burdekin electorate. This is evidenced by the views of the current Member for Burdekin, Mrs Rosemary Menkens. Mrs Menkens is strongly opposed to the National Party submission (see attached article.) The electors of Kelso do not have any community of interest with respect to the electorate of Burdekin.

Kelso electors are clearly part of the Thuringowa electorate and the community of Townsville. This is further evidenced in all planning documents such as Townsville and Thuringowa Planning Schemes and the Townsville Thuringowa Strategy Plan. The planning strategies recognise the community of Kelso as part of Thuringowa and as such it should remain in the Thuringowa electorate.

I have written to electors in Kelso informing and I have received over 400 replies from people strongly opposing the National Party's proposal to move Kelso into Burdekin (Please find a copy of my letter to Kelso residents attached).

PRC/c 86

#### **Means of Communication and Transport**

All existing roads, schools, medical and community facilities for Kelso are based around Thuringowa and Townsville. In this respect the road network from Kelso is connected to the Thuringowa community strengthening its focus as part of the electorate. This further displays the limited community of interest the electorate of Burdekin would have for Kelso residents.

Additionally, consideration of Government services must be taken into account. This includes servicing the community via the local Member's electorate office. The Kelso community would not be easily served by having to drive approximately 100kms to the Member for Burdekin's electorate office located in Ayr, compared to the approximately under 10km drive to my electorate office in Thuringowa.

#### **Recognition of Physical Features**

Kelso is part of the contiguous urban area of Thuringowa and has a natural boundary created by the Ross River. Kelso along with Rasmussen and Condon are part of the community known as the community of Upper Ross which has strong ties to Thuringowa. Kelso has no such relationship with the Burdekin electorate based on Ayr.

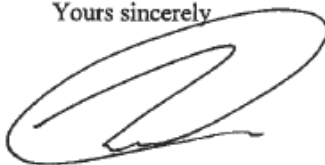
#### **Recognition of Existing Electoral Boundaries**

The current Local, State and Federal electoral boundaries provide a guide to the existing Community of Interest, all three support the placement of Kelso in the electorate of Thuringowa.

#### **Summary**

This proposal objects to the Queensland National Party's ill-considered submission to exclude Kelso from Thuringowa and place it in the electorate of Burdekin. A proposal that even the National Party Member for Burdekin does not endorse.

Yours sincerely



**Craig Wallace MP  
Minister for Natural Resources and Water  
Minister Assisting the Premier in North Queensland  
Member for Thuringowa**

QRC/C 86

We all know that Kelso is great suburb to live in and it's an important part of Thuringowa.

That's why I was really angry to read a submission from the National Party to the Redistribution Commission asking for Kelso to be taken from Thuringowa and put in Burdekin.

If the National Party gets its way Kelso residents will be represented by someone in the Burdekin instead of locally. That's just wrong! Imagine having to travel down to Ayr every time you have a problem that needs to be fixed!

As your local representative I am going to fight this silly proposal "tooth and nail" but I need your help and support.

I will lodge an objection to the National Party's suggestion that Kelso be put into Burdekin and I want to show that Kelso residents don't want this to happen.

As we don't have much time to act I hope that you can ring my office on 47733 116 or email me at [thuringowa@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:thuringowa@parliament.qld.gov.au) to voice your concerns.

We need as many people as possible to voice their opposition so that the Redistribution Committee will sit up and take notice and throw out the National Party submission.

By working together I know we can keep Kelso in Thuringowa. I'd be grateful for your help.

Yours sincerely

CRAIG WALLACE MP  
STATE MEMBER FOR THURINGOWA

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A new voice. A fresh start for Thuringowa



Townsville Bulletin  
28/11/2007  
Page: 6  
General News  
Region: Townsville QLD Circulation: 27112  
Type: Regional  
Size: 214.34 sq.cms  
MTWTFS-

PRC/c 86

# Kelso to join Ayr on map

By LIZ MCKINNON

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Instead of travelling about 2km to my Thuringowa electorate office, Kelso people will have to jump in the car and drive about 100km to Ayr.

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

The changes are being made because the Burdekin electorate needs to pick up another 6000 people to operate as it is under the commission's guidelines. The Burdekin has 24,165 electors compared with Thuringowa's 34,056, according to latest statistics.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Burdekin electorate currently extends to the southern outskirts of Townsville, taking in some built-up areas south and east of the Ross River, including Wulguru, Stuart, Oonoonba and Lavarack Army Barracks. Mr Wallace has written to the Redistribution Commission pointing out his objection and has also asked Local Transition Committee chairman Tony Mooney to support his opposition to the transfer.

Objections must be lodged to the submission by December 17.

PRC/c 87



41 Red Gully Road  
AMAMMOOR Q 4570

15 December 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir

Re: Proposal to remove certain Mary Valley areas from Gympie Electorate to Nanango Electorate

As a resident of an area impacted by the proposed change I strongly object to the proposed removal of Kandanga, Imbil, Brooloo, Amamoor, Cooran, and Traveston areas from the Gympie electorate and the proposed transfer to the Nanango Electorate.

Our region of the Mary Valley has strong connections with Gympie and no connection whatsoever with Nanango.

We carry out most of our business and personal transactions in Gympie and surrounding areas. It would be very inconvenient to have to travel to Kingaroy whenever we wished to meet with our State Member. The return journey would entail travelling four (4) hours - more than two hours of which would be traversing **through** the Gympie electorate. There is no direct access route over the range from the Mary Valley into Nanango Electorate.

The people of Mary Valley are under enormous pressure resulting from the government's proposal to dam the Mary River at Traveston Crossing. Cutting us off from our traditional electoral region and support will only add to the stress and hardship we are already experiencing.

Rather than exclude us from the decision making process, we request that you seriously reconsider making the changes outlined above, and keep the above areas of the Mary Valley in the Gympie electorate.

Yours faithfully

*N. Ormond*

Mrs Vicki Ormond

PRC/c 88

41 Red Gully Road  
AMAMMOOR Q 4570

15 December 2007



The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

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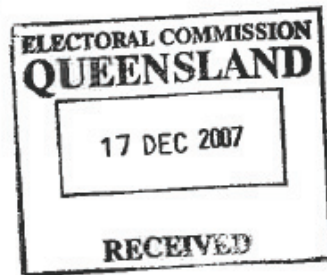
Rather than exclude us from the decision making process, we request that you seriously reconsider making the changes outlined above, and keep the above areas of the Mary Valley in the Gympie electorate.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Ormond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Mr Mark Ormond

PRC/C 89



3 Goomong Road  
KANDANGA Q 4570

15 December 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir

Re: Proposal to remove certain Mary Valley areas from Gympie Electorate to Nanango Electorate

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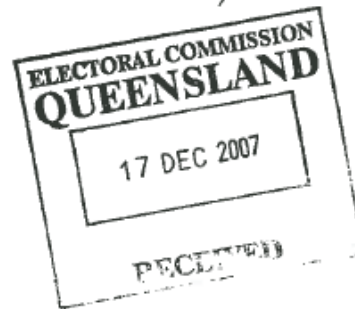
Rather than exclude us from the decision making process, we request that you seriously reconsider making the changes outlined above, and keep the above areas of the Mary Valley in the Gympie electorate.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard Channell".

Richard Channell

PRC/c 90



7 Goomong Road  
KANDANGA Q 4570

15 December 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir

Re: Proposal to remove certain Mary Valley areas from Gympie Electorate to Nanango Electorate

As a resident of an area impacted by the proposed change I strongly object to the proposed removal of Kandanga, Imbil, Brooloo, Amamoor, Cooran, and Traveston areas from the Gympie electorate and the proposed transfer to the Nanango Electorate.

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We carry out most of our business and personal transactions in Gympie and surrounding areas. It would be very inconvenient to have to travel to Kingaroy whenever we wished to meet with our State Member. The return journey would entail travelling four (4) hours - more than two hours of which would be traversing **through** the Gympie electorate. There is no direct access route over the range from the Mary Valley into Nanango Electorate.

The people of Mary Valley are under enormous pressure resulting from the government's proposal to dam the Mary River at Traveston Crossing. Cutting us off from our traditional electoral region and support will only add to the stress and hardship we are already experiencing.

Rather than exclude us from the decision making process, we request that you seriously reconsider making the changes outlined above, and keep the above areas of the Mary Valley in the Gympie electorate.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Mengel".

Jennifer R Mengel  
On behalf of my Family  
at the above address.

PRC/C 91



15-12-2007

3 Goomong Road  
KANDANGA QLD 4570

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir

Re: Proposal to remove certain Mary Valley areas from Gympie Electorate to Nanango Electorate

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The people of Mary Valley are under enormous pressure resulting from the government's proposal to dam the Mary River at Traveston Crossing. Cutting us off from our traditional electoral region and support will only add to the stress and hardship we are already experiencing.

Rather than exclude us from the decision making process, we request that you seriously consider making the changes outlined above, and keep the above areas of the Mary Valley in the Gympie electorate.

Yours faithfully

  
Kaylene Channell  
KANDANGA



15-12-2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir

Re: Proposal to remove certain Mary Valley areas from Gympie Electorate to Nanango Electorate

As a resident of an area impacted by the proposed change I strongly object to the proposed removal of Kandanga, Imbil, Brooloo, Amamoor, Cooran, Moy Pocket and Traveston areas from the Gympie electorate and the proposed transfer to the Nanango Electorate.

Our region of the Mary Valley has strong connections with Gympie and no connection whatsoever with Nanango.

We carry out most of our business and personal transactions in Gympie and surrounding areas. It would be very inconvenient to have to travel to Kingaroy whenever we wished to meet with our State Member.

The people of Mary Valley are under enormous pressure resulting from the government's proposal to dam the Mary River at Traveston Crossing. Cutting us off from our traditional electoral region and support will only add to the stress and hardship we are already experiencing.

Rather than exclude us from the decision making process, we request that you seriously consider making the changes outlined above, and keep the above areas of the Mary Valley in the Gympie electorate.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Sally Mackay'.

Sally Mackay  
MOY POCKET

PRC/C 93

63 Greenoak Road  
KANDANGA Q 4570

15 December 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001



Dear Sir

Re: Proposal to remove certain Mary Valley areas from Gympie Electorate to Nanango Electorate

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We carry out most of our business and personal transactions in Gympie and surrounding areas. It would be very inconvenient to have to travel to Kingaroy whenever we wished to meet with our State Member. The return journey would entail travelling four (4) hours - more than two hours of which would be traversing **through** the Gympie electorate. There is no direct access route over the range from the Mary Valley into Nanango Electorate.

The people of Mary Valley are under enormous pressure resulting from the government's proposal to dam the Mary River at Traveston Crossing. Cutting us off from our traditional electoral region and support will only add to the stress and hardship we are already experiencing.

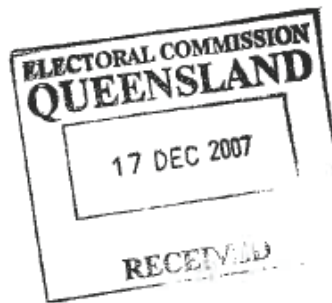
Rather than exclude us from the decision making process, we request that you seriously reconsider making the changes outlined above, and keep the above areas of the Mary Valley in the Gympie electorate.

Yours faithfully

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

Ms Sue Smith

PRC/C94



228 Arthys Rd,  
Cooran, Qld 4569  
PO Box 305,  
Pomona, Qld 4568

15 December 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir

Re: Suggestions to remove certain Cooran, Traveston and Mary Valley areas from Gympie  
Electorate to Nanango Electorate

I strongly object to Suggestion No. 19 and Suggestion No. 21, which propose to redistribute Cooran, Traveston and Mary Valley residents in Kandanga, Imbil, Brooloo, Amamoor, from the Gympie electorate to the Nanango electorate. Residents in Cooran, Traveston and the Mary Valley have strong connections with Gympie and no connection whatsoever with Nanango.

Residents in this area carry out most of their business and personal transactions in Gympie and surrounding areas. It would be very inconvenient to have to travel to Kingaroy to meet with our State Member. The return journey would entail travelling four (4) hours - more than two hours of which would be traversing **through** the Gympie electorate. There is no direct access route over the range from the Cooran and the Mary Valley into Nanango Electorate, potentially resulting in little or no personal contact with our state representative.

If the number of people in the Nanango electorate needs to be increased, Suggestion No. 1 would seem more appropriate, aligning the Nanango electorate with the South Burnett Regional Council boundary, where the community of interest would be far greater.

Cooran, Traveston and Mary Valley residents currently receive solid support from Gympie MP, David Gibson, who is accessible, and willing to listen to residents' concerns. I cannot conceive of any rational, economic or social reason to change the boundaries in this area. I would appreciate being kept informed the outcome of this and further related processes

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D Seal".

D Seal

PRC/C 95



5 Doyle Road  
PO Box 47  
DAGUN Q 4570

16th December 2007

The Secretary,  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

Re: Comments on State electoral boundary suggestions for the Mary Valley and Noosa hinterland  
(currently Gympie Electorate)

I wish to register my objections to the electoral boundary changes proposed in submission 19 (Australian Labor Party) and submission 22 (National Party) with respect to proposed changes to the Gympie electorate. Both of these suggestions would place the residents of the Mary Valley currently in the Gympie electorate and the non-urban areas of the Noosa electorate in the totally ludicrous situation of being in an electorate centred on Nanango. There are no viable road links within the proposed electorate between the Mary Valley and Noosa hinterland residents and Nanango, and the east and west sections of the electorate would be divided by a mountain range and a barrier of national parks and state forest. Such an electorate would be more appropriately named Ningnangnongo after a famous nonsense poem by the late Sir Spike Milligan.

Instead, I would like to endorse the proposal for the Gympie electorate contained in submission 20 (Liberal Party) which would leave Mary Valley residents connected to their natural and historical centre of public services, commerce and trade in Gympie, and link Cooroy residents to their natural and historical centre of public services, commerce and trade in Noosa.

I look forward to your consideration of these matters..

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Stephen Burgess'.

Steve Burgess



ERC/C 96

5 Doyle Road  
PO Box 47  
DAGUN Q 4570

16th December 2007

The Secretary,  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

Re: Comments on State electoral boundary suggestions for the Mary Valley and Noosa hinterland  
(currently Gympie Electorate)

Please consider this to be my comment on the proposed electoral boundary changes with respect to the Gympie electorate, specifically to object to submission 19 (Australian Labor Party) and submission 22 (National Party).

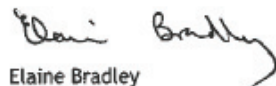
The primary reason for my objection is that the population in the areas proposed for separation from the Gympie electorate and subsequent inclusion in the Nanango electorate would be extensively disadvantaged by this move. It is obvious when examining road and rail networks and considering the geography of the areas that the Mary Valley and Noosa hinterlands have no connection whatsoever with the Nanango district and, indeed, that travel from the Mary Valley and Noosa hinterland over to the areas already covered by the Nanango electoral boundaries is convoluted and takes considerable time. This is an important observation - if the proposed change to the electoral distribution was passed, this would necessarily make the Burnett district the primary centre for our public services and governmental representation. At present, these services are readily accessed in Gympie - a direct route through road and rail connection.

Additionally, aspects of local development and future plans need to be taken into account. For many years now, Tourism Queensland and the Office of State Development (Queensland) have been supporting and encouraging regional 'branding' in promoting distinct areas within Queensland to visitors - local, national and international - based on the area's physical features and economic base. The area from the Sunshine Coast northwards to Gympie and westwards to the mountain ranges from Conondale to Gunalda are already a prime destination - 'the bush behind the beach' - with considerable expansion already taking place, based on tourism destination surveys. It is a very distinct area in terms of its tourism interest, its natural environment and its agricultural activities. It is well known for its subtropical conditions, its rainforests and very distinctive flora and fauna. It is ecologically vastly different from the drier conditions and broad-acre farming activities of the Nanango district. This Burnett area has its own 'brand' - it is well known for its propensity as a prime grape-growing area, its wine trails and its other distinctive crops such as peanuts. Its physical characteristics are also distinctive - a flatter landscape with black soils and its own unique flora and fauna.

There is very little that the Mary Valley and the Noosa hinterland have in common with the Nanango district, and there is nothing to suggest that amalgamating these areas would be in the better interest of the residents. In fact, it is easily argued that the converse situation would be more likely.

I thus call upon the Queensland Redistribution Commission to consider a more equitable solution that will not effect the considerable disadvantages that the abovementioned submissions would undoubtedly cause.

Yours sincerely,



Elaine Bradley

ORC/C97

Bob Richardson  
45 Riverstone Road  
GORDONVALE, 4865

13<sup>th</sup> December 2007  
Mr. Garry Wiltshire  
Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE 4001

ORC/C

Dear Sir

Please find enclosed my 'Comments' on 'Suggestions' for the redistribution of State Electoral boundaries.

Should you have any queries please contact me by phone or fax on 07 40 561489.

Yours sincerely



R.J. Richardson

**CORRECTIONS OF ORIGINAL SUBMISSION.**

Date: - The date of the covering letter should have been 9<sup>th</sup> November 2007, not 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2007.

Other Districts: - \*1 on 'Glass House' should not have been there. None of the existing District of Glass House has been included in any of the 'suggested Districts' I included in my submission.

### OVERVIEW

#### My 'Suggestions'

In my 'Suggestions' for the redistribution of Queensland State Electoral Boundaries, dated 19/8/07, (should have been 9/11/07) I advised that I confined my submission to the regional and rural areas of the State, and did not make any suggestions for the urban South East Corner of the State.

I enclosed a list of the enrolments of the existing Districts, or parts thereof, which I did not include in my submission.

I now enclose a list (Table 1) of the enrolments of the existing Districts, or parts thereof, which I did include in my submission.

As can be seen by that Table the thirty two (32) Districts I suggest total 940,009 electors (968,841 when notional electors are included) which averages out at 101.01% of a quota of 29,081. When the notional electors are included it averages out at 104.11% of a quota.

#### Projection Enrolments:-

I note that Mr. Milton Dick, State Secretary, Australian Labor Party, and some others, have questioned the growth estimates provided by the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ).

Mr. Dick expresses his concern that these figures do not reflect the expectations contained within Queensland Government Planning documents.

While this may be so, without the availability of the figures Mr. Dick refers to I have used the projected growth figures provided by the ECQ.

While the Queensland Electoral Act 1992 differs from the Commonwealth Electoral Act in that there is no requirement to have the electoral Districts within a set variance (3.5%) at a set time (midway through the life of the redistribution) it does require the Redistribution Commission to consider:-

- *demographic trends in the State with the view to ensuring as far as practicable that, on the basis of trends the need for another electoral redistribution will not arise under Section 39 before it does under Section 38 (Section 46 (1) (e) of the Act)*

Section 39 "triggers" a redistribution if one third or more of the electoral districts are out of quota for two months in a row, the quota for the purposes of section 39 being calculated by reference to the number of enrolled electors for each electoral district and the average number of enrolled electors for each electoral district as published by the Electoral Commission each month in the Queensland Government Gazette in accordance with the requirements of Section 63 of the Act.

Section 38 contains another 'trigger' for a redistribution. It states that the need for an electoral redistribution arises:-

*"(a) 1 year after the day appointed for the return of writs for the third general election held after –*

*(1) the electoral distribution under the Electoral Districts Act 1991 became final or*

*(11) an electoral redistribution, or the latest electoral redistribution, under this act becomes final; or*

*(b) 7.5 years after-*

*(1) the electoral distribution under the Electoral Districts act 1991 became final; or*

*(11) an electoral redistribution, or the latest electoral redistribution, under this Act becomes final;*

*Whichever is the later."*

The boundaries which I suggest all fall within the 10% variance as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007, and within the projected variance as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, based on the projected enrolments as provided by the ECQ.

Presently, of the existing 35 Districts in the area I have made 'suggestions' 13 are under the 10% variance, 4 are above, and 18 are within the 10% variance.

Of the same 35 existing Districts, based on projected enrolments as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014, (as provided by the ECQ) 15 would be under the 10% variance, 6 above, and 14 within the 10% variance.

Other terms of Reference:-

In addition to demographic trends which I have covered above Section 46 of the Act sets out what other matters the Redistribution Commission must consider in preparing a proposed electoral redistribution, namely:-

- (1)(a) the extent to which there is a community of economic, social, regional, or other interest within each proposed electoral district;
- (b) the ways of communication and travel within each proposed electoral district;
- © the physical features of each proposed electoral district;
- (d) the boundaries of existing electoral districts;
- (2) The commission may also consider the boundaries of local government areas to the extent that it is satisfied that there is a community of economic, social, regional, or other interest within each local government area.

In my 'suggestions' I have tried to keep the changes to existing electoral districts to a minimum, however as nearly half (17 out of 35) of the existing Districts have enrolments outside the allowable 10% variance numerous changes were necessary.

The existing District of Gladstone is the ~~only one~~ in the area where I made 'suggestions' that I suggest remain unaltered, while there are a few others such as Mackay where I have suggested minimal changes.

In my 'suggestions' I have also made use of Local Authority boundaries, both existing and those that will exist after the March 2008 Local Authority elections.

The Local Government Reform Commission placed a lot of emphasis on "Community of Interest" when making its recommendations to the Minister re Local Government boundaries.

I have taken note of the new Local Authority areas to take effect at the March 2008 Local Government elections, however many of the new Regional Councils have such a large population, some well in excess of the quota for a State Electoral District, the use of these boundaries were limited.

The smaller existing Local Government boundaries were of much greater benefit. Where possible I have used these boundaries in my 'suggestions'.

I found the new internal boundaries for the proposed new Local Government areas of little value, except in isolated cases such as the new Cairns Regional Council.

Mainly these boundaries cut across the existing State Electoral Districts and without major alterations to these Districts, their use was negligible.

I was not prepared to suggest wholesale changes to existing Districts just to accommodate the new Local Authority internal boundaries.

Where it was not possible to use to suggest Local Authority boundaries I have tried to make use Suburban or Town boundaries.

Electors usually know what suburb or town they live in, and the suburb or town is usually the centre of 'community of interest' in that area.

As mentioned above and in the Local Government Reform Commission Report there is no single and widely accepted definition of what constitutes 'community of interest' in boundary reviews.

'Community of interest' may be viewed in many and different ways by those making 'suggestions', 'comments on suggestions' or considering such material.

Communications and travel can be much more clearly defined than 'community of interest' but the same road or highway may link some communities together but divide others.

The same can be said about physical features. A significant river may divide some communities but the same river may be the link others.

It is not a case of 'one fits all'. Each communications link or physical feature must be considered in 'the local context' when considering whether links, divides or has no effect on a community.

The context of whether it is a Local Government Division, a State Electoral District or a Federal Division also has an effect on what links or divides a community.

The 'community of interest' is much smaller when considering a Local Government Division than when considering a State District or a Federal Division.

An example would be Gordonvale and Edmonton would be considered as having separate 'community of interest' in a Local Government context, similar in a State context, and be part of the broader Far North Queensland in a Federal context.

#### Electoral Districts over 100,000 sq kms.

My 'suggestion' retains five (5) Districts over 100,000 sq kms, thus being entitled to 'notional electors'.

I believe five (5) such Districts can be justified, but not the existing five.

It appears that the major political parties treat the existing five as a 'sacred cow' and do not want to suggest changes for the fear of being accused of 'deserting the bush'.

The Australian Labor Party (A.L.P.) State Secretary, Mr. Milton Dick, says in his submission 4.1.6 and 4.1.7:-

*'4.1.6. While this may necessitate the abolition of electorates outside of the south east Queensland, the A.L.P. is concerned that very remote communities be supported to ensure ongoing level of representation.'*

*4.1.7. As such, we suggest adjustment to the 'weighted electorates' be kept to a minimum, thereby protecting these remote communities' adequate levels of representation in the face of the huge distances and other barriers to communications.*

The Liberal Party of Australia State Director Mr Geoffrey Green makes no direct mention of these Districts, in his submission, however he does suggest that the District of Tablelands be abolished.

The National Party of Australia State Director, Mr. Michael O'Dwyer, states on Page 2 of his submission, under the title '1. Overview'

*'The Nationals strongly recommend the maintenance of the five Electoral and Administrative Review Commission's established large electorates of Mount Isa, Cook, Charters Towers, Gregory, and Warrego for the rationale identified by it.'*

The combined enrolment of the existing five Districts is 96,952 (125,784 when the notional electors are included).

The minimum for five Districts under the current quota is 130,865, which is 5,081 more than the existing Districts, after including notional electors.

The quota for five Districts is 145,405, which is 19,621 more than the existing five Districts, after including notional electors.

Projected enrolments as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 show the existing five Districts to be 105,112 electors (133,944 when the notional electors are included).

The lower limit of the 10% variance of the projected average enrolment at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 for five Districts is 152,865 which are 18,921 more than the projected enrolment for the five existing Districts, after the notional electors are included.

The projected average enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 for five Districts is 169,850 which are 35,906 more than the projected enrolment for the five existing Districts.

My suggestion involves:-

(a) Abolishing the Districts of Charters Towers and Mount Isa and creating a new District called Flinders, stretching from the Dalrymple Shire in the East, along the Great Northern Railway to Mount Isa and onto the Northern Territory border including the Boulia, Burke, Mornington and Doomadgee Shires.

(b) Expanding the existing District of Tablelands into the 'Gulf Country'.

This District would then have an area over 100,000 sq kms, thus being entitled to notional electors.

© Expanding the existing District of Cook further south into the northern suburbs of Cairns.

(d) Transferring a part of the existing Charters Towers District, the Belyando and Peak Downs Shires, to the suggested Districts of Fitzroy and Mirani.

(e) Including a part of the existing District of Southern Downs, namely the Town of Goondiwindi and the surrounding Waggamba Shire into the suggested District of Warrego.

(f) A number of internal transfers within these five existing Districts which I are detailed in my 'suggestions'.

The number of electors in my suggested Districts, including notional electors is set out in Table 2.

I believe these suggested Districts are sustainable, being towards the higher end of the allowable tolerance as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007, and at the lower end on projected enrolments as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

I note the submission by the National Party in relation to the growth of Mount Isa, however as I stated in relation to the A.L.P. submission, re growth, without the availability of figures to support their claim I have no option, but to use those provided by the E.C.Q.

The total area of the existing five Districts is 1,441,598.05 sq kms.

The total area of the suggested five Districts is 1,438,916 sq kms.

I have calculated the suggested Cook District slightly less than what it would actually be as I had no way in determining the area of the existing Cairns City Council which I suggest be placed in the suggested District of Cook.

This additional area would have very little effect on notional electors, thus the total enrolment, or the percentage of the quota.

It would also have little effect on the total area of the five suggested Districts over 100,000 sq kms.

The total area, notwithstanding a correction for the suggested District of Cook, is 2,682 sq kms less than the existing five Districts.

The additional areas on the Atherton Tableland and around Goondiwindi are offset by the transferring out of the existing five Districts the Shires of Belyando and Peak Downs.

So my suggested five Districts, with over 100,000 sq kms, would gain an additional 27,359 electors without any significant change in area, thus notional electors.

#### Districts suggested to be abolished.

In the area of the State where I made 'suggestions', my submission suggests that seven (7) existing Districts be abolished and four (4) new Districts be created, a net reduction of three (3), namely:-

- The existing Districts of Mount Isa and Charters Towers be amalgamated into a new District of Flinders.
- The existing Districts of Hinchinbrook and Burdekin be amalgamated with parts of the existing District of Thuringowa to form a new District of Thuringowa, with most of the existing District of Thuringowa being transferred to the new District of Townsville West.
- The existing District of Callide be absorbed into the new District of Burnett.

This is basically a 'name change' as it retains most of the area of the existing District of Callide, but loses the Callide power station and Callide Creek.

The 1999 Redistribution Commission on Page 16 of its Report on the Proposed Redistribution states:-

*'As the Callide power station and Callide Creek are still within the boundaries of the proposed electorate, the Commission does not consider any change of name to be required.'*

From this statement, now that that these two features have been removed from the suggested District, the District will require a new name.

I suggest that the new name be 'Burnett' as it encompasses the new Regional Councils of North Burnett and South Burnett.

I also suggest that the existing around Bundaberg called 'Burnett' be renamed 'Bargara'.

- The existing District of Nanango be renamed 'Somerset' as I suggest that it loose the Nanango and Kingaroy Shires to the suggested District of Burnett.

The suggested District of Somerset would include the Esk and Kilcoy Shires as well as the Sunshine Coast hinterland.

The 1999 Redistribution Commission on Page 17 of its Report on the Proposed Redistribution states:-

*'Nanango*

*In the Commission's view, this electorate represented the interface between the elector growth occurring along the coast and in the south east corner of the State, the comparative decline in enrolments (as compared with the States current predicted average district enrolment) being experienced in the electorates west of the Great Dividing Range.'*

The Commission changed its mind after the 'Objection' period and deleted most of the Sunshine Coast Hinterland from the final District.

The suggested new name of 'Somerset' would represent the 'middle ground' between the Sunshine Coast Hinterland and the area west of the Great Diving Range (Crows Nest Shire) which I have suggested be included in this District.

- **Cunningham.**

On current and predicted enrolments for the area commonly referred to as the 'Darling Downs' west to the existing District of Warrego cannot sustain five (5) Districts so my 'suggestion' reduces the number of Districts by one, thus abolishing the existing District of Cunningham.

#### Naming of Electoral Districts

I note the submission re naming of electoral Districts by Mr. John McKinlay and Mr. Ken McElligott, both from the Townsville District.

I also note that on Page 6, the 1999 Redistribution Commission in its Report on the Proposed Redistribution advised that EARC in its "Report on the Review of Elections Act 1983 – 1991 and Related Matters" stated:-

*"on balance geographic place names provide the most useful basis for naming electoral districts where selected name gives a clear identification of the district. It also seems appropriate to retain district names between redistributions if new districts are substantially similar to previous districts of the same name".*

While new Federal Divisions are usually named after deceased distinguished Australians, I believe that State Districts should to be have geographic place names as constituents can relate to these names easily.

If there is a problem in Townsville with calling a District after a particular suburb, such as Mundingburra, I suggest all their Districts start with 'Townsville, and then a direction, North, South, East or West.

#### Comments on Other Submissions.

Only the major political Parties submitted 'suggestions' for all of the State.

The A.L.P. was not specific where they wanted seats abolished in the rural areas to allow for additional Districts in the South East corner of the State.

The Liberal Party wanted to abolish the existing Districts of Tablelands, Fitzroy, and Nanango, where as the Nationals wanted to abolish the existing Districts of Tablelands and Fitzroy.

I oppose the abolition of Tablelands and Fitzroy.

I will state the reason for opposing their abolition when I address the Regions and individual Districts.

All the other submissions were either based on a particular District of Region.

I will also comment on these 'suggestions' when I address the Regions and individual Districts.

## REGIONS

### Far North Queensland (Cairns)

I believe this region extends from the Torres Strait down to the Cardwell Range and west to Normanton.

This view is shared by:-

1. Croydon Shire Council, who objected to its inclusion in the District of Mount Isa, during the 1999 Redistribution process.

Page 1251 of the Queensland Government Gazette No72 of 7<sup>th</sup> July 1999 states:-

*Croydon Shire Council (OBJ274) objected to the inclusion of Croydon Shire Council within the electorate of Mount Isa, rather than remaining within the electorate of Cook, on the basis that the Shire is serviced primarily from the Cairns/Atherton Tablelands area, the Member for Cook's electoral office is situated in Cairns, and Croydon Shires within the Cairns District for almost all State Government Departments.*

2. Etheridge Shire Council, who objected its inclusion in the District of Charters Towers, during the 1999 Redistribution process.

Page 1252 of the Queensland Government Gazette No72 of 7<sup>th</sup> July 1999 states:-

*Etheridge Shire Council (OBJ607) objected to its removal from the electorate of Cook and its inclusion in the electorate of Charters Towers on the grounds that its traditional and development community of interest is within the Shires around the Gulf of Carpentaria, as they share common tourism, planning, economic, social and infrastructure strategies.*

3. While the Carpentaria Shire did not put in an objection to being placed in the District of Mount Isa during the 1999 Redistribution process, it is a part of the 'Shires around the Gulf of Carpentaria' as stated in the Etheridge Shire's objection.

While most Government services for the Carpentaria Shire are provided from Mount Isa, this is not the case in the private sector; in particular, the port of Karumba relies on Cairns for many services that cannot be obtained locally, such as engineering expertise for ships/barges etc.

The Carpentaria Shire joined with the Croydon and Etheridge Shires in a joint submission to the Local Government Reform Commission advising.

Page 73 of the Report of the Local Government Reform Commission Volume 2 states:-

*Details of suggestions*

*In a joint suggestion to the Commission with Croydon and Etheridge Shire Councils, Carpentaria Shire Council argues to be a stand-alone Council. However if amalgamations compulsory, Council outlines the reasons it should be amalgamated with Croydon and Etheridge Shire Councils, as follows:*

- *located in similar region with similar economies;*
- *shared focus*
- *due to similarity, sense of management rather than a takeover;*
- *share common transport links;*
- *similar infrastructure and staffing issues;*
- *and Council currently undertakes a number of cross boundary initiatives.*

4. Cardwell Range:-

On Page 78 of the Report of the Local Government Reform Commission, Volume 2 in considering the Cassowary Coast Regional Council the Commission states:-

*Commission comments on suggestions*

*Amalgamation of Hinchinbrook, Cardwell and Johnstone Shires and concludes:-*

- *The Cardwell Range provides geographic separation between Hinchinbrook Shire and the existing Cardwell Shire.*

- *To the extent that Johnstone and Cardwell Shire residents cannot obtain services within their local government area, they are likely to travel to Cairns (89 kilometres from Innisfail and 141 kilometres from Tully) while Hinchinbrook Shire residents will travel to Townsville which is 110 kilometres from Ingham;*

#### Electoral Districts

This area contains five (5) existing Districts (in full) Cook, Tablelands, Barron River, Cairns and Mulgrave. It also contains parts of three (3) others, Hinchinbrook, Charters Towers, and Mount Isa.

Table 3 shows the enrolment figures as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007 and the projected figures as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

There are 143,846 electors (150,273 including notional electors) in the area as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.

This is 4.95 quotas (5.17 including notional electors).

On projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 there will be 164,287 electors (170,714 including notional electors).

This is 4.83 quotas (5.00 including notional electors).

This proves that the area I have outlined above can sustain five (5) Electoral Districts in full.

This makes a mockery of the submissions that one of the five (5) Districts (Tablelands) be abolished.

### Suggested abolition of the existing District of Tablelands

#### History of the Electoral History of Tablelands

Page 413 of the Queensland Parliamentary Handbook, 1994 states:-

##### *The Tableland*

*Based on the Atherton Tableland to the West of Cairns and contiguous areas, the seat came into being in the 1931 redistribution. The Eastern coastal portion was excised in the 1949 redistribution to form Mulgrave and the remainder enlarged to the West and North to form a new electorate of Tablelands.*

##### *Tablelands*

*Created in 1949 by enlarging the former seat of The Tableland, this seat was greatly expanded in the 1959 redistribution, stretching from the Atherton Tableland across the Peninsula from Edward River in the North to Burketown in the South. In the 1971 redistribution all of this area was merged into the electorate of Cook, but the electorate was re-established in the 1986 redistribution. In the 1991 redistribution the electorate extended to occupy the south west portion of Mulgrave and the northern part of the abolished electorate of Mourilyan.*

#### Member of Parliament

##### *The Tablelands*

11/6/1932 - 29/4/1950 Bruce H.A. (A.L.P.)

##### *Tablelands*

29/4/1950 - 3/8/1957 Collins H.H. (A.L.P., Q.L.P.)

3/8/1957 - 1/6/1963 Gilmore T.V. (Country Party)

1/6/1963 - 27/5/1972 Wallis-Smith (A.L.P.)

1/11/1986 - 13/6 1998 Gilmore T.J.G. (National Party)

13/6/1986 - 7/2/2001 Nelson S. (One Nation Party, Independent)

7/2/2001 - current Lee Long R (One Nation Party)

### General Area

The Tablelands (Atherton Tableland and Evelyn Tableland) has a combined population of 42,145 and 26,566 electors as stated on Page 310, Report of the Local Government Reform Commission, Volume 2, and after the March 2008 Local Government elections will have an amalgamated Council combining the Atherton, Eacham, Herberton and Mareeba Shires.

Page 312 of the Report of the Local Government Reform Commission, Volume 2, and the Commission states:-

#### *Commission's Comments on suggestions*

*The Commission consider the suggestions and it concludes:*

- *While Mareeba is a very large shire, most of its population resides in the far eastern part. The Commission considers that the residents of Mareeba have very strong links with the other residents of the Atherton Tablelands. These links extend to utilising the various recreational facilities, the importance of agriculture and tourism to the region, the movement that occurs between towns in the region for employment and to access services, the common geographic area and the shared interest in the development of the Kuranda Range Road and the upgrade of the main Tablelands highway (Kennedy Highway).*

As the Local Government Reform Commission says the area has strong links to one another, with possible exception of the Kuranda area, which I will discuss further in this 'Comments on Suggestions'.

To abolish the existing District of Tablelands would mean breaking up the Tablelands, and placing parts of it in a number of Electoral Districts.

### Suggestions

#### National Party of Australia

The Nationals suggest:-

Area	Enrolment as at 28/09/2007	Projected enrolment as at 28/09/2014
Mareeba Shire & a part of Atherton Shire into Cook	11,498	12,569
Herberton/Eacham Shires into Charters Towers	7,621	8,264
Reminder of Atherton Shire into Mulgrave	5,078	5,681

What a miss match.

What does the Eacham and Herberton Shires have in common with Charters Towers, nothing except the way they usually vote, conservative.

What does the southern part of the Atherton Shire, such as CCD's 3030606 and 3030607 have in common with Thursday Island, nothing at all.

What does the existing District of Mulgrave (a coastal District) have with the Town of Atherton; nothing except its addition could possibly change the political colour of the Electoral District from red to green.

I have lived in the Electoral District of Mulgrave all my life (some 55 years) and for the first forty of them (until the 1992 election) a part of the District of Mulgrave was on the Atherton Tableland, Eacham Shire, and the Atherton Shire between 1972 and 1986 elections.

I can tell you there is very little in common between the coastal area and the Tablelands.

That Range, the Gillies Highway, changes it all, the climate, people's interest, crops etc. Admittedly sugar cane is now grown on the Tableland.

It makes it very difficult for a Member of Parliament to serve his/her constituents with those two distinct areas.

I believe, that the Nationals are advocating the abolishment of the District of Tablelands has more to do with their sheer frustration of not holding the District, and short term political gain, than quotas and the other terms of reference which the Commission must consider when proposing boundaries.

At the first redistribution after they lost the District in 1963, (the 1971 redistribution) the Bjelkie-Petersen Coalition Government changed the zones in Far North Queensland so Mareeba and Kuranda went into the Cairns Zone, the western rural areas of the then existing Tablelands was placed in the what I remember was the 'Far North and Western Zone'.

The remainder of the then existing District was placed in the Country Zone.

The Redistribution Commission then abolished the District of Tablelands and split the areas in the Country Zone between the Districts of Mulgrave and Mourilyan.

When the Nationals governed alone after the 1983 State Election they again changed the zones in Far North Queensland, returning the towns of Mareeba and Kuranda to the Country Zone and increased the size of the Parliament to 89 members.

The Electoral District of Tablelands was re-established in the subsequent redistribution prior to the 1986 State Election.

It was held by the Nationals until the 1998 State elections when the sitting Member Mr. T.J.G. Gilmore was defeated by Mr. Shaun Nelson of the One Nation Party.

At the next redistribution after the loss of the District, the 1999 redistribution I recall the Nationals suggesting that the District of Tablelands be abolished.

Mrs. Rosa Lee Long won the District for the One Nation Party in 2001 elections, and has held it ever since.

Once again the Nationals are suggesting the District abolishment.

I believe they (the Nationals) believe that the District should be 'one of their own' and as it is not 'abolish it'.

They do not seem to be prepared to look to the future, and realise this is a 'Conservative District', and will more than likely 'fall back into their fold' at some time in the future.

#### Liberal Party

The Liberal Party states:-

#### *Tablelands*

*With Tablelands at 155 under quota and neighbouring Hinchinbrook at 22% under, we see an opportunity for the Electoral Commission to realign the District and move Hinchinbrook west. Further, Burdekin at -17% can push northwards, allowing Hinchinbrook to take a larger parcel of Tablelands.*

*Now that we have taken Port Douglas out of the seat of Cook, we feel that the Community of Mareeba should be moved into Cook, as it has more in common with that community.*

*Also, Mulgrave needs to gain voters and is logical to move its boundaries west, taking in part of the Tableland.*

This 'suggestion' also breaks the existing District of Tablelands into three, with Cook, Hinchinbrook, and Mulgrave all gain some of the area.

Following the Liberal Party 'suggestion' in Far North Queensland and moving the existing Districts of Barron River and Cairns northwards, I cannot see how 'Mulgrave needs to gain voters' as if the Cairns boundary is moved north the only District that could accept these electors would be Mulgrave.

The existing District of Mulgrave is currently just under quota (1.5%) however it is expected to 10.85% over Quota in 2014.

The residents of Ingham have nothing in common with the residents of Atherton except they usually vote 'conservative'.

As I said in relation to the National Party 'suggestion' I believe the suggested abolishment of the existing District of Tablelands has more to do with political considerations than the term of reference of this Commission.

Mr. Harold Westaway

Mr. Harold Westaway, follows the same path as the Liberal Party and the Nationals in suggesting the abolition of the existing Tablelands District, however he 'suggests' breaking it up into Cook and a new electorate based on Innisfail.

Mr Westaway says:-

*The District of Tablelands extends roughly from the southern boundary of the present Shire of Cook southerly to the southern boundary of the present Shire of Herberton, and with the eastern boundary being roughly the Great Dividing Range and the western boundary being the boundaries of the Shire of Cook and the Etheridge Rail Line. To the south-east, the District includes the locality of Mena Creek, which is close to Innisfail and which is a farming and cattle fattening area. The industries of the District are principally cattle breeding, dairying, agriculture, and mining with some tourism based activities.*

*The road from Cairns to Cooktown through Mareeba is now sealed, bringing Mareeba and Cooktown closer as a regional and economic community. My first suggestion is that the Electoral District of Cook include the Northern part of the Tablelands District on a rough line between Tolga and Dimbulah. This will require the suburbs of Palm Cove and Clifton Beach being excised from Cook and returned to the District of Barron River, with which these suburbs are more properly aligned.*

*I further suggest that that part of Mulgrave District south of the Mulgrave River and the Balance of the District of Tablelands be combined to form a new electorate District. The two areas have similar industries and Innisfail is the centre for communication and travel within the proposed District, thus satisfying the redistribution criteria.*

To take the area south of the Mulgrave River out of the existing District of Mulgrave would leave the 'suggested' District short of a quota even allowing for a northward movement on the District due to Palm Cove and Clifton Beach being placed in the 'suggested' Barron River District.

I cannot see what advantage there would be in re-arranging the District's in such a way as suggested by Mr. Westaway.

The existing District of Tablelands would go but a new seat would reappear in its place.

#### Wendy Richardson

Wendy Richardson says:-

- *If Cook needs to expand, it would be preferable to include the drier northern extremities of the Atherton Tablelands i.e. Mareeba (any area north of Rocky Creek). The industries, environmental and cultural issues are continuous from Mareeba into the Cape and as such are much more aligned than incorporating the beach suburbs of Cairns in Cook.*
- *With the extension of Cook into the Tablelands electorate, Tablelands could conceivably extend further south to absorb part of Hinchinbrook which could be disbanded altogether. This would leave Innisfail cut into 2 electorates instead of 3.*

Ms. Richardson's 'suggestion' is similar to Mr. Westaway's, in that they both 'suggest' that:-

- Mareeba be transferred into the District of Cook;
- Palm Cove and Clifton Beach into the District of Barron River;
- The remainder of Tablelands be combined with a coastal Electoral District.

None of the other 'suggestions' for the Cairns area call for the abolishment of the existing District of Tablelands.

I strongly recommend to the Redistribution Commission that they reject these proposals to split the existing District of Tablelands into its near (Cook and Mulgrave) and not so near (Charters Towers) neighbours.

The Atherton Tablelands are a distinct area of Far North Queensland and I believe it should be represented in State Parliament by a Member representing the area as the 'Member for Mulgrave', no matter what political persuasion he/she comes from.

### Kuranda

#### History

- From the 1959 redistribution to the 1971 redistribution Kuranda was in the District of Tablelands.
- With the creation of the District of Barron River in the 1971 Redistribution, and the abolishment of the District of Tablelands, Kuranda was placed in the District of Barron River.
- With the change in zones by the Bjelke-Petersen National Party Government in 1986, the resulting redistribution returned Kuranda to the District of Tablelands.
- The E.A.R.C, distribution in 1991 placed Kuranda back in the District of Barron River, where it has remained.

My suggestion

Originally I considered that the Cook/Tableland boundary follows the existing Federal boundary between Leichhardt and Kennedy from the Gulf of Carpentaria to the Cairns City boundary (Cairns Regional Council), namely:-

Nassau River /Mitchell River/ Barron River/Clohesy River/Shoteel Creek.

This boundary would have placed the Towns of Mount Carbine, Julatten, and Mount Molloy, as well as the Kuranda area in the District of Tablelands.

On closer examination I found that the District of Tablelands, while within the quota, would not have the enrolment I felt comfortable with on projected enrolments as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

The 'suggested' District of Tablelands needed the towns of Mount Carbine, Julatten, and Mount Molloy, and more importantly the notional electors that went them to reach an enrolment I felt comfortable with.

I then reverted back to 'suggesting' the Carpentaria and Mareeba northern boundaries from the Gulf of Carpentaria to where the Mareeba Shire meets the Douglas Shire (Cairns Regional Council).

This left the matter of which District Kuranda should be in.

Other suggestions

Mr. Mark Freeman, of Kuranda, in his submission QRS/S 2 describes the unique nature of Kuranda.

He also stated that there is large scale residential development occurring in the Kuranda/Myola area.

I believe that this development will be stifled somewhat until the new Kuranda Range Road is built. On present estimates, 10 - 15 years.

Mr. Freeman discusses, at length, how the existing boundaries divide Kuranda into three Electoral Districts of Barron River, Cook and Tablelands. He 'suggests' to the Redistribution Commission that all the Kuranda be placed in one Electoral District.

Mr. Freeman points out the difficulties of travelling from parts of the Kuranda area, currently in the District of Cook, to other parts of the Cook Electorate.

He states:-

*Detail of the six specific parts of Kuranda sundered from the community in the last redistribution*

*Individual areas*

- *Top of Range*

*This is presently part of Co. It is impossible to get from Top of Range to the broader area of Cook without traversing Barron River electorate. However residents walk to the Kuranda village in Barron River electorate. It has zero economic, social, regional, geographic, communications and travel interests with any location within the electorate of Cook.*

- *Mona Mona*

*This is the old Kuranda Aboriginal Mission. You cannot get from Mona Mona to anywhere in the Cook electorate without at least 2 hours travelling by four wheel drive. It is populated by Dgabugai and Bulwai Aboriginals who have little in common with the Kukululu and Kukujungan Aboriginals who are the nearest Aboriginals resident in Cook electorate.*

- *Russet Park*

*This is the same as Top of the Range. It is impossible to get from Russet Park to the broader area of Cook without traversing Barron River electorate. It has zero economic, social, regional, geographic, communication, and travel interests with any location within the electorate of Cook. Indeed, as the bus services do not travel to it, you would need a cut lunch and a change of underpants and a day and a half to get from here to anywhere in the electorate of Cook by Shank's pony and public transport.*

- *Oak Forest*

*It just gets worse as we go along. It is impossible to get from Oak Forest to any location in Cook without traversing Barron River electorate. It has zero economic, social, regional, geographic, communication, and travel interest with any location within the electorate of Cook. I know of two residents who travelled from Oak Forest to Cooktown for a holiday this year. Maybe somebody will go next year too.*

- *Mount Haren*

*This area has maybe half a dozen voters. It is effectively only one residential property which is a tourist venue and gains all of its business from the Kuranda destination. Zero similarity with any part of the Cook electorate.*

- *Koah*

*This is a rural residential and small acre farming area. It has a small, if limited association with Tablelands electorate in the farming areas across the Clohesy River. However, because of climatic and soil differences and the demise of the tobacco farming, cropping even in these areas is now divergent from the norms around Mareeba. Small scale vegetable farming and aquaculture are predominate and most scales are direct to Cairns and southern capitals. Koah village also has a resident segment of the Kuranda Djabugai Aboriginal community. No similarities to Cook and mild similarities to Tablelands.*

Mr. Lance Royce, QRC/S 9, and Dr. Darren Delaney, QRC/S 15, in identical submissions, suggest the Kuranda be placed in the District of Cook.

Mr. Westaway, QRC/S 7 and Wendy Richardson, QRC/S 23 make no direct reference to Kuranda, nor does Advance Cairns, QRC/S 11.

The A.L.P., QRC/S 19 makes no direct reference to Kuranda, nor do the Liberal Party, QRC/S 22.

The National Party on Page 5 of its QRC/S 22 submission states:-

*Propose Barron River is confined to the coastal area stretching from Mossman to a southern boundary, approximately Trinity Bay and the Barron George.*

From the CCD's they include Kuranda in their 'suggested' District of Cook.

#### Conclusion

From reading the 'suggestions', in particular the passage of Mr. Freeman's which I have included above, I believe my 'suggestion' of placing the Kuranda area in the 'suggested' District of Barron River is the correct one.

As Mr. Freeman pointed out there are no direct lines of travel from Kuranda to the rest of existing District of Cook.

To include Kuranda in the District of Cook would effectively create an 'out post'.

Kuranda is basically a dormitory suburb of Cairns, where people live in a rural setting and a cooler climate and work in 'hot' Cairns.

I believe that 'existing boundaries' term of reference should also be considered in Kuranda's case. It has been in the District of Barron River for most of the last thirty five (35) years.

I have taken into account Mr. Freeman's desire to have all of the area in one District.

I have suggested that the boundary follow the Barron River upstream from where the Cairns City/Mareeba Shire boundary crosses the River to where the boundary of the Barron George National Park crosses the Barron River near the Barron Falls, then follow the boundary of the Kuranda State Forest around the outskirts of Town of Kuranda (north of the River) back to the River on the western side of Kuranda, by that River upstream to the mouth of the Clohesy River, by that River upstream to Shoteel Creek, and onto the Cairns City boundary.

This (Barron River/Clohesy River/ Shoteel Creek) is the existing boundary between the Federal Divisions of Leichhardt/Kennedy and is readily recognisable.

### Douglas Shire

#### History

From the 1949 redistribution to the 1971 redistribution the Douglas Shire was in the District of Cook.

Prior to the 1971 Redistribution, Parliament legislated to change the zoning so the Douglas Shire was included in the 'Cairns Zone'.

The subsequent redistribution included the Douglas Shire in the newly created District of Barron River.

It remained in that District until the 1991 E.A.R.C. distribution where it reverted to the District of Cook, and has remained there ever since.

#### My suggestion

My 'suggestion' retains the Douglas Shire in the District of Cook.

I believe it is a continuation of the coast down from Cooktown. There is a four wheel drive road from Mossman to Cooktown along the coast via Cape Tribulation and the Bloonfield River.

Mossman also links the coast to the inland route, from Mossman to Cooktown, via the Rex Range.

### Other Suggestions

The Liberal Party and the National Party were the only submissions that made any direct mention of the Douglas Shire.

The Liberal Party, QRC/S 20 submission says:-

*Barron River is currently just under quota, however our changes to Cairns means that it can move north along the major coastal tourist areas to include the Port Douglas area (which has more in common with Cairns than other parts of the seat of Cook)*

The Nationals, Q.R.C. /S 22 submission says:-

*Proposed Barron River is confined to the coastal area stretching from Mossman to a southerly boundary, approximately Trinity Bay and the Barron George.*

Trinity Bay covers the whole of the sea water north of Cairns, and is too broad an area to know where the Nationals consider the southern boundary should be.

In the CCD's attached to the Nationals submission, the Douglas Shire is included in the 'suggested' District of Barron River.

I note however that the Nationals exclude the Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Council from their 'suggested' Barron River, even though this community is practically surrounded by the Douglas Shire.

This reminds me of a redistribution during the Bjelkie-Petersen era when Wujul Wujul was legislated into the Far Northern and Western Zone even though it was surrounded by the Cairns Zone.

I ask the Commission, that should they accept the Nationals 'suggestion' and place the Douglas Shire in the District of Barron River, which I hope they do not, would they also include the Wujul Wujul community and thus avoid this ludicrous situation.

### Northern Suburbs of Cairns

#### History

This area was in the Electoral District of Cook from the 1959 redistribution until, just prior to the 1971 redistribution, it was legislated into the Cairns Zone.

The subsequent redistribution placed this area in the new created District of Barron River.

The 1999 redistribution placed the area north of Deep Creek (near Clifton Beach) into the District of Cook, and that to the south remained in the District of Barron River.

#### My suggestion

My suggestion is that Redistribution Commission continue the trend of the 1991 E.A.R.C. distribution, and the 1999 redistribution of extending the District of Cook down the coast, firstly the Douglas Shire, and then to Clifton Beach.

With the amalgamation of the Douglas Shire and the Cairns City at the March 2008 Local Government elections all this area will be a part of the Cairns Regional Council.

My 'suggestion' includes all of Division 10 (Douglas Shire and Clifton Beach north), and part of Division 9 (all except the suburb of Caravonica) in the District of Cook.

#### Other suggestions

Mr. Westaway, QRC/S 7 suggests that Palm Cove and Clifton Beach be included in the District of Barron River, as did Mr. Royce, Q.R.C. /S 9 and Dr. Delaney Q.R.C. /S. 15.

Wendy Richardson, QRC/S 23, suggests the area from Ellis Beach south be included in the District of Barron River, while Advance Cairns, Q.R.C./S 11 makes no direction mention of this area.

The A.L.P. in its submission, Q.R.C./S 19 makes no direct mention of this area, while the Liberal Party, Q.R.C./S 20 and the Nationals, Q.R.C./S 22 'suggest' that this area be transferred to the District of Barron River.

Kowanyama

The Nationals, on Page 4 of their Q.R.C. /S 22 submission state:-

*It is our preference for the Carpentaria Shire to remain split between the proposed Mount Isa and proposed Cook to serve the community interests of the Cook focused indigenous community of Kowanyama.*

From the maps I have there is no need to split the Carpentaria Shire so as to allow the Kowanyama Aboriginal council to remain in the Cook District.

While the southern and western boundaries of the Kowanyama Council boarder onto the Carpentaria Shire, the northern boundary boards onto to the Pompuraw Aboriginal Council.

There is no 'island' or near 'island' as the Nationals have suggested with the Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Council.

It is my intention that the Kowanyama Aboriginal Council remain in the District of Cook and should any changes be necessary to my 'suggestion' to achieve that intention, so be it, but from the maps I have seen it is not necessary.

### Suggested District of Cook

I have discussed previously all the various 'suggestions' for the District of Cook.

### Boundaries

My suggested boundary is:-

Commencing at the where the northern boundary of the Carpentaria Shire meets the Gulf of Carpentaria; by that northern boundary; the northern boundary of the Mareeba Shire eastwards to the western boundary of the Douglas Shire (Cairns Regional Council); by that boundary (Cairns Regional Council) in a southerly direction to a point west of the north-west corner of the boundary of the Suburb of Caravonica, near Red Peak; by the northern boundary of the Suburb of Caravonica to the eastern boundary of Division 9, Cairns Regional Council, on the Cairns Western Arterial Road, just north of Caravonica Primary School; by that Divisional boundary to the sea at Half Moon Bay; hence joining the existing boundary to the point of commencement.

### Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Cook are:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007, 29,081, including 2,648 notional electors, which is 101.54% of a quota.
- Projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, 32,004, including 2,648 notional electors, which is 94.21% of the projected quota.

### Name of District

The name 'Cook' was first initiated as a State Electoral District by the Cook Representative Act of 1875 and has survived successive redistributions, and I for one have no intention of suggesting a name change for a District that a survived 132 years.

### Suggested District of Tablelands

I have discussed previously in detail the reasons why I believe the District of Tablelands should be retained.

### Boundaries

My suggested boundary is:-

Commencing at the point where the northern boundary of the Carpentaria Shire meets the Gulf of Carpentaria; by that boundary; the northern boundary of the Mareeba Shire eastwards to the western boundary of the Douglas Shire (Cairns Regional Council); by that boundary (Cairns Regional Council) in a southerly direction to where it crosses the Barron River; by that River upstream to where the boundary of the Barron George National Park crosses the Barron River, near the Barron Falls; by the boundary of the Kuranda State Forest around the outskirts of the Town of Kuranda, (north of the River) back to the River on the western side of Kuranda; by that River upstream to the mouth of the Clohesy River; by that river upstream to Shoteel Creek; by that Creek upstream to the Eastern boundary of the Mareeba Shire Council, (Tablelands Regional Council); by the eastern and southern boundaries of the Tablelands Regional Council in a southerly and westerly direction to the eastern boundary of the Etheridge Shire Council; by the eastern and southern boundaries of the Council in a southerly and westerly direction to the southern boundary of the Croydon Shire Council; by that boundary and the southern and western boundaries of the Carpentaria Shire Council in a westerly and northerly direction until it reaches the Gulf of Carpentaria; hence to the point of commencement.

### Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Cook are:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007, 30,263 including 3,965 notional electors, which is 104.06% of a quota
- Projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014, 32,499, including 3,965 notional electors, which is 95.67% of a quota.

Name of District

As I stated previously I see no reason to change the name of the District from 'Tablelands'.

Suggested District of Barron River

I have previously discussed in detail the suggested boundary with the suggested District of Tablelands in the Kuranda area, and the suggested boundary with the suggested District of Cook in the Smithfield /Caravonica area.

There were many and varied suggestion re the District of Barron River.

Some suggested moving the District North; other suggested transferring the Suburb of Redlynch to Mulgrave, others transferring Whitfield and Edge Hill into the District of Cairns.

After suggesting that the suggested District of Cook move further south into the Northern Suburbs of Cairns, it is necessary for the suggested District to move south also.

Boundaries

My suggested boundary is:-

Commencing at a point on the shoreline opposite the Cairns Base Hospital, in line with Grove Street, follow the eastern and southern boundaries of Division 7, Cairns Regional Council, to the North-East corner of the Suburb of Kanimbla, hence by the eastern and southern boundary of that Suburb in as southerly and westerly direction to the eastern boundary of the existing District of Barron River in the Lamb Range, by that boundary in a southerly, westerly and northerly direction to Shoteel Creek; by that Creek downstream to the Clohesy River; by that River downstream to the Barron River, by that river downstream to where the Kuranda State Forest boundary crosses the River on the western side of Kuranda; by the boundary of that Forest around the outskirts of the Town of Kuranda (north of the River) to where the boundary of the forest crosses the Barron River, near the Barron Falls; by that River downstream to where the western boundary of the Cairns Regional Council crosses that River; by the western boundary of the Cairns Regional Council in an easterly direction to a point west of the north-west corner of the boundary of the Suburb of Caravonica, near Red Peak; by

the northern boundary of the Suburb of Caravonica to the eastern boundary of Division 9, Cairns Regional Council, on the Cairns Western Arterial Road, just north of Caravonica Primary School; by that Divisional boundary to the sea at Half Moon Bay; hence to the point of commencement.

The part of the boundary of Division 7, Cairns Regional Council referred to above is:-

Grove Street to Lily Creek; by that Creek upstream to Gatton Street; by that Street to Hoare Street; by that Street to Pease Street; by that Street to Reservoir Road; by that Road to the North-West corner of the Suburb of Kanimbla.

#### Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Barron River are:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007, 30,980 which is 106.53% of a quota.
- Projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 35,778 which is 105.32% of a quota.

#### Name of District

The name 'Barron River' has represented this area in State Parliament since the 1971 Redistribution, some 36 years.

The Barron River is a prominent geographical feature of the suggested District so I do not suggest a name change.

#### Suggested District of Cairns

There have been various 'suggestions' as to whether the District of Cairns should move northwards or southwards to gain the necessary additional electors to bring it up to quota.

With my 'suggested Cook' and 'Barron River' moving south, my 'suggested' District of Cairns has to move south also.

### Boundaries

My suggested boundary is:-

Commencing in the middle of Trinity Inlet where it converges with Trinity Bay; hence upwards of that inlet, in a southerly direction, to the northern boundary of Division 1, Cairns Regional Council, on the western side of that Inlet; by that Divisional boundary in as westerly and southerly direction to Blackfellow Creek, which is the northern boundary of the Town of Edmonton; hence by that Suburban boundary in a westerly direction to eastern boundary of the existing District of Barron River; By that boundary in a northerly direction to the southern boundary of the Suburb of Kanimbla; by that boundary in an easterly direction and northerly direction to the southern boundary of Division 7 Cairns Regional Council, at Reservoir Road; by that Divisional boundary in an easterly and northerly direction to the seashore opposite the Cairns Base Hospital; hence to the point of commencement.

The suggested District of Cairns includes Green Island and the suggested boundary will need to be adjusted so as to facilitate this.

### Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Cairns are:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, 29,531 which is 101.55% of a quota.
- Projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 is 34,802 which is 102.45% of a quota.

### Name of District

The District of Cairns was first constituted by the Electoral Districts Act of 1887, and as the suggested still contains the C.B.D. I do not suggest a name change.

I refer the Commission to the objections received in 1999 when it was proposed to change the name to 'Cairns Central'.

### Suggested District of Mulgrave

There is a number of 'suggestions' taking this District back onto the Atherton Tablelands.

For the reasons I have stated previously, I am totally opposed to these suggestions.

I am also opposed to the Nationals suggestion the District of Mulgrave take in the Suburb of Redlynch.

Redlynch is on the northern side of the City of Cairns and Mulgrave is on the south side.

I cannot see any valid reason to transfer Redlynch from its existing District of Barron River.

The 'suggested' District of Mulgrave has to move south to obtain a quota due to the general movement south of the 'suggested' Districts to the north.

My suggestion takes Mulgrave south to include all of the Johnstone and Cardwell Shires (Cassowary Regional Council).

With this boundary moving south to the Cardwell Range (southern boundary of the Cardwell Shire) it completes the five (5) Districts in Far North Queensland I discussed earlier in these 'Comments'.

### Boundaries

Commencing at a point at the southern boundary of the Cassowary Coast Regional Council; by that southern boundary in a westerly direction; hence by the western boundary of that Council in a northerly direction to the western boundary of the Cairns Regional Council; hence by that boundary in a northerly direction to the southern boundary of the existing District of Barron River; hence by the southern and eastern boundaries of that District in an easterly and northerly direction to the northern boundary of the Town of Edmonton; hence by that boundary in a easterly direction to where it joins the western boundary of Division 1 Cairns Regional Council at the junction of Blackfellow Creek and the Bruce Highway; by the western and northern boundaries of that Division in a northerly and westerly direction to Trinity Inlet; hence to the point of commencement.

The suggested District of Mulgrave includes Fitzroy Island and numerous other islands along the coast to the southern boundary of the Cardwell Shire (Cassowary Coast Regional Council).

The suggested District also includes the area around Mena Creek, near Innisfail which is currently in the District of Tablelands.

#### Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Mulgrave are:-

- As at 28th September 2007, 30,158 which is 103.70% of a quota.
- Projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 20014, 35,763 which is 105.28% of a quota.

#### Name of District

The of the Electoral District of Mulgrave in its current location was created in the 1949 redistribution after previously being a State Electoral District in the Bundaberg area from 1872 to 1888.

Gordonvale and Babinda have remained in the District of Mulgrave since its revival as a State Electoral District.

While the Mulgrave Shire Council was amalgamated with the Cairns City in 1995, the name Mulgrave still has links with the area, via the Mulgrave River and the Mulgrave Central Mill at Gordonvale.

As both of these landmarks remain in the 'suggested' District I do not propose a name change.

PRC/C97

## REGIONS

### North Queensland (Townsville)

I believe this region extends:-

- North to the Cardwell Range (Hinchinbrook Shire)
- South to Inkerman (Burdekin Shire)
- Westward:-

I believe this area is restricted to the Shires and Cities along the Great Northern Railway Line to Mount Isa, and those Shires which are serviced by Mount Isa, both in the Public and Private Sector.

In relation to the northern area extending to the Cardwell Range my view is shared by the Local Government Reform Commission.

On Page 78 of the Report of the Local Government Reform Commission, Volume 2, in considering the Cassowary Coast Regional Council, the Commission states:-

*Commission comments on suggestions*

*Amalgamation of Hinchinbrook, Cardwell, and Johnstone Shires and concludes:-*

- *The Cardwell Range provides geographic separation between Hinchinbrook Shire and the existing Cardwell Shire.*
- *To the extent that the Johnstone and Cardwell Shire residents cannot obtain services within their own local government area, they are likely to travel to Cairns (89 kilometres from Innisfail and 141 kilometres from Tully) while Hinchinbrook Shire residents will travel to Townsville which is 110 kilometres from Ingham.*

In relation to the southern boundary this view is also shared by the Local Government Reform Commission.

On Page 58 of the Report of Local Government Reform Commission, Volume 2, in considering the Burdekin Shire the Commission states:-

- *Proserpine is the major service centre for the Whitsunday's and is not a service centre for Burdekin Shire.*
- *To the extent that Burdekin Shire Council residents cannot obtain services within council boundaries they are likely to travel to Townsville rather than to towns in the Whitsunday Regional Council. In addition, Whitsunday residents are more likely to travel to Mackay to obtain services not available within their area.*
- *The Whitsunday Coast Airport is unlikely to be utilised by residents of Burdekin Shire who have access to more frequent services and better coverage from the bigger Townsville Airport*

The west is much more complicated, however I believe that residents that would look upon Townsville as the centre to travel to for services which cannot be obtained locally are:-

- Dalrymple Shire and Charters City (soon to be amalgamated into the Charters Regional Council)
- Flinders Shire
- Richmond Shire
- McKinlay Shire
- Cloncurry Shire
- Mount Isa City and the Shires which obtain services from that City namely:-

Boulia Shire to the south

Burke, Doomadgee and Mornington Shires to the north.

This view is supported by the objections received by the 1999 Redistribution Commission when the Shires of Etheridge, Croydon, Winton and Jericho were included in the Districts of Charters Towers and Mount Isa.

Objections were received from:-

- Winton Shire Council and a number of individual residents from Winton objecting to its inclusion in the District of Mount Isa.
- Croydon Shire Council objecting to its inclusion in the District of Mount Isa.
- Jericho Shire Council objecting to its inclusion in the District of Charters Towers.
- Etheridge Shire Council, objecting to its inclusion in the District of Charters Towers.

These objections were recorded on Pages 1250 to 1252 of the Queensland Government Gazette, No. 72, of 7<sup>th</sup> July, 1999.

#### Electoral Districts

This area contains three (3) existing District (in full), Townsville, Mundingburra, and Thuringowa.

It also contains parts of four (4) other Districts, Hinchinbrook, Burdekin, Charters Towers and Mount Isa.

Table 4 shows the enrolment figures as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, and the projected figures as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

There are 147,229 electors (154,694 including notional electors) in the area as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.

This is 5.06 quotas (5.32 including notional electors).

On projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 there will be 166,864 electors (174,329 including notional electors).

This is 4.91 quotas (5.15 including notional electors)

This gives the Townsville area five (5) complete Districts and some additional electors to be transferred to another District.

I believe the only District it is feasible to transfer these remaining electors is the District of Whitsunday.

I have suggested that 2,893 electors, south of the Burdekin River be transferred to the District of Whitsunday.

While it would have been preferable to be able to have all the area I believe to be the Townsville region in Districts within the region, like Cairns, in reality this is going to be rare with quotas overriding all other terms of reference.

With seven (7) Districts currently based in this region and there is only enough electors for five (5), two (2) should be abolished.

I suggest that:-

- The existing Districts of Charters Towers and Mount Isa be amalgamated to create the new District of Flinders.
- The existing District of Thuringowa be renamed Townsville West.
- The existing Districts of Hinchinbrook and Burdekin, together with and the excess of the existing Thuringowa District be amalgamated into one District called Thuringowa

I have attempted to minimise the disruption to the Townsville based electorates by making as few as changes to these Districts, as possible and the same time keep within the current and projected quotas.

I have therefore 'topped up' the existing Districts of Townsville and Mundingburra by drawing on those suburbs of Townsville in the existing District of Burdekin.

I note that on Page 1259, of the Queensland Government Gazette, No.72 of 7<sup>th</sup> July, 1999, the Redistribution Commission stated:-

*Mrs. Patricia Tuckett (OBJ24) objected to the inclusion of the Townsville Suburb of Wulguru in the Electorate of Burdekin on the grounds that residents of the suburb have no community of interest with the rural community which comprises most of the Burdekin electorate. Further, to see their Parliamentary representative, residents of Wulguru must travel to Ayr, a one hour journey*

*Jeff Knuth, M.L.A. Member for Burdekin (OBJ150) also requested an alteration to the boundaries of the electoral district of Burdekin in order to exclude Idalia and Wulguru from the electorate*

*The Commission has attempted, in the redistribution, to exclude as many Townsville suburbs as possible from Burdekin electorate. Accordingly, the suburbs of Anandale and Douglas, which are in the existing electorate of Burdekin, have been included in the electorate of Mundingburra. However, quota requirements have not permitted the similar exclusion of Wulguru and Idalia from the Burdekin electorate*

By removing more Townsville suburbs from the existing District of Burdekin I have followed the trend set by the 1999 Redistribution Commission.

I suggest that the suburbs of Oonoonba, Idalia, and a part of Stuart (CCD 3043501) be included in the District of Townsville, and that the suburbs of Mount Stuart, Murray, and Oak Valley be included in the District of Mundingburra.

Wulguru is a large suburb, elector wise, and I have not been able to suggest that it be included in a 'Townsville only' District, however with the suggested amalgamation of the Districts of Hichinbrook and Burdekin with some of the existing District of Thuringowa I believe the 'political core' of the District will shift from Ayr or Ingham to the geographical centre of the suggested District.

This is why I suggest the name 'Thuringowa' to remove the impression that it is an Ingham or Ayr based District.

Should the Redistribution Commission consider that it would be too confusing to use 'Thuringowa, I suggest another neutral name such 'Paluma' be used.

I have also suggested a slight alteration to the existing Mundingburra/Thuringowa (suggested it be called Townsville West) border in the suburb of Kirwan.

I have suggested that the boundary 'run' along Branford Lane all the way to Dalrymple Road where as the existing boundary follows the Thuringowa/Townsville City boundary from Charles Street.

With the amalgamation of the two Cities at the March 2008 Local Government elections, this artificial 'line on map' will disappear and people will forget where it was after a short period of time.

Its relevance will 'be history' and I see no point having a State electoral boundary 'running through houses' after the amalgamation of the two cities.

#### Other Suggestions

The only individual suggestions in relation to the Townsville area were from Mr. John McKinlay and Mr. K. McElligott and these were mainly in relation to the naming of Districts.

From their 'suggestion' it would appear they prefer that the Districts be called 'Townsville' and a geographic direction, north south, east or west.

I have continued to suggest the names 'Thuringowa' and 'Mundingburra', however it would not be a matter of concern to me if the Districts were called Townsville 'something'.

I suggest the name 'Townsville West' in place of the existing District of Thuringowa.

This name was suggested by the A.L.P. in their 'objections' to the 1999 Redistribution Commission; however it was not 'taken up' by the Commission.

#### A.L.P.

The A.L.P. suggested that:-

*Hinchinbrook deficit should be first addressed by transferring electors from surplus of Thuringowa (north of the Bohle River)*

I looked at this suggestion when making my 'suggestions'.

The number of electors in this area is in excess of what the existing District of Thuringowa needs to shed to bring it 'within quota'.

This would have meant obtaining additional electors from other Districts, all of which are under quota.

I considered this an unnecessary disruption of the existing District's boundaries.

Also this is one of the fastest growing areas in the Townsville region.

To have placed all of this area in one District would have meant it would be outside the 10% tolerance prior to the end of this redistribution cycle, 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

I have suggested:-

- The area on the coastal side of the North Coast Railway be included in the 'suggested' District of Thuringowa.
- The area on the inland side of the North Coast Railways remain in the existing District, which I 'suggest' be renamed Townsville West.

#### Liberal Party

The Liberal Party states:-

#### *North Queensland Region*

*Townsville is currently 6.25% under quota and this can be easily brought into quota by expanding the boundary into urbanized area of Thuringowa which is 17.1% over. Likewise, Mundingburra is also under and can absorb urbanized bordering area areas along the Thuringowa boundary.*

I do not agree with this suggestion and it goes against the 1999 Redistribution Commission desire to take as many Townsville suburbs out of the District of Burdekin as possible.

#### National Party

#### Mount Isa

The Nationals have suggested moving the existing District of Mount Isa further east to include the Shires of Richmond and Flinders.

This only accounts for an extra 1,811 electors as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007 and 1793 on projected enrolments as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

The enrolments, including notional electors, as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007 is 27,079 which is 93.12% of a quota.

The projected enrolments, including notional electors, as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014, are 27,869 which are 82.04% of a quota.

They justify this on Page 2 of their 'Suggestions' which states:-

*We draw the Commission's attention to a view that in some regional cities, such as Mount Isa and other mining based regional towns, enrolments do not reflect the actual population in those communities.*

*For example in Mount Isa, the City Council is undertaking a Full-time Equivalent Study to determine its work force population in view of under estimation in recent Census data. Anecdotal information from the Mount Isa City Council indicates, "housing for purchase or rent is failing to meet demand", "can't get a parking spot in town" "can't build quick enough for growing population", new small business entities up 47% in the last 12 months." Queensland Airports Limited says Mount Isa has set a new record for passenger numbers, with more than 34,000 people passing through the terminal between August and September. It appears to us that the growth in this community is not yet reflected in enrolment figures.*

*The Cloncurry Shire Council is in the process of preparing to release 37 residential blocks in a new subdivision. The Council is seeking the further release from the State Government of un-allocated land for housing projects.*

*The current and projected enrolments for the proposed Mount Isa have been kept low deliberately low. It is our view that enrolments will increase in the North West Mineral Province over the life of this redistribution.*

On Page 4 they continue:-

*We acknowledge that the proposed Mount Isa enrolments are low but are of the view that there is the prospect for enrolment growth as articulated in the overview of this document.*

As I stated on Page 3 of my 'Overview', the A.L.P. Secretary expressed concern that growth estimates provided by the E.C.Q. do not reflect the expectations contained within Queensland Government Planning documents.

In the absence of other 'hard facts' in relation to these projected enrolments, the only option is to use the ones provided by the E.C.Q.

I would imagine that the Redistribution Commission would do likewise.

I refer to Page 9 of the Report on the Proposed Redistribution in 1999 which says:-

*The Commission found that initial issue for decision, from which all other decisions flowed, was whether the five electoral districts over 100,000sqkm in area should be retained.*

*So as to place the electorates within quota, the Commission realised that it would have to augment them by adding significant numbers of enrolled and/or notional electors, and that any expansion of area for any of these seats would create a domino effect on all the other electorates and effect the whole redistribution*

I fully concur with that view and in this case, if the Redistribution Commission does not accept that 'enrolments will increase in the North West Minerals Province over the life of this redistribution' by the amount suggested by the National Party without 'hard cold facts', it will have a 'domino effect' on Nationals whole submission.

#### Charters Towers

The Nationals want to retain the District of Charters Towers by extending the District northwards onto the Atherton Tablelands and in the south-east of the existing District extending it into a part of the Broadsound Shire, including the mining towns of Middlemount and Dysart.

What do the dairy farmers on the Atherton Tableland have in common with the miners of Middlemount? They are all human beings, that's about all.

As I said in relation to my 'comments' on the District of Tablelands, this suggested District by the Nationals is a mismatch and the three distinct areas, Atherton Tablelands, Charters Towers, and the mining towns of the south have very little in common with each other.

I believe my 'suggestion' to keep the District of Tablelands, extend the existing district of Mount Isa to Charters Towers, give it a new name, and place the mining towns of Central Queensland in a District of Districts in that area, complies with the Commission 'terms of reference' more closely.

#### Electoral Districts in or adjacent to Townsville

The Nationals on Page 5 of their submission state:-

*Our suggestion is for proposed Mundingburra and Townsville enrolments to be slightly adjusted upwards from growth in Thuringowa.*

On closer examination of their proposals in Mundingburra and Townsville Districts they suggest:-

- A transfer in and out of Mundingburra of 5,821 electors which is 19.59% of their suggested District
- A transfer in and out of Townsville of 9,203 electors which is 30.98% of their suggested District.

If this is 'a slight alteration' I would like to know what a large one is.

In Thuringowa they state:-

*The proposed Burdekin's northern boundary moves northward to share a common boundary with proposed Hinchinbrook. The locality of Kelso is transferred from Thuringowa to proposed Burdekin.*

From my understanding of Townsville, Kelso is an urban suburb of the City of Thuringowa, soon to become a suburb of the City of Townsville, located between the Bohle and Ross Rivers.

Its community of interest would with the other suburbs in that area, Rasmussen and Condon, and not with the cane growers of Ayr.

This suggestion disregards the 1999 Redistribution Commission preference *to exclude as many Townsville suburbs as possible from the Burdekin electorate.*

I do not accept any of the above suggestions by the Nationals as being in the 'Community of Interest' terms of the Act, as they relate to the residence of Townsville.

#### Suggested District of Flinders

I have stated my reasons earlier in the "Comments" as to why I suggest this District.

#### Boundaries

The boundaries of the suggested District would stretch from the Northern Territory boarder in the west, to the eastern boundary of the Dalrymple Shire in the east, from the Gulf of Carpentaria in the north to the southern boundary of the Boulia Shire in the south-west.

The suggested District would contain the Local Authorities areas of Dalrymple Shire, Charters Towers City, Flinders Shire, Richmond Shire, McKinlay Shire, Cloncurry Shire, Mount Isa City, Boulia Shire, Burke Shire, Doomadgee Aboriginal Council, and the Mornington Shire.

I had considered suggesting leaving the Winton Shire in the suggested District, not withstanding the objections in 1999 redistribution, however when it was included, the notional electors made it in excess of the 10% margin allowable under the Act.

#### Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Flinders are:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007 30,706, including 7,465 notional electors, which is 105.595 of a quota.
- Projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, 31,949, including 7,465 notional electors, which is 94.05% of a Quota.

### Name of District

I have suggested the name 'Flinders' as I consider to call the suggested Mount Isa or Charters Towers would have meant an 'outcry' from the other City.

A neutral name had to be suggested.

Flinders was originally created during the 1887 electoral redistribution, then abolished in 1931, but revived in the 1949 redistribution. It was again abolished in the 1991 distribution.

While a State Electoral District it covered some of the area of the suggested District.

Another possible name is Burke, which was also a State Electoral District covering some of the area of the suggested District.

It was first created under the 1872 Electoral Districts Act, abolished in the 1931 Redistribution, and revived in the 1959 redistribution, and the electorate name was changed to Mount Isa in the 1971 Redistribution.

### Suggested District of Townsville

I have discussed my suggested changes and the reasons for them previously in these 'Comments'.

### Boundaries

- The boundaries of the suggested District include the entire existing District including the Palm Island Aboriginal Community and Magnetic Island.
- In addition the suburbs south of the Ross River namely, Cluden, Oonoonba, Idalia, Cluden, and Stuart (CCD 3043501)

### Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Townsville are:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007, 27,242, which is 93.685 of a quota.
- Projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, 36,769 which is 108.245 of a quota.

### Name of District

The name "Townsville" was first constituted by the Electoral District Act of 1878.

As my suggestion includes the Townsville C.B.D., I do not suggest a name change.

### Suggested District of Mundingburra

I have discussed my suggested changes to the District and the reason previously in these 'Comments'.

### Boundaries

The boundaries of the suggested District are:-

- All of the existing District  
and in addition
- South of Ross River, the suburbs of Mount Stuart, Murray, and Oak Valley.
- North of Ross River, in the suburb of Kirwan, the area between Branford Lane and the Thuringowa/Townsville City boundary between Charles Street and Dalrymple Road.

### Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Mundingburra are:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007, 31,658, which is 108.865 of a quota.
- Projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, 33,675, which is 99.13% of a quota.

### Name of District

The District of Mundingburra was first created in 1911 redistribution, abolished in the 1959 redistribution, and revived in the 1991 distribution.

While I have continued to suggest the name, after reading Mr. McElligott and Mr. McKinlay 'suggestions' a name such as Townsville South may be appropriate.

### Suggested District of Townsville West

This suggested District is basically the existing District of Thuringowa, however it loses area and electors to bring it back to within quota.

### Boundaries

The boundaries of the suggested District are:-

- The existing District of Thuringowa except:-
- The area on the coastal side of the North Coast Railway between the Bohle River and the Black River, including the suburbs or parts of the suburbs of Bushland Beach, Burdell, Mount Low, and Beach Holm.
- The part of the suburb of Kirwan, the boundary to follow Branford Lane from Charles Street to Dalrymple Road.

Enrolments:

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007, 29,210 which is 100.44% of a quota.
- Projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, 34,849 which is 102.59% of a quota.

Name of District

I have suggested the name 'Townsville West' as suggested by the A.L.P. in the 'Objection' period of the 1999 redistribution.

By giving this District a new name it allows the name 'Thuringowa' to be suggested for the District created from parts of the existing Districts of Hinchinbrook, Burdekin, and Thuringowa.

Suggested District of Thuringowa

As stated previously in these 'Comments' this suggested District is an amalgamation of parts of the existing Districts of Hinchinbrook, Thuringowa, and Burdekin.

The boundaries include:-

- Hinchinbrook Shire.
- That part of Thuringowa City in the existing District of Hinchinbrook.
- That part of the existing District of Thuringowa on the coastal side of the North Coast Railway between the Bohle River and the Black River, including the suburbs or parts of the suburbs of Bushlands Beach, Burdell, Mt Low and Beach Holm.
- That part of the existing Burdekin District within the Townsville City Council area with the exception of the suburbs of Cluden, Oonoonba, and Idalia, part of Stuart (C.C.D. 3043501) Mount Stuart, Murray and Oak Valley.
- The Townsville suburbs of Wulguru, Stuart (part) and Roseneath are included in the suggested District.

- That part of the Burdekin Shire north of the Burdekin River.

#### Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Thuringowa are:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, 30,557 which is 105.08% of a quota.
- Projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, 37,117 which is 109.26% of a quota.

#### Name of District

I have suggested the name of Thuringowa as it is in the middle of the suggested District.

To have suggested the name 'Hinchinbrook' would have sent the wrong message that it was an Ingham based District, and vice a verse if the name 'Burdekin' had been suggested.

I consider Thuringowa a suitable name as it sits in the middle of the suggested District, and also a considerable area of the Thuringowa City is in the suggested District.

If the Commission considers using 'Thuringowa' is too confusing, I suggest the name 'Paluma'.

ORC/c 97

Bob Richardson  
45 Riverstone Road  
GORDONVALE, 4865

17<sup>th</sup> December 2007

Mr. Garry Wiltshire  
Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE 4001

Fax No. (07) 3227 6478

ORC/C

Dear Garry

I refer to my telephone conversation on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2007, where you said that you would accept, by fax, addendums to my 'comments' forwarded to you by Australia Post that day.

Please find enclosed 12 pages including this one.

Please find enclosed my 'Comments' on 'Suggestions' for the redistribution of State Electoral boundaries.

Should you have any queries please contact me by phone or fax on (07) 40 561489.

Yours sincerely



R.J. Richardson

PRC/C 97

TABLE 1

# **ENROLMENTS OF EXISTING DISTRICTS COVERED IN MY SUBMISSION**

District	Current Enrolment 28/09/2007	Notional Votes	Adjusted Enrolment 28/09/2007	Projected Enrolment 28/09/2014	Projected Adjusted Enrolment 28/09/2004
1 Barron River	29,306			33,946	
2 Beaudesert	30,328			34,366	
3 Bundaberg	29,355			32,689	
4 Burdekin	24,165			27,983	
5 Burnett	29,639			36,797	
6 Cairns	26,742			28,965	
7 Callide	26,159			27,485	
8 Charters Towers	18,649	5,354	24,003	21,715	27,069
9 Cook	21,618	3,781	25,399	22,617	26,452
10 Cunningham	27,790			31,947	
11 Darling Downs	25,887			29,162	
12 Fitzroy	23,946			27,034	
13 Gladstone	29,910			34,765	
14 Gregory	19,150	7,575	26,725	21,400	28,975
15 Gympie	32,637			37,806	
16 Hervey Bay	32,917			41,516	
17 Hinchinbrook	22,739			24,770	
18 Ipswich West *1	9,524			10,965	
19 Keppel	28,056			32,580	
20 Lockyer*1	23,905			30,304	
21 Mackay	28,890			31,750	
22 Maryborough	29,277			32,589	
23 Mirani	27,359			31,107	
24 Moggill	31			36	
25 Mount Isa	16,669	7,363	23,922	17,387	24,730
26 Mulgrave	28,626			32,589	
27 Mundingburra	28,849			30,811	
28 Nanango	25,407			28,664	
29 Nicklin*1	1,006			1,165	
30 Rockhampton	25,224			25,988	
31 Southern Downs	28,756			31,029	
32 Tablelands	24,959			27,321	
33 Thuringowa	34,056			44,282	
34 Toowoomba North	26,026			29,462	
35 Toowoomba South	26,693			31,051	
36 Townsville	27,274			32,222	
37 Warrego	20,976	4,759	25,735	21,959	26,718
38 Whitsunday	27,620			32,737	
Total	940,009	28,832	968,841	1,070,620	1,099,452

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## Page 2

Number of Districts	89			
Number of Suggested Districts	32 (currently 35 Districts)			
Average enrolment Suggested Districts	29,375	30,276	33,457	34,358
Quota	29,081		33,970	
% of Quota	101.01%	104.11%	98.49%	101.14%

\*1 Indicates that some of the District has been allocated to a District I have made a suggestion for. The number of votes shown in this list is the allocated portion.

PRC/C 97

TABLE 4

## ENROLMENTS FOR NORTH QUEENSLAND

## TOWNSVILLE REGION

District	Enrolment as at 28/09/2007	Notional Enrolment	Adjusted Enrolment	Projected Enrolment as at 28/09/2014	Adjusted Enrolment
Townsville	27,274			32,222	
Mundingberra	28,849			30,811	
Thuringowa	34,058			44,282	
Hinchinbrook (part)	12,002			12,749	
Burdekin (part)	21,807			22,516	
Charters Towers (part)	8,940	2,731	11,671	9,271	12,002
Mount Isa (part)	14,301	4,734	19,035	15,213	19,947
Total	147,229	7,465	154,694	166,864	174,329

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, 31,450, which is 108.08% of a quota.
- Projected enrolments as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, 36,716 which are 108.08% of a quota.

PLC/c 97

Name of District

The Whitsunday Electoral District was established in the 1949 redistribution.

As the suggested District still includes the Whitsunday Islands, I do not suggest a name change.

Suggested District of Mackay.

The existing District of Mackay is slightly under quota (.66%) as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, however it is expected to be 6.545 under quota on projected enrolments as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

I overcome this projected short fall I suggest that some of the areas of the areas of the existing Mirani District be transferred into the suggested District of Mackay, namely:-

- The area of south and east Mackay which was transferred to the District of Mirani in the 1999 redistribution.

There were a number of objections to this transfer in 1999 including a petition organised by Mr. Kevin Casey and the A.L.P.

- The Mackay suburbs of Paget and Ooralea.

Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Mackay:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, 31,071 which is 106.84% of a quota.
- Projected enrolments as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, 34,279 which are 100.91% of a quota.

Name of District

The District of Mackay was constituted under the Electoral District Act of 1878 and has remained a State Electoral District ever since.

As the suggested District contains the Mackay CBD I do not suggest a name change.

*PRC/c 97*

**TABLE 2**  
**ENROLMENTS OF SUGGESTED DISTRICTS IN EXCESS OF**  
**100,000 SQ KMS**

District	Current Enrolment 28/09/2007 (including notional electors)	Projected Enrolment 28/09/2014 (including notional electors)
Cook	29,528	32,004
Tablelands	30,283	32,499
Flinders	30,706	31,949
Gregory	30,859	33,115
Warrego	31,787	33,239
Total	153,143	162,806
Quota 1 District	29,081	33,970
Quota 5 Districts	145,405	169,850
% of quota	105.32%	95.85%

The Nationals said:-

*Proposed Whitsunday is largely unchanged with the exception of a small section around Glenella transferred from the existing Mackay.*

*Proposed Mackay has minimum change gaining a small section from Mount Pleasant in Mirani.*

*Proposed Mirani sheds small territory to Whitsunday and Mackay. It absorbs additional enrolments from the Fitzroy and Keppel electorates.*

The CCD's show they (the Nationals) suggest taking Mirani down to the outskirts of Gracemere and Mount Morgan.

What do these areas have in common with the Mack Region? Nothing, except they take up the numbers from the existing Fitzroy District which they want to abolish.

They are suggesting Districts like this with 'no community of interest' to 'prop up' an unsustainable District of Charters Towers.

#### Suggested District of Whitsunday

With my suggested District of Thuringowa only coming as far south as the Burdekin River, it is necessary to place the remaining area of the Burdekin Shire into the suggested District of Whitsunday.

Also, that part of the Bowen Shire currently in the existing District of Burdekin, transfers to the suggested District of Whitsunday.

To accommodate these areas in the suggested District of Whitsunday, it is necessary to transfer some area out of the suggested District, to the suggested District of Mirani...

I suggest it be that part of the existing District west of the Bruce Highway, in the City of Mackay, stretching from near Farleigh in the south to Bloomsbury in the north.

Please note: - It is not my intention to split the town of Calen, so I have included it all in the suggested District of Whitsunday.

#### Enrolments:

The enrolments of the suggested District of Whitsunday are:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, 31,450, which is 108.08% of a quota.
- Projected enrolments as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, 36,716 which are 108.08% of a quota.

*PRC/c 97***TABLE 5****ENROLMENTS FOR MACKAY REGION**

District	Enrolment as at 28/09/2007	Projected Enrolment as at 28/09/2014
Burdekin (part)	2,358	2,467
Whitsunday	27,620	32,737
Mirani (part)	26,062	29,710
Mackay	28,890	31,750
Charters Towers (part)	4,355	6,037
Total	89,285	102,701

CRC/c 97

## REGIONS

### Mackay

I believe this region extends:-

- North to Gumlu (Bowen Shire)
- South to Koumala (Sarina Shire)
- West to Moranbah and the Goonyella coal fields.

In relation to the northern extremity this view is shared by the Local Government Reform Commission, which states on Page 341 (Volume 2) of its Report:-

*Education, health, commercial, government, retail and financial services are located at Proserpine and Bowen. To the extent they are not available in these towns, residents of the Whitsunday Shire are likely to travel to Mackay, while Bowen residents are equally likely to travel to Townsville or Mackay.*

In relation to the southern extremity the Local Government Reform Commission said on Page 200 (Volume 2) of its Report:-

*Residents of Sarina and Mirani Shires are likely to travel to Mackay City to access higher order retail, health (hospital and nursing homes), education commercial and government agencies not available in those communities.*

In relation to the areas west of Mackay the Local Government Reform Commission said also on Page 200 (Volume 2) of its Report:-

*Mackay is a major industrial and service centre for the coal mines in the Bowen Basin and benefits economically from its close proximity to the large number of coal mines in the Bowen Basin and from the coal terminals of Hay Point and Dalrymple Bay in the Sarina Shire.*

After the March, 2008, Local Government elections the area I believe is the Mackay Region will be amalgamated into three (3) Regional Councils, two (2) fully in the area:-

- Mackay Regional Council encompassing the existing Mackay City, Mirani and Sarina Shires.
- Whitsunday Regional Council encompassing the existing Whitsunday and Sarina Shires.

The third Regional Council is the Isaac Regional Council which will encompass the Nebo, Belyando and Broadsound Shires.

Of these three Shires, I believe that Nebo and the Moranbah part of the Belyando Shire (including the Goonyella coal fields) the residents and industry would travel to Mackay to obtain services that could not be obtained locally, where as the Broadsound Shire would travel to Rockhampton, with the possible exception being the sugar growing area on the coast north of Carmila.

The Clermont area has three possibilities, Mackay, Emerald and hence Rockhampton.

#### Electoral Districts

There are two (2) Electoral District fully in the area and three (3) partly in the area.

The Districts of Mackay and Whitsunday are totally in the area I defined.

Mirani is principally in the area with some of the Broadsound and Livingston Shire also included in that Electoral District.

The Electoral District of Burdekin contains a part of the Bowen Shire, which I believe is part of the Mackay Region and so does the Electoral District of Charters Towers.

Table 5 shows the enrolments figures as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, and the projected figures as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

There are 89,285 electors in the area as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, and a projected enrolment as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014, of 102,701.

When the area from south of the Burdekin River, in the Burdekin Shire, is included these enrolments increase to 92,268 and 105,671 respectively.

This area (south of the Burdekin River) was surplus to the Townsville Regions requirements.

These enrolments, and projected enrolments, equate to 3.17 quotas as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, and 3.11 quotas as at 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

I believe, from the above enrolments and projected enrolments, that this region can sustain three Electoral Districts.

#### Other Suggestions

Other suggestions in this region were limited to the A.L.P. and the Nationals.

The A.L.P. said:-

- 4.4.1 Mackay should remain centre on that city.
- 4.4.2 Mirani need not be altered.

Suggested District of Mirani

My suggested District of Mirani:-

- Looses South Mackay, Paget, and Oorela to the suggested district of Mackay.
- Looses that part of the existing District in the Broadsound and Livingstone Shires.
- Gains from the existing District of Whitsunday that part of the city of Mackay, west of the Bruce Highway, stretching from near Farleigh in the south to Bloomsbury in the north, excluding the town of Calen.
- Gains from the existing District of Charters Towers a part of the area of the Belyando Shire including Moranbah and the Goonyella coal fields.

Enrolments

The enrolments of the suggested District of Mirani are:-

- As at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, 29,657, which is 101.985 of a quota.
- Projected enrolments as at 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014, 34,667 which are 102.05% of a quota.

Name of District

This Electoral District was first established in 1911 redistribution and has survived ever since.

As the suggested District contains the Mirani Shire I do not suggest a name change.

*Dec/e 97*

TABLE 3

## ENROLMENTS FOR FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND

## CAIRNS REGION

District	Enrolments as at 28/09/2007	Notional Enrolments	Adjusted Enrolment	Projected Enrolment as at 28/09/2014	Adjusted Enrolment
Cook	21,818	3,767	25,399	22,671	26,452
Tablelands	24,959			27,321	
Barron River	28,308			33,948	
Cairns	26,742			28,965	
Mulgrave	28,626			37,589	
Hinchinbrook (part)	10,737			12,021	
Charters Towers (part)	544	781	1,325	570	1,351
Mount Isa (part)	1,314	1,879	3,193	1,204	3,083
Total	143,846	6,427	150,273	164,287	170,714

*ORC/C 97*

Bob Richardson  
45 Riverstone Road  
GORDONVALE, 4865

17<sup>th</sup> December 2007

Mr. Garry Wiltshire  
Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE 4001

Fax No. (07) 3227 6478

ORC/C

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Should you have any queries please contact me by phone or fax on (07) 40 561489.

Yours sincerely



R.J. Richardson

Q2C/C 97

## REGIONS

### Central Queensland

I believe this region extends:-

- North to Ibibie (Broadsound Shire)
- South to Inveragh (Calliope Shire)
- West to the Diamantina Shire

In relation to the northern extremity the Local Government Reform Commission on Page 172 (Volume 2) of its Report states:-

*The commission the coastal tract of Broadsound Shire and gave consideration as to whether this area has greater community of interest with Rockhampton Regional Council and Mackay Regional Council. The Commission considers this change may introduce complexity in transition to the new regional local governments and as such recommends that the whole of the shire be incorporated in the Isaac Regional Council.*

Also on Page 227 (Volume 2) the Commission says:-

*The Commission suggests that the Rockhampton Regional council, the Mackay Regional Council and the Isaac Regional Council consider whether it is appropriate to change the local government with respect to the coastal strip of the current Broadsound Shire*

I consider, from these extracts that the Local Government Reform Commission believes that some of the coastal part of the Broadsound Shire would travel to Rockhampton for services they cannot obtain locally.

With regard to the southern extremity of this region the Commission states on Page 138, Volume 2:-

*Gladstone City Council's suggestion to amalgamate the northern part of Miriam Vale Shire has merit and is consistent with Bundaberg suggestion to amalgamate with the southern part of Miriam Vale Shire. However the Commission feels that this complexity in transition to the new regional entities and may disadvantage residents in the area. Therefore the*

*Commission recommends the retention of the whole of Miriam Vale Shire in the Gladstone Shire Council*

From the above I believe the residents of the northern part of Miriam Vale Shire looks upon Gladstone as it regional centre where as the southern part looks upon Bundaberg.

To the west and south west I know from personal experience the residence of Theodore (Banana Shire) travel to Rockhampton for the services they cannot obtain locally.

#### Electoral Districts

There are four (4) electorates fully in the area I described above, Rockhampton, Keppel, Fitzroy, and Gladstone.

There are five (5) partly in the area, Mirani, Charters Towers, Gregory, Callide, and Mount Isa.

When the Quilpie and Murwek Shires, with their notional votes, are included there are 5.12 quotas in this area.

I believe that from the enrolments shown in Table 6 this region can sustain five (5) Electoral Districts.

I am totally opposed to the Nationals and the Liberal Party suggestion that the existing of Fitzroy should be abolished. There are 5.12 quotas in Central Queensland and the Fitzroy should be one of them.

By adding some of the existing District of Charters Towers (which I suggest should be abolished) and the remainder of the Banana Shire there are enough electors to maintain five (5) Electoral Districts both now and on projected enrolments in 2014.

## OTHER REGIONS

### Bundaberg

The reason I have suggested major changes to this region is that with the amalgamation of Bundaberg City, Burnett, Kolan and Isis Shires at the March 2008 Local Authority elections the existing boundary of the District, surrounded by the existing District of Burnett will lose its significance.

With Miriam Vale Shire not being able to be accommodated in the suggested District of Gladstone, I suggest it be included in one of the Bundaberg Districts. Adding Miriam Vale and the Kolan Shires to these Districts means that there are too many enrolments to include the Isis Shire.

I suggest that this shire be included in the District of Maryborough.

It has been previously in the District of Hervey Bay.

By bringing Maryborough north has also meant that the suggested District of Gympie be also moved north.

### Hinterland Region.

#### Callide

As I stated previously that my suggested 'Callide' will need a new name as Callide Creek and the Callide power station are no longer in the suggested District.

The suggested District is in essence the same as the existing one taking in the new amalgamated Regional Councils of North and South Burnett.

This is why I have suggested the name 'Burnett' for the suggested District, however if the Commission considers that this suggesting would cause too much confusion, I suggest Barambah as a suitable alternative.

#### Somerset

I have suggested a new District of Somerset (replacing the existing district of Nanango) to cover the excess from the existing District of Gympie, the Sunshine Coast hinterland, and the Esk and Kilcoy Shires.

PRC/C 97

It will be necessary to include a part of the Crows Nest Shire in this suggested District as the region including the Darling Downs and the Warrego cannot sustain six (6) Districts.

I suggest the abolishment of the existing District of Cunningham.

I am opposed to the Nationals suggestion of a number of District being 'brought over the range' so as to maintain the status quo on the Darling Downs.

QRC/C 97

**TABLE 5****ENROLMENTS FOR MACKAY REGION**

District	Enrolment as at 28/09/2007	Projected Enrolment as at 28/09/2014
Burdekin (part)	2,358	2,467
Whitsunday	27,620	32,737
Mirani (part)	26,062	29,710
Mackay	28,890	31,750
Charters Towers (part)	4,355	6,037
Total	89,285	102,701

CRC/c 97

TABLE 6

## ENROLMENTS FOR CENTRAL QUEENSLAND REGION

District	Enrolment as at 28/09/2007	Notional Enrolment	Adjusted Enrolment	Projected Enrolment as at 28/09/2014	Adjusted Enrolment
Rockhampton	25,224			25,988	
Keppel	28,055			32,580	
Fitzroy	23,946			27,034	
Gladstone	29,910			34,765	
Mirani (part)	1,297			1,406	
Charters Towers (part)	4,806			5,833	
Gregory (part)	15,446	6,315		17,538	
Callide (part)	5,892			6,119	
Mount Isa	994	1,076		950	
Total	135,568	7,391	142,959	152,213	159,604

17. DEC. 2007 12:47

ATHERTON SHIRE COUNCIL

NO. 533 P. 1

# ATHERTON

PRC/C 98

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## SHIRE COUNCIL

All communications to be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, P.O. Box 573, ATHERTON, Q. 4883

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE REF.

ELE-LOC AWL:jmh Your Reference RE/619

PLEASE REFER  
ENQUIRIES TO:

Mr Alan Lambert  
(07)4091 0701

17 December 2007

Garry Wiltshire  
Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir/Madam

### ELECTORATE FOR TABLELANDS

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. Atherton Shire Council strongly objects to these proposals and respectfully suggests that you consider the following factors in making your determination.

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

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

Obviously, the strength of cultural and economic ties among Tablelands communities was recognized by the State when it chose to adopt the recommendations of the Commission to combine the four Tableland Shires into one which will be known as the Tablelands Regional Council. Given this, it is difficult to reconcile this outcome with the proposal to break up the Tablelands electorate.

3. At present there are five electoral offices located on the coast - Cairns, Barron River, Cook, Mulgrave and Hinchinbrook - the first four of which are located in or around Cairns. A more satisfactory and fairer outcome for residents of the Tablelands in terms of accessibility of their local member, would be to increase the size of the Tablelands electorate so that it falls within the quota and reduce the number of electorates on the coast to four. As indicated, this would achieve a fairer arrangement.

A Tableland Paradise

PRC/C 98  
2

Electorate for Tablelands

4. The only significant part of the new Regional Council not included in the Tablelands Electorate is the villages of Kuranda (Barron River) and Koah (Cook) and surrounding district. If the electors (about 1500) from this area were added to Tablelands then this Electorate would fall within the 10% variance allowed for in determining the number of electors in each electorate.

5. This Council is confident that if electors in the Kuranda area are added, growth trends (unfortunately not yet apparent in some recently published statistical data) will allow Tablelands to continue as a viable electorate for long into the future. The general movement north by "tree changers" and the predictions that much of Australia's agriculture would have to move north to avoid the effects of climate change, add substance to this conviction.

Further notes on the relevant submissions put to you and some suggestions for achieving equitable outcomes, are attached.

Yours faithfully



**ALAN LAMBERT**  
**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

PRC/C 98

**Electorate for Tablelands****Notes on Submission by Liberal Party of Queensland (Queensland Division)**

The basis of this submission is that three additional seats need to be created in the south east and that to do this, three under quota seats will have to be absorbed into surrounding areas if the total in the House is to stay at 89 (as required by the Electoral Act 1992). The far northern electorate of Tablelands is one of three seats it suggests should go.

**General comment**

The rationale of closing under quota electorates and redistributing electors to neighbouring electorates does not make a lot of sense in the context of maximizing the degree to which electorates reflect common social and economic purpose. Indeed it would seem more effective to ignore whether the electorate selected to be closed was "under quota" or not and consider the physical size of electorates. The reasoning here is that the trauma to electors of splitting up a small electorate would in most, if not all instances, be much less than that which would occur for a larger electorate. Those which were in a small electorate are more likely to remain within a sphere of common social and economic interest, and still have ready access to their representative.

**Specific comments**

- a. "----- Mareeba should be moved into Cook, as it has more in common with that community"

We dispute this statement and would argue that the Mareeba community is predominantly supported by intensive agriculture and merges seamlessly with communities of the southern Atherton Tablelands.

- b. The suggestion that Mulgrave and Hinchinbrook move their boundaries westwards to take over parts of the Tablelands is also rejected on the grounds that the former are essentially coastal electorates with few common social and economic ties with the Tablelands. They are also separated from the Tablelands by a major escarpment and World Heritage rainforest.

**Notes on submission by The National Party of Australia, Queensland****General comment**

This submission closely resembles that for the Liberal Party. There is however a significant difference in that it suggests the abolition of two rather than three existing electorates. One of those proposed for abolition is again Tablelands.

**Specific comments**

- a. "-----Mareeba Shire be incorporated into proposed Cook."

See comment above that Mareeba Shire has more in common with southern Atherton Tablelands than it does with Cook.

- b. "Charters Towers -----acquires additional enrolments and growth from former Tablelands territory by the inclusion of Herberton, Ravenshoe, Mt Garnet and Malanda"

Should this recommendation be adopted, a large minority (about 8000 electors) would be left isolated in the far north east of Charters Towers electorate. While a relatively coherent group in themselves, they would have virtually no social or economic links with the rest of the electorate. For example Malanda is 465 km from the city of Charters Towers.

- c. "The proposed Mulgrave ----- to include territory around Atherton and the localities of East Barron, Kart, Tinaroo, Danbulla and part of Barrine" (sic).

The suggestion that Mulgrave move its boundaries westwards to take over parts of the Tablelands is also rejected on the grounds that Mulgrave is essentially a coastal electorate with few common social and economic ties with Tablelands. It is also separated from the Tablelands by a major escarpment and World Heritage rainforest. A similar comment could be made to a non specific suggestion that 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.

PRC/C 98  
4**Electorate for Tablelands**

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**Specific comment**

*"4.2.2 We suggest that electors will have to be transferred between Tablelands, Cook, Charters Towers, and Hitchinbrook (rural electorates) and to a lesser extent to Mulgrave."*

With all these electorates below quota it is difficult to see how simple transfers among them will solve the problem. Other electorates such as Barron River and Cairns may have to become involved.

**Alternative solutions**

1. The solution which would have minimal impact and leave Tablelands as a geographic, economic and social entity would be to remove Kuranda and surrounding district from Barron River and Cook and add it to Tablelands. This would leave all three electorates under quota (Barron River fractionally) but within acceptable limits.

2. Alternatively, if an electorate must be sacrificed in the far north to make way for another in the south east, it is suggested that the electorate of Barron River be eliminated. Electors might be redistributed to bring quotas up to acceptable levels in Tablelands (see 1. above) and Cook with the remainder cascading through electorates to the south east. While the boundaries of some electorates would have to be shifted to the north, there is in general a continuity of social and economic interest throughout this coastal region and the impact on electors would be very limited.



PROC 99

**Mareeba Shire Council**  
**P.O. Box 154**  
**65 Rankin Street**  
**Mareeba Qld 4880**

Telephone (07) 4030 3900  
Facsimile (07) 4092 3323  
Email [ceo@msc.qld.gov.au](mailto:ceo@msc.qld.gov.au)  
Web [www.msc.qld.gov.au](http://www.msc.qld.gov.au)

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Our Ref: B50 E10: MB:ALS:mjn

17 December 2007

Dear Secretary

**ELECTORATE OF TABLELANDS**

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 south east of the State while providing a pool of electors to top up other northern electorates. Mareeba 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 and natural feature, the Atherton Tablelands. This Tableland is the only extensive area of subtropical to cool highland within the Australian tropics. It is bounded on the east by an escarpment and rainforests of the Wet Tropics, to the north east by the mountains and forests of the Daintree, to the north and west by the dry savannahs of the Cape and the Gulf, and the south by the rugged ranges which are the headwaters of the Tully and Herbert Rivers.
2. One of the objectives set for the Local Government Reform Commission in its review of local government boundaries in Queensland was to recommend structural changes to ensure strong, effective and financially viable Councils capable of better managing economic, environmental and social planning consistent with the regional communities of interest.

The strength of cultural and economic ties among Tablelands communities was the primary reason for the State when it chose to adopt the recommendations of the commission to combine the four Tableland Shires into one which will be known as the Tablelands Regional Council.

Given this, it is difficult to reconcile this outcome with the proposal to break up the Tablelands electorate.

3. At present there are five electoral offices located on the coast - Cairns, Barron River, Cook, Mulgrave and Hinchinbrook, the first four of which are located in or around Cairns. A more satisfactory and fairer outcome for residents of the Tablelands in terms of accessibility of their local member, would be to increase the size of the Tablelands electorate so that it falls

*Mareeba Shire - a great place to live.*

Queensland Redistribution Commission  
**ELECTORATE OF TABLELANDS**

DEC/C 99

Page 2  
17 December 2007

within quota and reduce the number of electorates on the coast to four. As indicated this would achieve a fairer arrangement.

4. The only significant part of the new Regional Council not included in the Tablelands Electorate is the villages of Kuranda (Barron River) and Koah (Cook) and surrounding district. If the electors (about 1500) from this area were added to the Tablelands then this electorate would fall within the 10% variance allowed for in determining the number of electors in each electorate.
5. This Council is confident that if electors in the Kuranda area are added, growth trends (unfortunately not yet apparent in some recently published statistical data) will allow Tablelands to continue as a viable electorate for long into the future. The general movement north by "tree changers" and the predictions that much of Australia's agriculture would have to move north to avoid the effects of climate change, add substance to this conviction.

Further notes on the relevant submissions put to you and some suggestions for achieving equitable outcomes are attached.

Should you have any queries with regard to the matters raised, please direct them to me on 4030 3900.

Yours faithfully



**Andy L Smith**  
**A/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

PCC/C 99

**NOTES ON SUBMISSION BY LIBERAL PARTY OF QUEENSLAND  
(QUEENSLAND DIVISION)**

The basis of this submission is that three additional seats need to be created in the south east and that to do this, three under quota seats will have to be absorbed into surrounding areas if the total in the House is to stay at 89 (as required by the Electoral Act 1992). The far northern electorate of Tablelands is one of three seats it suggests should go.

**General Comment**

The rationale of closing under quota electorates and redistributing electors to neighbouring electorates does not make a lot of sense in the context of maximising 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 interests, and still have ready access to their representative.

**Special 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 with communities of the southern Atherton Tablelands.

- (b) The submission suggests 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.

PLC/c 99

**NOTES ON SUBMISSION BY THE NATIONAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA,  
QUEENSLAND****General Comment**

This submission closely resembles that for the Liberal Party. There is however a significant difference in that it suggests the abolition of two rather than three existing electorates. One of those proposed for abolition is again Tablelands.

**Specific Comments**

- (a) *"... Mareeba Shire be incorporated into proposed Cook".*

See comment above that Mareeba Shire has more in common with southern Atherton Tablelands than it does with Cook.

- (b) *"Charters Towers ... acquires additional enrolments and growth from former Tablelands territory by the inclusion of Herberton, Ravenshoe, Mt Garnet and Malanda".*

Should this recommendation be adopted, a large minority (about 8000 electors) would be left isolated in the far north east of Charters Towers electorate. While a relatively coherent group in themselves, they would have virtually no social or economic links with the rest of the electorate. For example Malanda is 465 km from the city of Charters Towers.

- (c) *"The proposed Mulgrave ... to include territory around Atherton and the localities of East Barron, Kari, Tinaroo, Dambulla and part of Barrine" (sic).*

The suggestion that Mulgrave move its boundaries westwards to take over parts of the Tablelands is also rejected on the grounds that Mulgrave is essentially a coastal electorate with few common social and economic ties with Tablelands. It is also separated from the Tablelands by a major escarpment and World Heritage rainforest. A similar comment could be made to a non-specific suggestion that Hinchinbrook might also take up some Tablelands electors.

ARC/C 99

**NOTES ON SUBMISSION BY THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY****General Comment**

While recognising the need for two additional electorates in the south east of the State, this submission does not argue for any specific electorate to be abolished.

**Specific Comment**

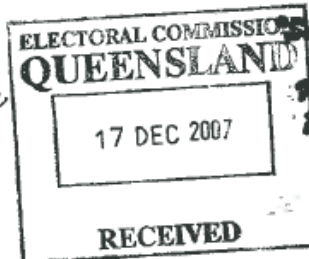
"4.2.2 We suggest that electors will have to be transferred between Tablelands, Cook, Charters Towers and Hinchinbrook (rural electorates) and to a lesser extent to Mulgrave".

With all these electorates below quota it is difficult to see how simple transfers among them will solve the problem. Other electorates such as Barron River and Cairns may have to become involved.

**Alternative Solutions**

1. The solution which would have minimal impact and leave Tablelands as a geographic, economic and social entity would be to remove Kuranda and surrounding district from Barron River and Cook and add it to Tablelands. This would leave all three electorates under quote (Barron River fractionally) but within acceptable limits.
2. Alternatively, if an electorate must be sacrificed in the far north to make way for another in the south east, it is suggested that the electorate of Barron River be eliminated. Electors might be redistributed to bring quotas up to acceptable levels in Tablelands (see 1 above) and Cook with the remainder cascading through electorates to the south east. While the boundaries of some electorates would have to be shifted to the north, there is in general a continuity of social and economic interest throughout this coastal region and the impact on electors would be very limited.

Electorate Commission Qld,  
G.P.O. Box 1393  
Brisbane Qld 4001



Sir / Madam,

Re distribution of Electoral Boundaries

I am forwarding my concerns to you, regarding the redistribution of Electoral boundaries for the Tabland Electorate. I am expecting this letter to be treated with more RESPECT & REGARD, than the 47,000 Qld voters received when they submitted their concerns over the forced Council amalgamations, to the Local Government reform Commission in Qld this year.

- 1) Yet another, proposed, loss of voice put on to the country people, at the moment we have a voice in Parliament representing the diversified Tabland Communities which is vital for our well being, prosperity & direct input to the government especially in case of cyclonic impact, which has a huge chance of happening more often with climate change.
- 2) Our State Member Rosa Lee Long is doing a wonderful job, travelling to Parliament in Brisbane. On weekends & other breaks, she often gets home very very late Friday night, then travelling out into the community early Saturday morning (involves hundreds, up to more than 1,000 Km distances) listening to our concerns etc. We could not possibly have the same vital input from our member 200 K's away in Charters Towers or anywhere else. How can the Member possibly know what the community needs that far away. Don't forget democratic Government is by the people for the people.
- 3) With the forecast unprecedented growth in population in this area, puts even more importance on retaining the Electoral boundary, as
- 4) We will be disadvantaged by having to travel 100's of K's to see our Elected State Member, with the cost of fuel in the \$1.30 to \$1.50 per litre mark, this is a tremendous cost in money & time to travel to have personal contact <sup>with</sup> our Member. City people have a big advantage in only having to go a short distance, which is a small cost in time & money for them & their Member living close to Parliament.

Leave our Electorate alone & change the boundaries in SE Qld where the time & expense of travelling is not as great, & communities not so diversified. Copies of this letter will be posted to Rosa Lee Long, Bob Katter, Qld Liberal Party, Qld National Party & Qld Labour Party.

Awaiting your reply.

Dennis Spittway



*A Caring, Sharing Community*

4RC/c 101  
*Carinya Home for the Aged*

ABN: 59 613 202 819

Hostel Ph: (07) 4091 2177 Fax: (07) 4091 2840

Nursing Wing/Specific Care Unit Ph: (07) 4091 2599

P.O. Box 522, Atherton Q. 4883 email: [admin@carinyahome.org.au](mailto:admin@carinyahome.org.au)

13 December 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Via email: [ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir

**RE: QUEENSLAND STATE REDISTRIBUTION**

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

I believe the seat of Tablelands must remain as is because Far North Queensland is the second fastest growing area of the state after the South East. It is foolish to consider reducing the number of seats in an area which is undergoing such significant population growth.

Reducing Elector's access to their MP. None, or very few, Tablelanders would be closer in travelling time to their MP if they were to be divided among surrounding Electorates. Under some suggestions they would instead suddenly be up to 465 kilometres from their "local" representative (Malanda to Charters Towers as proposed by the Nationals).

A suggested redistribution in FNQ could be for Tablelands to absorb those portions of Mareeba Shire not now 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 makes it possible to maintain the six-seat representation FNQ hold in Parliament, with all seats maintaining the core of their existing area and continuity of Community, social, economic and other interests.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Nicholls  
*Business Coordinator*

QRC/C

QRC/C 102

14 Herberton Road  
Atherton Qld 4883  
12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

**Re: Queensland State Redistribution**

I wish to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22) and the Liberal Party of Australia (Old Division) (QRC/S20) which specifically nominate my electorate of Tablelands to be incorporated into other electorates.

I also wish to point out that the Tablelands percentage below the quota figure given in the Liberal Party's submission does not accord with either the Commission's initial quota of 29,081 nor the figure of 29,471 which appears to be used for the Enrolment figures table given on the web-site ecq.qld.gov.au. The Liberal Party's figures show a greater under quota figure than either a calculation based on 29,081 (the figure provided by the Commission for people lodging suggestions) or a calculation based on 29,471. This bias in their figures applies to the Tablelands electorate and a few other electorates that I checked.

I noted that the Commission was required to take into consideration other factors such as community of interest, ways of communication and travel, projected population growth or decline, etc.

I wish to make the points that:

1. The Tablelands is connected to the Cairns coastal area only by a long windy road (Kuranda Range road or the Gillies Highway. Please note that the Atherton Hospital has a helicopter linking it to the Cairns Hospital as transport by car is not considered suitable for emergencies due to the windy roads.
2. The windy roads do discourage some people who are susceptible to car sickness from making trips to the coastal areas. (My wife is one of those.)
3. Kuranda, which is part of Mareeba shire, could be included in the Tablelands electorate and would probably add sufficient number of enrolled electors to have the Tablelands electorate to be within the desired +/- 10 % of the quota.
4. From my personal observations, the Tablelands area appears to be a growth area. This is particularly noticeable in the towns of Atherton and Mareeba where there are numerous new development areas being opened up.

While I understand that the Electoral Commission is required to have electorates containing close to the quota of electors to have a proportional electoral system, I would suggest the seat of Tablelands should remain almost unchanged but with an inclusion of Kuranda from the Barron electorate to increase the number of electors. Presently the Barron electorate is slightly over quota according to the figures given in the Enrolment figures table.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Pang Way

QRC/C 103

13.12.2007

Beryl Klye  
P.O. Box 326  
Malanda 4885

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Queensland State Redistribution      QRC/C

I wish to express my strong opposition to suggestions in the submissions made by the National Party (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party (Qld) (QRC/S22), and the ALP (QRC/S20) whereby my Electorate of Tablelands may be lost.

I believe the seat of Tablelands must remain intact as:

- There are huge investments in housing developments currently, heralding massive, rapid growth in population. This population needs to retain representation.
- The State Government has recently amalgamated four Local Governments in pretty much the same area, claiming the region to be a cohesive, well-oiled, working community. Why, almost immediately after, choose to split it up?
- Provincial areas have distance considerations. Abolishing the electorate merely complicates the problem for voters and representatives.
- Although our Electorate has a variety of industries, there is little of common interest with the much drier west, or with the much more humid coast.
- This rapidly-growing region needs to retain its voice in State Parliament so as to maintain a well-organised future, to keep that growth on a forward-looking, profitable track, rather than become directionless & insignificant, without a say in its future.

Yours faithfully,  
Beryl Klye.

REC/C 104

Sir,

We, the Local Government Residents Association submit our comments and submissions in respect of the Redistribution of the States 89 Electoral Districts.

Having studied all 24 submissions we suggest that of the 89 districts all of the 52 New Council Amalgamations should be part of and included as such with boundaries as defined in law by the Queensland Parliament.

Posted Friday Aug 10, 2007 5.35am AEST.

Updated Friday Aug 10, 2007m 9.38am AEST.

It is our belief... It is the underlying principal of the Westminster system government that the State Government should be ruled by ordinary people with a genuine interest in their area. Each and every Local Council, regardless of its size, should have its own elected member, to defend the elementary rights of its citizens and not be forced into following a particular party line controlled by party dictatorial power.

The third level of Government, Local Government, and the grass roots of freedom is being stripped bare and must as a democracy be heard. Residents are the shareholders, the volunteers within their communities. Their knowledge is worth more than all the wealth of this great State.

F.F.ABIURN  
Co-Ordinator  
Local Government Residents Association  
Nanango Branch.  
Ph (07) 41 71 01 06 (silent)

QRC/c 105

Herberton Memorial Bowls Club Inc

Chairman: Colin Johnson

Secretary: Kay Bagley

Treasurer: Dawn Snoek

PO Box 81

Herberton 4887

Ph 40962201

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane Q 4001

11/12/07

Dear Sir,

Subject: Queensland State Redistribution



On behalf of the Club I write to express strong member opposition to suggestions made in submissions by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Queensland Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19) that elude to the loss of the Tablelands electorate.

Loss of the Tablelands electorate will reduce the Clubs capacity to access information and services provided by their local MP, contradict the Government's own (PIFU) projected growth rate for the electorate and impact on every aspect of life, from recreational activities to industry, from tourism to infrastructure etc

First amalgamation now destruction. What next

Yours Sincerely

*K Bagley*  
Kay Bagley

QRC/C 106

**Tepon Equestrian Club Inc**

Chairman: Bill Leet  
Secretary: Janet Fournier  
Treasurer: Lyn Leet

Po Box 475  
Herberton 4887  
Ph 40962676

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane Q 4001

12/12/07


Dear Sir,

**Re: Queensland State Redistribution**

Members of the Tepon Equestrian Club are strongly opposed to suggestions in the submissions made by the Nationals (QRC/S22), the Liberal Party of Australia (Queensland Division) (QRC/S20) and the Australian Labor Party (QRC/S19) which either specifically nominate their electorate of Tablelands for destruction, or create a situation where by that is likely.

Members believe the seat of Tablelands must remain for the following reasons:

- Tablelands is located in the second fastest growing area of the State. Population projections produced by the Queensland Government's Planning Information and Forecasting Unit predict an increase from 22,697 in 2006 to 28,824 in 2026;
- The four Tableland Shire Councils have recently been forced to amalgamate to form the Tablelands Regional Council. The suggestion to now divide the seat of Tablelands among neighbouring electorates eludes to complete contradiction of the amalgamation purpose;
- Loss of the electorate will reduce community access to their MP and the services provided by the Tablelands electorate office;

Yours Sincerely  
  
Bill Leet



Peter Hodge  
39 Main St.  
Atherton 4883

QRC/C 107

17/12/2007

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) which nominate my electorate of Tablelands for destruction.

I believe the seat of Tablelands must remain due to:

- Far North Queensland is the second fastest growing area of the state after the South East. It is foolish to consider reducing the number of seats in an area which is undergoing such significant population growth.
- Tablelands (Atherton, Eacham, Herberton and Mareeba councils) have just been forced to amalgamate because, after claimed extensive consideration and consultation by an independent body, the area was identified as being a unique, cohesive community with many similarities.
- To then consider breaking it up and dividing this cohesive community among electorates as different and varied as Charters Towers (dry, western, rural grazing and mining) and Mulgrave (super-wet, coastal, rural sugar cane and tourism) is extremely inconsistent.

As the Tablelands, as far as local Government is concerned, has been amalgamated, I quote from "The Report of the Local Government Reform Commission" Vol. 2:

**3.2 Communities of interest**

- 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. A number of services can also be accessed at Herberton. Almost all residents would travel to Cairns to access services not available on the Tablelands.
- Tourism is significant within the region with all local governments having a common goal of fostering the development of this sector. The lakes (Eacham, Barrine and Tinaroo) are popular destinations as are Kuranda, Malanda and Yungaburra. These localities are also frequented by residents undertaking leisure activities. The Kuranda Sky Rail and Kuranda Rail Line are well known both domestically and internationally.
- The major towns and settlements are in relatively close proximity. All major towns with the exception of Malanda are on the Kennedy Highway. The majority of residents are within 30 kilometres of a service centre, with the average maximum traveling time 30 minutes.
- The Atherton Tablelands is a unique geographic area with no natural barriers between the various communities.

PRC/107

- 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.

Under no way should the seat of Tablelands ever be dissolved.

The Commission is also required to give consideration to:

- Community of interest
- Ways of communication and travel
- The physical features of each proposed electoral district
- The boundaries of existing districts and
- Projected population growth or decline in particular areas.

I thank you for your time on this matter and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



Peter Hodge

CR. C. Adams  
38 Cumbrian Ave  
Atherton 4883

QRC/c 108

17/12/2007

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) which nominate my electorate of Tablelands for destruction.

I believe the seat of Tablelands must remain due to:

- Far North Queensland is the second fastest growing area of the state after the South East. It is foolish to consider reducing the number of seats in an area which is undergoing such significant population growth.
- Tablelands (Atherton, Eacham, Herberton and Mareeba councils) have just been forced to amalgamate because, after claimed extensive consideration and consultation by an independent body, the area was identified as being a unique, cohesive community with many similarities.
- To then consider breaking it up and dividing this cohesive community among electorates as different and varied as Charters Towers (dry, western, rural grazing and mining) and Mulgrave (super-wet, coastal, rural sugar cane and tourism) is extremely inconsistent.

As the Tablelands, as far as local Government is concerned, has been amalgamated, I quote from "The Report of the Local Government Reform Commission" Vol. 2:

**3.2 Communities of interest**

- 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. A number of services can also be accessed at Herberton. Almost all residents would travel to Cairns to access services not available on the Tablelands.
- Tourism is significant within the region with all local governments having a common goal of fostering the development of this sector. The lakes (Eacham, Barrine and Tinaroo) are popular destinations as are Kuranda, Malanda and Yungaburra. These localities are also frequented by residents undertaking leisure activities. The Kuranda Sky Rail and Kuranda Rail Line are well known both domestically and internationally.
- The major towns and settlements are in relatively close proximity. All major towns with the exception of Malanda are on the Kennedy Highway. The majority of residents are within 30 kilometres of a service centre, with the average maximum traveling time 30 minutes.
- The Atherton Tablelands is a unique geographic area with no natural barriers between the various communities.

- 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.

PRC/C 108

Under no way should the seat of Tablelands ever be dissolved.

The Commission is also required to give consideration to:

- Community of interest
- Ways of communication and travel
- The physical features of each proposed electoral district
- The boundaries of existing districts and
- Projected population growth or decline in particular areas.

I thank you for your time on this matter and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

  
Chris Adams

PRC/C 109

7/030/001  
7/400/100 GKM:wr

17 December 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001  
[ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Redistribution – Electorate of the Tablelands**

The Herberton Shire Council has noted submissions that have been made to your Commission which suggests that the electorate of the Tablelands be abolished. It appears that the general argument is that the abolition would assist in establishing other electorates in the South East of the State while providing a pool of electors to increase representation of other northern electorates.

The Herberton Shire Council submits its strong objection to the proposals and requests that consideration be given to the factors detailed in the attached submission, when the Commission makes its determination.

Yours faithfully



**Gordon K. Malcolm**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

# HERBERTON SHIRE COUNCIL



Submission to Queensland Redistribution Commission

Electorate of the Tablelands

The Herberton Shire Council wishes to make this submission regarding the proposals that have been submitted by the various political parties which calls for alteration or abolition of the electorate of the Tablelands.

The Herberton Shire Council strongly objects to the proposals and wishes to place the following factors forward to the Commission when it makes its determination.

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

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

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

Given this, it is difficult to reconcile this outcome with the proposal to break up the Tablelands electorate."

3. At present there are 5 electoral offices located on the coast- Cairns, Barron River, Cook, Mulgrave and Hinchinbrook - the first 4 of which are located in or around Cairns. A more satisfactory and fairer outcome for residents of the Tablelands in terms of accessibility of their local member, would be to increase the size of the Tablelands electorate so that it falls within quota and reduce the number of electorates on the coast to 4. As indicated this would achieve a fairer arrangement."
4. The only significant part of the new Regional Council not included in the Tablelands Electorate is the villages of Kuranda (Barron River) and Koah (Cook) and surrounding district. If the electors (about 1500) from this area were added to Tablelands then this Electorate would fall within the 10% variance allowed for in determining the number of electors in each electorate.
5. This Council is confident that if electors in the Kuranda area are added, growth trends (unfortunately not yet apparent in some recently published statistical data) will allow Tablelands to continue as a viable electorate for long into the future. The general movement north by "tree changers" and the predictions that much of Australia's agriculture would have to move north to avoid the effects of climate change, add substance to this conviction.

QRC/C109

HERBERTON SHIRE COUNCIL

SUBMISSION TO QUEENSLAND REDISTRIBUTION COMMISSION  
ELECTORATE OF THE TABLELANDS

The Herberton Shire Council also wishes to include in its submission the following notes on the submissions by the various political parties: —

**Notes on Submission by Liberal Party of Queensland (Queensland Division) QRC/S20**

The basis of this submission is that three additional seats need to be created in the south east and that to do this, three under quota seats will have to be absorbed into surrounding areas if the total in the House is to stay at 89 (as required by the Electoral Act 1992). The far northern electorate of Tablelands is one of three seats it suggests should go.

**General comment**

The rationale of closing under quota electorates and redistributing electors to neighbouring electorates does not make a lot of sense in the context of maximizing the degree to which electorates reflect common social and economic purpose. Indeed it would seem more effective to ignore whether the electorate selected to be closed was "under quota" or not and consider the physical size of electorates. The reasoning here is that the trauma to electors of splitting up a small electorate would in most, if not all instances, be much less than that which would occur for a larger electorate. Those which were in a small electorate are more likely to remain within a sphere of common social and economic interest, and still have ready access to their representative.

**Specific comments**

- a. "----- Mareeba should be moved into Cook, as it has more in common with that community"

We dispute this statement and would argue that the Mareeba community is predominantly supported by intensive agriculture and merges seamlessly with communities of the southern Atherton Tablelands.

- b. The suggestion that Mulgrave and Hinchinbrook move their boundaries westwards to take over parts of the Tablelands is also rejected on the grounds that the former are essentially coastal electorates with few common social and economic ties with the Tablelands. They are also separated from the Tablelands by a major escarpment and World Heritage rainforest.

**Notes on submission by The National Party of Australia, Queensland QRC/S22**

**General comment**

This submission closely resembles that for the Liberal Party. There is however a significant difference in that it suggests the abolition of two rather than three existing electorates. One of those proposed for abolition is again Tablelands.

**Specific comments**

- a. "-----Mareeba Shire be incorporated into proposed Cook."

See comment above that Mareeba Shire has more in common with southern Atherton Tablelands than it does with Cook.

---

b. *"Charters Towers -----acquires additional enrolments and growth from former Tablelands territory by the inclusion of Herberton, Ravenshoe, Mt Garnet and Malanda"*

Should this recommendation be adopted, a large minority (about 8000 electors) would be left isolated in the far north east of Charters Towers electorate. While a relatively coherent group in themselves, they would have virtually no social or economic links with the rest of the electorate. For example Malanda is 465 km from the city of Charters Towers.

c. *"The proposed Mulgrave ----- to include territory around Atherton and the localities of East Barron, Kari, Tinaroo, Dambulla and part of Barrine" (sic).*

The suggestion that Mulgrave move its boundaries westwards to take over parts of the Tablelands is also rejected on the grounds that Mulgrave is essentially a coastal electorate with few common social and economic ties with Tablelands. It is also separated from the Tablelands by a major escarpment and World Heritage rainforest. A similar comment could be made to a non specific suggestion that Hinchinbrook might also take up some Tablelands electors.

#### Notes on submission by the Australian Labor Party QRC/S19

##### General comment

While recognising the need for two additional electorates in the south east of the State, this submission does not argue for any specific electorate to be abolished.

##### Specific comment

*"4.2.2 We suggest that electors will have to be transferred between Tablelands, Cook, Charters Towers, and Hinchinbrook (rural electorates) and to a lesser extent to Mulgrave."*

With all these electorates below quota it is difficult to see how simple transfers among them will solve the problem. Other electorates such as Barron River and Cairns may have to become involved.

##### Alternative solutions

1. The solution which would have minimal impact and leave Tablelands as a geographic, economic and social entity would be to remove Kuranda and surrounding district from Barron River and Cook and add it to Tablelands. This would leave all three electorates under quota (Barron River fractionally) but within acceptable limits.
2. Alternatively, if an electorate must be sacrificed in the far north to make way for another in the south east, it is suggested that the electorate of Barron River be eliminated. Electors might be redistributed to bring quotas up to acceptable levels in Tablelands (see 1. above) and Cook with the remainder cascading through electorates to the south east. While the boundaries of some electorates would have to be shifted to the north, there is in general a continuity of social and economic interest throughout this coastal region and the impact on electors would be very limited.

It is hoped that Council's representations will be able to be taken into consideration when the determination is made.

PRC / C 110

Alan Kirkegard  
228 Little Bella Creek Rd  
Bella Creek 4570  
QLD

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

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

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

I object to the proposal.

Our schools, our churches, and our sporting clubs are in Gympie. Our banks and businesses and our doctors and dentists are located in Gympie. Most of these offices have branches in the Mary Valley.

There is a mountain range between us and Nanango. There is no public access via road over the mountains. 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.

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

It is ludicrous to consider moving the Mary Valley out of the Gympie electorate when we are unsure of what the physical features of the Mary Valley may be! We may be a lake or we may be a swamp. We may have an increased population or we may have a decreased population.

The proposal also suggests that Cooroy and Pomona stay with the Gympie Electorate. That effectively isolates them from the Gympie electorate, forcing resident to cross through the Nanango electorate to get to Gympie.

QRC/C 110

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

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

Commonsense needs to prevail in this redistribution.

We have been through enough stress over the last 18 months with ill conceived bureaucratic process. This proposal is yet another blow to a close knit community with our family's history and heritage firmly cemented with that of Gympie's.

Yours sincerely,

*Alan Kirkegard*

Alan Kirkegard

DEC/c 111

"Benyule"  
Happy Jack Creek Rd.  
Cooroy 4563  
13<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

Dear Sir,

Re : Proposal to remove certain Mary Valley areas from Gympie  
Electorate to the Nanango Electorate

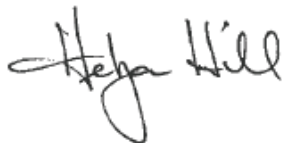
As a resident of this area I object strongly to the proposed changes. They totally ignores the fact that there is no connection between the Mary Valley area proposed for removal from the Gympie electorate to Nanango/ Kingaroy area.

There are no roads connecting the two areas and in fact there is nothing to connect them as Gympie is the Town that services the Mary valley for all its needs. For people to get to see their state member, they would have to drive north ,through Gympie then inland to Kingaroy some 2 hours drive away.

There is a mountain range between the two regions and NO connecting roads,[ a check on a geographical map will reveal this.] It shows that this proposal has not been considered correctly.

Gympie is our regional town and we should not be excluded from it. It is our democratic right to have a representative who is able to serve the community and therefore must be within a reasonable distance. We are talking about the Qld SE and not the far west of the state! Please will you reconsider this proposal and give the residents a chance to have their say .

Yours Faithfully,  
Helga Hill



Dec/c 112

Jan Watt  
PO Box 107  
39 Kevin Road  
Imbil, Qld 4570  
P: 54845287

**ATTENTION: Queensland Electoral Commission**

**RE: Comment on State redistribution proposal for the electorate of GYMPIE**

I request that my comments on the submissions be considered with regard to the existing State Electoral District of GYMPIE

With reference to the Submissions from the Qld Labour Party and the Qld National Party, neither of these submissions meet the 5 criteria outlined in your terms of reference with regard to the electorate of GYMPIE

The Commission is required to give consideration to the following:

1. The extent to which there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each proposed electoral district;
2. The ways of communication and travel within each proposed electoral district;
3. The physical features of each proposed electoral district;
4. The boundaries of existing electoral districts;

With reference to this information I submit the following points that identify why the proposals of the Labour and National parties should be disregarded and the proposal of the Liberal party should be considered regarding the GYMPIE ELECTORATE.

1. The extent to which there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each proposed electoral district;
  - None of the above mentioned community of interest areas WHATSOEVER are shared between the Mary Valley townships of Imbil, Amamoor, Kandanga, Dagun, Traveston, Brooloo & Cooran and the Nanango Electorate.
  - There are no shared service by these two regions
  - Postcodes are different
2. The ways of communication and travel within each proposed electoral district;

There are no road linkages between the Mary Valley townships of Imbil, Amamoor, Kandanga, Dagun, Traveston, Brooloo & Cooran and the Nanango Electorate. Access from the Mary Valley townships to Nanango electorate is to travel North through the city of GYMPIE which is where these townsfolk conduct their economic, social, medical, educational, financial, shopping and other

activities. To travel to the Nanango Electorate constitutes a further travel time of 3 to 4 hours in addition to the 30-40 minutes already undertaken to arrive in GYMPIE.

Apart from proving that there is no community of interest due to the absence of road access. How would a State member service those townships.

**3. the physical features of each proposed electoral district;**

The areas of Gympie and Nanango Electorates are severely divided by major physical features including massive forestry areas, mountain ranges and no roads. There is no geographical connection whatsoever.

**4. the boundaries of existing districts; and**

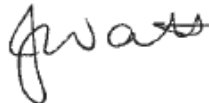
The Boundaries of existing districts (State) would be better aligned with the new Local Government boundaries for the GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL excluding the areas including Kilkivan town and West. This would achieve the quota requirements being sought.

**5. projected population growth or decline in particular areas.**

The population of the GYMPIE region is expected to continue to rise rapidly with the growth of the Sunshine Coast Area. Therefore it would be anticipated that the QEC take this into account when setting the quotas.

Please make careful consideration, as you are required to do prior to making this major decision.

Yours sincerely



Jan Watt

QRC/C 113

Arthur Boothby  
PO Box 107  
39 Kevin Road  
Imbil, Qld 4570  
P: 54845287

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The Boundaries of existing districts (State) would be better aligned with the new Local Government boundaries for the GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL excluding the areas including Kilkivan town and West. This would achieve the quota requirements being sought.

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Please make careful consideration, as you are required to do prior to making this major decision.

Yours sincerely



Arthur Boothby

PRC/C 114

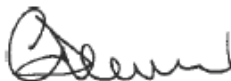
5 Excelsior Road  
GYMPIE  
QLD 4570

14<sup>th</sup> December, 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Sir or Madam,

*I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes which would see  
Amamoor, Kandanga, Imbil, Brooloo, Traveston, Cooran and other areas removed from  
the Gympie Electorate and included in Nanango.*



Carla Durnan

DLR/C 115

Lintham Rd

Kandanga 4572

14 12 07

The Secretary

Qld Redistribution Commission

Locked bag 3304

Brisbane 4001

Dear Sir

Re Proposal to remove Parts of the  
Gympie Electorate (Mary Valley Towns) to the  
electorate of Nanango.

As a resident of Kandanga I strongly  
oppose this proposal.

Topographically this region is not connecte  
to the current Nanango electorate.  
To meet with our elected member of  
Parliament would be a two hour drive  
through two adjoining electorates.

Gympie is the centre for this  
region.

Yours faithfully  
David R. Sims

David R Sims

PRC/C 116

THE DENNIS FAMILY  
STEVE & KATHLEEN DENNIS  
26 CANNONBAUGH RD  
BROOLLOO 4570

**ATTENTION: Queensland Electoral Commission**

**RE: Comment on State redistribution proposal for the electorate of GYMPIE**

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PRC/C 116

activities. To travel to the Nanango Electorate constitutes a further travel time of 3 to 4 hours in addition to the 30-40 minutes already undertaken to arrive in GYMPIE.

Apart from proving that there is no community of interest due to the absence of road access. How would a State member service those townships.

**3. the physical features of each proposed electoral district;**

The areas of Gympie and Nanango Electorates are severely divided by major physical features including massive forestry areas, mountain ranges and no roads. There is no geographical connection whatsoever.

**4. the boundaries of existing districts; and**

The Boundaries of existing districts (State) would be better aligned with the new Local Government boundaries for the GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL excluding the areas including Kilkivan town and West. This would achieve the quota requirements being sought.

**5. projected population growth or decline in particular areas.**

The population of the GYMPIE region is expected to continue to rise rapidly with the growth of the Sunshine Coast Area. Therefore it would be anticipated that the QEC take this into account when setting the quotas.

Please make careful consideration, as you are required to do prior to making this major decision.

Yours sincerely



KATHLEEN DENNIS

DEC/c 117

Amanda Watt  
PO Box 107  
39 Kevin Road  
Imbil, Qld 4570  
P: 54845287

**ATTENTION: Queensland Electoral Commission**

**RE: Comment on State redistribution proposal for the electorate of GYMPIE**

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PRC/C 117

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Please make careful consideration, as you are required to do prior to making this major decision.

Yours sincerely



Amanda Watt

PRC/C 118

We, the undersigned, would like to strongly protest against proposed electoral changes.

**ATTENTION: Queensland Electoral Commission**

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The Boundaries of existing districts (State) would be better aligned with the new Local Government boundaries for the GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL excluding the areas including Kilkivan town and West. This would achieve the quota requirements being sought.

5. projected population growth or decline in particular areas.

The population of the GYMPIE region is expected to continue to rise rapidly with the growth of the Sunshine Coast Area. Therefore it would be anticipated that the QEC take this into account when setting the quotas.

Please make careful consideration, as you are required to do prior to making this major decision.

Yours sincerely

<p>Rolyn Sutton          to Elizabeth St.          Smilil          H.J. Sutton.</p>	<p>Carol Bloomfield          45 Diamondfield Rd          Amamoor 4570.          C. Bloomfield.</p>
<p>Kathryn Hawke          1 Chipindall Rd          Kandanga          K.H. - H.</p>	<p>Tracy Kurtz          62 Marroo Rd          Brooloo 4570.          TKH</p>

QRC/C 119

14-12-07.

DAVID JEFFERSON

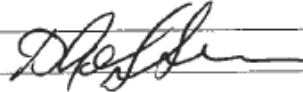
59 MAIN ST

KANDANGA

QLD 4570

I AM WRITING TO STATE THAT I AM  
ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED TO THE PROPOSED  
CHANGES THAT WOULD SEE AMANDOR  
KANDANGA IMBIL BROOKHO TRAVESTON  
COORAN REMOVED FROM THE GYMPIE  
ELECTORATE AND TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
NANANGO ELECTORATE, THIS STATE  
WILL SOON BE RUN BY BROWN SHIRTS  
AND JACK BOOTS.

YOURS SINCERELY.



DEC/C 120



P.O Box 16  
Kandanga Qld 4570  
ABN 86 283 789 101

14<sup>th</sup> December, 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

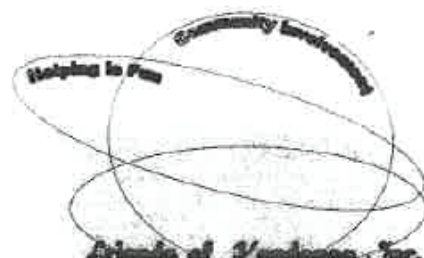
Dear Sir,

Re: Proposal to remove certain Mary Valley areas from Gympie Electorate to Nanango Electorate.

As Secretary of our group "Friends of Kandanga" I have been directed to write regarding the above. Friends of Kandanga have a membership of 68 members and take a lead role in Community Involvement and trade as a Non profit organization. Our group strongly object's to the proposed Electorate change e.g. Removal of Kandanga, Imbil, Brooloo, Amamoor, Cooran and Traveston areas from the Gympie Electorate to the Nanango Electorate. The business's and residents of our town have suffered greatly with the announcement of the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam. To deprive us of our connection with Gympie would be yet another blow, and would be most inconvenient and expensive to travel to Kingaroy to interact with Government business. We ask for consideration and opportunity to vote to "Stay or Move".

Kindest Regards

Adrienne Dan  
Secretary / Treasurer  
Friends of Kandanga.



ET Cleghorn and AE Brown  
PO Box 71  
Herberton 4887

*ERC/C 121*

11 December, 2007

The Commissioner  
Electoral Commission of Queensland

Dear Sir/Madam,

My husband and I wish to submit our objections to the recently published proposal to redistribute the electoral boundaries of our electorate of Tablelands.

Our reasons are as follows:

- By dissolving the Tablelands electorate and re assigning various bits of it to other electorates such as Charters Towers in our case or Cook in the case of the northern areas of this electorate you will deprive us and our neighbours of a chance to meet face to face with our member of parliament on a regular basis.
- The distance involved in travelling to an electoral office in Charters Towers, Cooktown or other more distant places will impose great financial hardship on the electors. Not only will there be a great cost in dollar terms but also in terms of man-hours taken to traverse the distances involved. Unlike the electors of the south eastern corner of the state we do not have public transport in terms of buses or trains that would facilitate easy travel to and fro within an increased electorate.
- Electronic access to our local members is not always an option because the great electronic highway this far north is like our roads - full of 'potholes' and not reliable.
- The far north has always had reduced opportunities to access government officials than the south-eastern corner of the state. Access to politicians, government heads of department, commissions and committees is a very costly exercise when you reside north of Brisbane.

If you allow the redistribution to continue and disperse the Tablelands electorate among other far distant electorates then you will have compounded the already huge disadvantages we cope with here in the far north.

We were still part of Queensland last time I looked at a map and would appreciate some consideration and priority being given to our needs for once in the history of this supposedly 'smart state'.

Yours sincerely,

*Eric Cleghorn -  
Avril Brown.*

Eric Cleghorn & Avril Brown

QRC/C 122

6 Kenilworth Rd

Juchehai

Via Gympie 4570

13-12-07

The Secretary

Queensland Redistribution Commission

Locked Bag 3304

Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

I wish to register a protest against the changing of electoral boundaries which takes a large part of the Mary Valley out of Coooloolo to join with Nanango.

The Mary Valley has nothing in common with the Nanango district; and after all Gympie is the heart of the Mary Valley.

These changes are typical of this state government's policy of secrecy and no public consultation. We, the public, only find out via the media of these changes which affect our lives, with only a few days to respond with a public submission.

Regards,

Sian Beatty.

QRC/C 123

205 Hasthorpe Road  
KANDANGA 4570

13<sup>TH</sup> December 2007

The Secretary,  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

Dear Sir,

Re: Proposal to remove certain Mary Valley areas from Gympie Electorate to  
Nanango Electorate

As a resident of an area impacted by the proposed change I object strongly to the proposed removal of Kandanga, Imbil, Brooloo, Amamoor, Cooran and Traveston areas from the Gympie Electorate and transfer to the Nanango Electorate.

Our region of the Mary Valley has a strong connection with Gympie and no connection whatsoever with Nanango. In fact there is a mountain range in between and no normal road connection between our area and Kingaroy.


Gympie is where most of our business and personal transactions are enacted and generally where we go to conduct local and state government business. If we want to meet with our State Member, it would be highly inconvenient and expensive to travel to Kingaroy to do so and would therefore impact on the democratic process.

The people of the Mary valley are under enormous pressure resulting from the government's proposal to dam the Mary River at Traveston Crossing. Cutting us off from our traditional electoral region and support will only add to the stress and hardship we are already experiencing.

Rather than exclude us from the decision making process we request that if you are seriously considering making the changes outlined above, you take the following steps. Firstly, put in place a process whereby the affected communities are informed by way of public meetings of the perceived benefits of the change and secondly, provide an opportunity for the affected residents to vote to stay or move.

I look forward to your consideration and early reply.

Yours Faithfully,

  
Kevin Ingersole

PRC/C 124

63 Driers Rd,  
Cooran, 4569  
14/12/2007

The Secretary,  
Queensland Redistribution Commission,

Dear Sir/Madam,

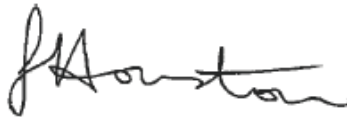
My family reside in the upper Mary Valley, near Cooran. Our state representative is David Gibson of the National Party. I have just read, with dismay, of a plan to remove the Mary Valley from the Gympie electorate. It appears that this plan has been hidden from the public until revealed two days ago by our representative, David Gibson.

I can only assume that the motive for such a move is related to the Traveston Dam which is being treated as a fait accompli despite it having not yet been through the environmental approval process.

It makes me sick to see public officials behave in such deceitful fashion to inflict on a community, destruction which is totally unnecessary. Then to water down their representation by slight-of-hand only makes it worse.

Please do not go ahead with the proposal to remove Mary Valley from Gympie electorate. I can see no good come from this plan.

Signed



Geoffrey D Houston

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE. Q 4001

PO BOX 1008  
MAREEBA. Q 4880  
(RES: 17 Middlemiss St. Mareeba)  
9th December 2007

QRC/C 125

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are opposed to the possibility of the seat of TABLELANDS being redistributed in the upcoming redistribution process. QRC/S19, QRC/S20 + QRC/S22.

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 is not in the interests of representation of the electors by their M.P.

Thousands of people are moving from other states into Queensland each year so we suggest either making new seats or moving seats from other states where the population must be reducing.

Tablelands (Atherton, Eacham, Herberton + Mareeba shires) have just been forced to amalgamate because the area was identified as being unique, cohesive community with many similarities. To then consider breaking it up and dividing this community among electorates as different + varied as Charters Towers (dry, western, rural grazing + mining) proposed by Nationals QRC/S22 2.1, and Mulgrave (super-wet, coastal, rural sugarcane + tourism) proposed by Liberals QRC/S20 Tableland, is extremely inconsistent.

Any redistribution involving the elimination of a State seat should take place in an area where similarity of community + interests, and strong transport + communication links, will mean little or no real change in representation ie Barron River could be broken up between Cairns, Cook + Tablelands, with any resulting other boundary changes (mainly Cairns moving generally North) remaining within a cohesive area (coastal, primarily urban).

We are opposed to electors being long distances from their M.P. Under suggestions proposed by Nationals QRC/S22.2 a Malanda person would be up to 465 kilometres from their "local" representative in Charters Towers.

Yours faithfully,

*L. V. Alba* *M. A. Alba*  
Lunette Anne Alba, Miquel Angel Alba.



**Mareeba Shire Council**  
**P.O. Box 154**  
**65 Rankin Street**  
**Mareeba Qld 4880**

Telephone (07) 4030 3901  
Facsimile (07) 4092 3323  
Email [mayor@msc.qld.gov.au](mailto:mayor@msc.qld.gov.au)  
Web [www.msc.qld.gov.au](http://www.msc.qld.gov.au)

**OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR**

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Our Ref: B50 EMcG:KC:mjn  
Your Ref: QRC/C

13 December 2007

*QRC/C 126*

Dear Sir/Madam

**REDISTRIBUTION OF STATE ELECTORAL DISTRICTS**

I am writing to respond to a number of the suggestions made to the Commission in response to the call for public comments on the redistribution of the State's Electoral Districts.

In particular I am concerned with the suggestions made by the Queensland Division of the Liberal Party and the National Party of Australia Queensland that the electorate of Tablelands be abolished and a new seat created in the south east corner of the State.

I understand that the Queensland Electoral Act 1992 sets out the matters that the Commission must consider when undertaking an electoral redistribution. I believe that any fair minded consideration of these matters would lead the Commission to reject the suggestion to abolish the electorate of Tablelands.

Because this suggestion has been made by two political parties I believe that their motivation for doing so was based on calculations of political gain and not on seeking the best representational outcome for the people of the Tablelands electorate.

In addition to this, while I appreciate that the south east corner is growing rapidly, I do not believe that it is either fair or appropriate to provide additional representation in this region at the expense of the electors in Far North Queensland. There can be little doubt that the loss of a parliamentary representative from the region would rob the people of the area of a voice in Brisbane.

We have seen time and again how the concerns of the north are forgotten by the powers that be in Brisbane and this proposal would only make the situation worse. Queensland is a decentralised State and I believe that it is important that regional areas are effectively represented in Parliament so that their concerns can be addressed. Effective representation of regional interests also ensures that service delivery in these areas is not compromised.

*Mareeba Shire – a great place to live.*

QRC/C 126

Queensland Redistribution Commission  
**REDISTRIBUTION OF STATE ELECTORAL DISTRICTS**

Page 2  
13 December 2007

There is no doubt that the abolition of the Tablelands electorate would be a retrograde step and that the people of the area would lose effective representation in Parliament. In light of this I urge the Commission to reject these short sighted proposals and leave the Tablelands electorate intact,

Yours faithfully



**Cr Evan McGrath OAM**  
**DEPUTY MAYOR**

QRC/C 127

Lintham Rd  
Kandanga  
4570  
13.12.07

The Secretary  
Qld Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

Dear Sir

Re Proposal to Remove Certain Mary Valley Areas  
from Gympie Electorate to Nanango Electorate.

As a resident of the area impacted by the proposal, I object strongly to this proposed change of removing Kandanga, Amamoor, Imbil, Brooloo, Cooran and Traveston from Gympie Electorate to the Nanango Electorate.

Our region has a strong connection to Gympie and None what so ever to The Nanango region. There is a non-trafficable Mountain range between the two areas.

If we were to meet with our state MP's we would have a long, inconvenient trip to travel round to Kingaroy to do so.

Please do not consider removing our area from the Gympie Electorate

Yours faithfully

Mary Sims

Mary Sims

QRC/c 128

73 Riversdale Road  
KANDANGA QLD 4570

14<sup>th</sup> December, 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Sir or Madam,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes which would see Amamoor, Kandanga, Imbil, Brooloo, Traveston, Cooran and other areas removed from the Gympie Electorate and included in Nanango.



Bill Teunissen

QRC/C 129

'Wave Hill'  
Goondiwindi, 4390

all mail

clks 47 Hilary Rd  
Carters Ridge  
near Cooley  
PC4563

13th Dec 2007

The Secretary,  
Q Land Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

Dear Sir,

I strongly object to the proposal to  
move The Mary Valley region into The Nanango  
Electorate.

Our State member Mr David Gibson  
is available, whenever we need him.

The thought of travelling to Kingaroy  
to see a member is appalling, & out of the  
question.

Once again the people of The Mary  
Valley were not consulted. —

Our answer is "No"

Yours in anticipation  
Jill Hillen  
Law Hillen.

QRC/c 130

Page 1 of 2



All communications to be addressed to :  
THE SECRETARY,  
P.O.BOX 40,  
MALANDA, 4885

Telephone: (07) 4096 5334

12th December 2007.

THE SECRETARY,  
QUEENSLAND REDISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE,  
LOCKED BAG 3304,  
BRISBANE, QLD. 4001.

DEAR SIR,

**RE: QUEENSLAND STATE REDISTRIBUTION.**

WE WRITE TO EXPRESS STRONG OPPOSITION TO SUGGESTIONS MADE BY THE NATIONALS (QRC/S22), THE LIBERAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA (QLD.DIVISION) (QRC/S20) AND THE AUSTRALIAN LABOUR 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.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE SEAT OF TABLELANDS MUST REMAIN AS:  
FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND IS THE SECOND FASTEST GROWING AREA OF THE STATE AFTER THE SOUTH EAST. IT IS FOOLISH TO CONSIDER REDUCING THE NUMBER OF SEATS IN AN AREA WHICH IS UNDERGOING SUCH SIGNIFICANT GROWTH.

TABLELANDS (ATHERTON, EACHAM, HERBERTON & MAREEBA) COUNCILS HAVE JUST BEEN FORCED AMALGAMATE BECAUSE, AFTER CLAIMED EXTENSIVE CONSIDERATION AND CONSULTATION BY AN INDEPENDANT BODY, THE AREA WAS IDENTIFIED AS BEING A UNIQUE, COHESIVE COMMUNITY WITH MANY SIMILARITIES.

REDUCING ELECTOR'S ACCESS TO THEIR M.P. NO, OR VERY FEW, TABLELANDERS WOULD BE CLOSER IN TRAVELLING TIME TO THEIR MP IF THEY WERE TO BE DIVIDED AMONG SURROUNDING ELECTORATES. UNDER SOME SUGGESTIONS THEY WOULD INSTEAD SUDDENLY BE UP TO 465 KILOMETRES FROM THEIR "LOCAL" REPRESENTATIVE (MALANDA TO CHARTERS TOWNS AS PROPOSED BY THE NATIONALS).

A SUGGESTED REDISTRIBUTION IN FNQ COULD BE FOR THE TABLELANDS TO ABSORB THOSE PORTIONS OF MAREEBA SHIRE NOT NOW WITHIN ITS BOUNDARIES. ANY IMPACT ON THE SEAT OF COOK COULD BE ADDRESSED BY AN ADJUSTMENT OF THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN BARRON RIVER AND CAIRNS, CAIRNS

PRC/C 130

Page 2 of 2

AND MULGRAVE, MULGRAVE AND HINCHINBROOK AND HINCHINBROOK AND THURINGOWA.

THIS MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN THE SIX-SEAT REPRESENTATION FNQ HOLDS IN PARLIAMENT, WITH ALL SEATS MAINTAINING THE CORE OF THEIR EXISTING AREA AND CONTINUITY OF COMMUNITY, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS.

YOURS FAITHFULLY,



A.R. TURNBULL  
TREASURER MALANDA BOWLS CLUB INC.

The Secretary  
Qld Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

197 Little Bella Ck Rd  
via Imbil 4570

PRC/C 131

1. The extent to which there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each proposed electoral district;
2. The ways of communication and travel within each proposed electoral district;
3. The physical features of each proposed electoral district;
4. The boundaries of existing electoral districts;
5. Demographic trends in the State, with a view to ensuring as far as practicable that, on the basis of the trends, the need for another electoral redistribution will not arise under section 36 before it does under section 38.

The Commission may also consider the boundaries of local government areas to the extent that it is satisfied that there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each local government area.

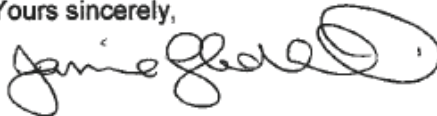
To whom it may concern,

As a resident of the Mary Valley I have been horrified to learn that suggestions have been made by both the Labor Party and the Nationals that our area be redistributed away from Gympie and tied in with Nanango. I have lived here for almost 19 years and have never once been to Nanango. All my shopping, my part time work and some community involvement take place in Gympie. My children attend High School in Gympie. What economic, social, regional or any other interest does Nanango have for me or my family?

We don't communicate with or travel to Nanango. We are physically separated from the area by many kilometres of road and some bloody big hills.

Our interests would not be served at all well by being cut off from our regional centre Gympie and I hope that common sense will prevail here, more than it seems to in most areas of government these days,

Yours sincerely,



Janine Gledhill



12<sup>th</sup> December

18 Ilga Road  
Gympie 4510 Australia

ORC/C 132

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

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the members of the Gympie South Branch of the Nationals I submit the following comments and recommendation to the commission in response to some Submissions to the Commission which recommend significant changes to the boundaries of the Gympie Electorate. We strongly object to the recommendation by the Nationals and the Labor Party in their submissions to split the Gympie Electorate and locate the Mary Valley and its residents in Nanango electorate.

**Rationale**

Due to the rapid increase in population in South East Queensland it seems inevitable that another electorate will be created in the hinterland of the Sunshine Coast. It is a priority of this Branch and its members, many of whom reside in the Mary Valley,

That this valley and surrounding area be kept with their community of interest and stay within the Gympie Electorate.

Geographically this area is not in anyway part of Nanango as there is a huge Mountain Range separating the Nanango district

From the Mary Valley with little road access and a four hour return trip to Nanango.

It should also be noted that it has been the Community of Gympie which has supported the residents of the Mary Valley with the huge loss of homes, businesses and lifestyle as a result of the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam.

It seems obvious if a new electorate is to be created in the Hinterland of the Sunshine Coast

then the Electorate of Nanango which is well below quota should be absorbed into neighbouring electorates to make way for the new Electorate.

This seems to be the only way to make way for the new boundaries and ensure they maintain the community of interest and are geographically sensible.

QRC/c 132

**Recommendation**

The Queensland Redistribution Commission consider in its recommendations that the Gympie Electorate boundaries follow the boundaries of the Gympie Regional Council which will take in the present Shire of Kilkivan and the southern part of the present Tiaro Shire. We consider the residents of both these areas consider Gympie as their main service town and maintain a similar community of interest. We consider the communities of Cooroy and Pomona could be part of the Noosa Electorate or a newly created Hinterland electorate. We believe they would be accepting of either scenario.



Scott Sutton  
Chairman,  
Gympie south Branch  
Nationals.

QRC/c 133

*Ravenshoe & District Chamber of Commerce Inc*  
PO box 277  
Ravenshoe Q 4888



The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Committee  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Sir,

I write on behalf of the Ravenshoe Chamber Of Commerce to express our strong opposition to suggestions made by Nationals (QRC/S22), Liberal Party Qld division (QRC/S20) Australian Labour 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.


We believe the seat of Tablelands must remain, as Far North Queensland is the second fastest growing area of the state after South East. Our area is undergoing significant population growth.

The Tableland Shires have just been forced to amalgamate because it was stated the area was identified as being unique, cohesive communities with many similarities. To divide this cohesive community among electorates such as Charters Towers is extremely inconsistent.

We feel it will reduce our access to our MP as their offices will be too far away, or because of the size of the area, the MP would not be as easily contacted.

Ravenshoe Chamber Of Commerce strongly opposes the redistribution of our Tableland Electorate.

Yours sincerely  
Judy Jenner

  
Secretary Ravenshoe Chamber Of Commerce

P.O. Box 150,  
Yungaburra, Q4884  
12 12 07

QRC/C.

QRC/C 134

The Secretary,  
Queensland Distribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304,  
Brisbane, Q4001

Dear Sirs,

I'm writing on behalf of my husband and myself to put forward a Big Objection to the information you have put out to the public that you want to place a lot of our Tableland Towns into the Charters Towers Electorate and with this process also get rid of Our First Class member Mrs. Rosalie Long.

Before you finalize the above ideas why don't some of your people come up to the Tableland and just see how you will feel if you have to travel down to Townsville to let's say Charters Towers to speak to your member in person, the trip will mean paying out a lot of money for fuel and then if a person wants to phone the member it will be a very, very pricey phone call for sure.

Another good idea is that you people who are interfering with our First Class Tableland Electorate should do is come up here and not only speak to the people in High Positions but also go out and talk to the public and you will truly find out just how much we all appreciate having Mrs. Rosalie Long

as our local Representative. She has been our Representative for quite a number of years and she has done a first class job for all the Towns, public and sporting bodies.

It is beyond our understanding if you people would want to come in and take away the first class convenience we have of having a person like Mrs. Ross as a language we have learnt to trust and who we know has always worked very hard for all the Towns and the people she represents on the Tableland.

Another thing can't you people also realize that all the Tableland Towns are still trying to get over being hit with the awful Amalgamation and now all the Political Parties have put this other stupid idea forward.

The big questions that we would like you people to answer is just why are you doing this? Is it because you are going to make more money? The electorate you propose for us is going to be as big as Tasmania, and then into the bargain people will have to travel 465 kilometres to Charter's Town to see the representatives.

Any way you do hope you will all sit down and reconsider your ideas before putting them into action, because if you go ahead with your ideas you are surely going to once again upset a lot of Tableland people.

Our choice is that we want to keep Mrs. Ross as

QRC/C 134

longer our local Representative because she is  
right here on the Tableland.

As my final words are is that we hope you  
will all please, please do some reconsidering

Yours Sincerely,  
Charles G. H. McIntyre

ORC/C 135

The Secretary  
Qld Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

Don Gibbs  
197 Little Bella Ck Rd  
via Imbil 4570

To whom it may concern,

Re the proposal that the Mary Valley be tied to Nanango electorally: I have lived in the Mary Valley for 26 years and can not believe the suggestions made by both the Labor Party and the Nationals to redistribute our area away from Gympie and tie it in with Nanango. I worked for many years in Gympie and now commute to both Gympie and the Sunshine Coast. My kids go to High School in Gympie. I have NO economic, social, regional or any other interest in Nanango.

See below my responses to this ludicrous proposal.

1. The extent to which there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each proposed electoral district; The Mary Valley relates to and identifies with Gympie, the Sunshine Coast and Brisbane. The South Burnett is another world, a totally different demographic that is not experiencing the demographic change that the Mary Valley is currently.
2. The ways of communication and travel within each proposed electoral district; Mary Valley residents would need to travel for about 2 hours to get to Nanango. Look at a map and you will see there is a significant natural barrier between the areas under discussion. To travel by road from one to the other requires passing through Gympie or taking your chances on about 40km of gravel 4WD road which is impassable in wet weather.
3. The physical features of each proposed electoral district; The Mary Valley is a lush coastal river valley. The South Burnett is an inland plain given to prolonged dry spells.
4. The boundaries of existing electoral districts; Obviously you have looked at a map and seen these areas as contiguous in part. Well that's what they did 100 plus years ago: drew lines on maps without looking at the land in question. What a rattling success that was...I don't think!
5. Demographic trends in the State, with a view to ensuring as far as practicable that, on the basis of the trends, the need for another electoral redistribution will not arise under section 36 before it does under section 38. Due to southern immigration into the S-E QLD corner those searching for affordable land are now spilling into the Mary Valley and nearby areas. They are NOT crossing the coastal hills to settle in the South Burnett. These are 2 very different demographics.

The Commission may also consider the boundaries of local government areas to the extent that it is satisfied that there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each local government area.

As indicated by my above comments, I do not believe that there is any degree of commonality between the regions of Nanango and the Mary Valley.

Yours sincerely,

*Don Gibbs* 13/12/07.

Don Gibbs

QRC/C 136

12/12/07

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

We object strongly to altering the boundary for  
the Queensland Redistribution. by moving  
Launceston into Traralgon. It is too stupid  
for words, just leave it how it is now.

Mrs. L. Perry &  
P. Dance  
12 Looney St  
Launceston  
4570

REC/c 137

Keith Watt  
PO Box 107  
39 Kevin Road  
Imbil, Qld 4570  
P: 54845287

**ATTENTION: Queensland Electoral Commission**

**RE: Comment on State redistribution proposal for the electorate of GYMPIE**

I request that my comments on the submissions be considered with regard to the existing State Electoral District of GYMPIE

With reference to the Submissions from the Qld Labour Party and the Qld National Party, neither of these submissions meet the 5 criteria outlined in your terms of reference with regard to the electorate of GYMPIE

The Commission is required to give consideration to the following:

1. The extent to which there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each proposed electoral district;
2. The ways of communication and travel within each proposed electoral district;
3. The physical features of each proposed electoral district;
4. The boundaries of existing electoral districts;

With reference to this information I submit the following points that identify why the proposals of the Labour and National parties should be disregarded and the proposal of the Liberal party should be considered regarding the GYMPIE ELECTORATE.

1. The extent to which there is a community of economic, social, regional or other interests within each proposed electoral district;
  - None of the above mentioned community of interest areas WHATSOEVER are shared between the Mary Valley townships of Imbil, Amamoor, Kandanga, Dagun, Traveston, Brooloo & Cooran and the Nanango Electorate.
  - There are no shared service by these two regions
  - Postcodes are different
2. The ways of communication and travel within each proposed electoral district;

There are no road linkages between the Mary Valley townships of Imbil, Amamoor, Kandanga, Dagun, Traveston, Brooloo & Cooran and the Nanango Electorate. Access from the Mary Valley townships to Nanango electorate is to travel North through the city of GYMPIE which is where these townfolk conduct their economic, social, medical, educational, financial, shopping and other

QRC/C 137

activities. To travel to the Nanango Electorate constitutes a further travel time of 3 to 4 hours in addition to the 30-40 minutes already undertaken to arrive in GYMPIE.

Apart from proving that there is no community of interest due to the absence of road access. How would a State member service those townships.

**3. the physical features of each proposed electoral district;**

The areas of Gympie and Nanango Electorates are severely divided by major physical features including massive forestry areas, mountain ranges and no roads. There is no geographical connection whatsoever.

**4. the boundaries of existing districts; and**

The Boundaries of existing districts (State) would be better aligned with the new Local Government boundaries for the GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL excluding the areas including Kilkivan town and West. This would achieve the quota requirements being sought.

**5. projected population growth or decline in particular areas.**

The population of the GYMPIE region is expected to continue to rise rapidly with the growth of the Sunshine Coast Area. Therefore it would be anticipated that the QEC take this into account when setting the quotas.

Please make careful consideration, as you are required to do prior to making this major decision.

Yours sincerely



Keith Watt

QRC/C 138

13<sup>th</sup> December 2007

416 Scrubby Creek Rd  
Gympie 4570

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

Dear Sir,

**Re: Proposal to remove Mary Valley areas from the Gympie Electorate to Nanango Electorate**

I have just read in our local newspaper and had confirmed on your website that the National Party propose to remove Traveston, Cooroy, Amamoor, Kandanga, Imbil and Brooloo to a proposed new electorate of Nanango as part of the Queensland Redistribution of electoral boundaries.

The Labor Party proposing to send the towns of Pomona, Cooroy to the Noosa Electorate as well as slicing Traveston, Cooroy, Amamoor, Kandanga, Imbil and Brooloo off to the proposed Nanango electorate as well.

I wish to advise you of my and many others throughout the Gympie electorate of my strong objection to these proposals.

The Mary Valley has a distinct relationship with the city of Gympie and surrounds and has no relationship with the Nanango electorate. Gympie is the business centre of the region as highlighted by the State government's new Regional Council decision.

It is where our local member can be contacted and is the logical place for Mary Valley residents to go if they wish to discuss a matter, not all the way to Nanango/Kingaroy.

Dorothy Pratt MLA for Nanango highlights in her submission 17<sup>th</sup> October 2007, the relationship and connection in the South Burnett of the various towns and areas. This is the same type of relationship in the Mary Valley and Gympie electorate

The Mary Valley community has recently been put through the ringer with the State governments proposed Traveston Dam.

This new proposal that hasn't been made public by these political parties until now, is just another slap in the face to those people.

It is my opinion that the towns of Pomona and Cooroy are perceived as Noosa hinterland areas and so may be incorporated into the Noosa electorate. The electorate should be based around one that includes Gympie, the Mary Valley and the coastal areas.

Having said all of this I believe that the best option for any realignment of electoral boundaries should be based on landform and water catchments. I know this will never be looked at however I submit this suggestion. The government has been supportive of catchment management initiatives over the years from a natural resources perspective however from a political angle the politics get in the way as each party muscles its way for the perceived advantage.

An efficient way to resolve this issue would be to have electoral boundaries that relate to our natural boundary areas (catchments) eg landforms/water resources. These natural boundaries allows for better management of our precious water and land resources eg. The Mary River catchment which starts at Maleny and finishes at Maryborough.

This concept of mine of newly defined electorates would provide the basis for efficient government would provide greater efficiencies through better planning and interconnectedness, taking away the problem of going through this same exercise every 5-6 years, as well as not stressing people unnecessarily over radical change.

The electoral boundary adjustments can still be made for electoral redistribution to adjust to a growing population. Everybody within the catchment relates to the catchment and not some crazy proposition that is currently being put forward by the major parties.

I also think that, if there are to be changes to the boundaries, that public meetings should be called to discuss the issue and that residents should be allowed to vote on the issue.

Yours faithfully



Kent Hutton

QRC/C 139

Warren Smith  
1269 Noosa Road  
Mothar Mountain, Qld, 4570

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to voice my objection to the submissions of The National Party of Australia and The Australian Labour Party. (Submissions 22 & 19 respectively)

The suggestion that southern parts of the current Gympie electorate be included in Nanango, particularly the Mary Valley, fail to take into account Redistribution Criteria as stated on The ECQ website.

1. This region is dependant upon Gympie with regard to commercial activities in that it provides shopping, banking, and market access. Gympie is the centre for spiritual and social facilities including sporting activities. It is the base for Police, Ambulance and Fire Services and the centre for supply of Utilities.

2. Both telecommunications and postal services for the Mary Valley are controlled from a Gympie base. Road travel to Nanango from the Valley would first take you through Gympie. The only direct route to the South Burnett traverses a mountainous, 4 wheel drive only, track.

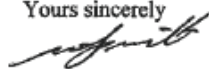
3. The Mary Valley is separated from Nanango by the natural boundary of the southern reaches of the Kinbombi ranges and the northern Jimna range.

4. The proposed Gympie Regional Council boundaries would define a renewed Gympie electorate perfectly. This would allow for the formation of a new electorate between the southern Gympie boundary and a revamped Nicklin and possibly Noosa.

5. Gympie District is a population growth area, as it becomes, time-wise, closer to urban areas and a popular, family friendly, place to live.

I urge you to disregard the aforementioned submissions with respect to the Gympie and Nanango electorates.

Yours sincerely



Warren Smith

PRC/C 140

THE SECRETARY  
QLD REDISTRIBUTION  
COMMISSION

CAROL PILCHER  
52 MONARCH RD  
CARTERS RIDGE  
THE MARY VALLEY  
12/12/07

Dear Sir/Madam,

Namango is geographically remote from the Mary Valley. We have a mountain range between us and Namango and there is no public access via road over the mountain. It would take a four hour round trip. Your boundary changes are ludicrous!

We are a thirty minute drive to Gympie and a thirty-five minute drive to Noosa where I go to do business and shop.

Do you even know where we are? I would suggest that you actually put your glasses on and have a good look at a map. We are 20 mins to Cooray.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Pilcher.

QRC/C 141

127 Diamondfield Road  
Amamoor 4570  
13<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2007

The Secretary,  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane 4001

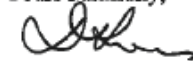
Dear Sir,

**Re: PROPOSAL TO RE-ALLOCATE SOME MARY RIVER VALLEY AREAS FROM  
GYMPIE ELECTORATE TO NANANGO ELECTORATE**

I am a resident of an area, (Amamoor), in the Mary River Valley that is proposed to be removed from the Gympie Electorate and transferred to the Nanango Electorate. I object to this move strongly for the following reasons;

- Traveston, Kandanga, Imbil, Cooran, Brooloo and Amamoor have strong social and historic bonds with Gympie and nothing much at all with Nanango. There is no direct road connection with this area and Nanango, because of a mountain range between us and Kingaroy.
- We are used to travelling into Gympie to meet our elected state and local representatives. Travelling to Kingaroy to conduct any business with our State Member would be most inconvenient, time consuming, and with high fuel costs, expensive.
- During this time of great stress for many people who are affected by the Traveston Crossing Dam, this re-allocation will only increase their mental anguish by severing their traditional regional and electoral support.
- I would request that we, the affected people are taken into your confidence, and informed by means of public meetings, your perception of any benefits of the proposed change and allow us an opportunity to vote on this matter.
- I would also like to point out that the areas affected by your proposal have been battered in recent times by numerous and intrusive, government decisions. These include dairy industry de-regulation, forest and timber resource closures, Bruce Highway relocation, council amalgamations, Federal electoral boundary repositioning, Traveston Crossing Dam proposal, and now this.

Yours Faithfully,

  
Dave Ross.

QRC/C

QRC/C 142<sup>1</sup>

THE Secretary,  
Queensland Electoral Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE Q 4001

FROM: Herberton Business & Trade Assoc Inc  
P O Box 213  
HERBERTON Q 4887

RESPONSE ON PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AS SUBMITTED BY THE  
LABOR, NATIONAL & LIBERAL PARTIES.

- Labor – QRC/519 An argument put forward by the Local Government Reform commission in their review of local government boundaries in Queensland was that structural changes needed to be made to ensure strong, financially viable and effective Councils, and the Tablelands Regional Council was an answer to that need, in their view, by amalgamating a group of Councils with the strong economic and cultural ties that the Tablelands communities have. It seems to our Organisation that to propose to break up this Tablelands Electorate, which the **State Government has recognised** as a cohesive community, is a very short sighted proposal, and a proposal that will have very negative impacts on the Tablelands community as a whole in terms of effective and local knowledge based representation.
- National Party QRC/522 – To consider fragmenting Tablelands Electorate and forcing it to become part of Charters Towers, with communities like Malanda, Herberton, Ravenshoe and Mt Garnet with vastly different infrastructure and social needs, would be placing huge stress on both the communities in question and the new Electorate, given the vast distances that would be involved in seeking to represent the community effectively.
- Liberal Party – QRC/520 - Recent data shows that Tablelands Electorate is the second fastest growing area of the state after the South East. We would suggest that, rather than fragment Tablelands, that the Electoral commission review the coastal seats of Cairns, Barron River, Cook and Mulgrave, and consider increasing the size of the Tablelands Electorate so that it falls within the quota, and reduce the number of the coastal electorates to 3 in the Cairns area. This would be a fairer outcome for the Tablelands community in terms of accessibility to their MP, given that many Tablelands residents from areas like Herberton would be in effect over

QRC/C

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400 kilometres from their local representative should they become part of the Charters Towers electorate, as would Mareeba in Cook Electorate.

- Our Association would submit that the logical way to go would be to look instead at breaking up the Barron River electorate to take in Cairns, Cook and the Tablelands. If this was done, then at least there would be a continuity of similar interests, Barron River being more of a community of interest to the Tableland Community, with strong infrastructure, transport and communication links.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns,

Yours Truly,



Shaaron Linwood. Secretary.

Herberton Business & Trade Association Inc

QRC/C 143

THE SECRETARY  
QUEENSLAND REDISTRIBUTION COM.  
LOOKED BAG 3304  
BRISBANE Q 4001.

20 GEORGE ST  
MANANDA F.N.Q. 4885  
14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2007

SUBMISSION - SHIRLEY TROUT. SNR.

AS SHOWN BY THE ABOVE ADDRESS I AM A RESIDENT PROPERTY OWNER  
IN THE STATE ELECTORATE OF TABLELANDS. IT IS A SHAME THAT THIS  
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION HAS BEEN PUT FORWARD ON/IN A FEDERAL  
ELECTION WHICH HAS CAPTURED & PROVIDED A HUGE CHANCE IN SOCIAL  
ATTITUDES & BELIEFS, ESPECIALLY IN THE STATE OF QUEENSLAND.

I DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET, SO I DO NOT HAVE ELECTORAL  
MAPS, OR ALL THE 196<sup>7400</sup> PAGES I HAVE BEEN INFORMED ARE AVAILABLE  
ON THE MIGHTY WEB, IMPLYING IT RUNS & RULES OUR OPINIONS & BELIEFS.

HOWEVER I DO LIVE IN THE TABLELANDS ELECTORATE, WHICH YOU HAVE  
SUGGESTED NEEDS TO BE AXED SO THAT THE UNINTELLIGENT LACK OF  
PLANNING, WHICH HAS CREATED THE OVER POPULATION, ENVIRONMENTAL &  
SERVICES DISASTERS IN THE S.E. CORNER OF Q, CAN BE JUSTIFIED BY  
"GIVING" THE GOLD COAST AN EXTRA SEAT & SENDING THE IDENTITY OF  
RURAL & URBAN CITY DWELLERS INTO OBLIVION. IT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE  
FOR NORTH QUEENSLAND IS THE SECOND FASTEST GROWING AREA IN  
QUEENSLAND SO THIS ALMOST PANIC IDEA OF REDUCING THE NUMBER OF  
SEATS IN F.N.Q. APPEARS TO BE SEEN TO BE "DOING SOMETHING" & IS  
NOT A GOOD IDEA, AS IT WILL NEED TO BE REPEATED VERY SOON.

WHILE I WILL NOT BE QUOTING FIGURES, DRAWING MAPS WITH A LOT  
OF MEANINGFUL NUMBERS, I WOULD APPRECIATE MY SUGGESTIONS  
BEING TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION & TREATED WITH RESPECT, BECAUSE  
I DO HAVE SERIOUS CONCERNS AT BEING TREATED, ALONG WITH ALL  
RESIDENTS OF TABLELANDS, AS JUST A SET OF NUMBERS THAT ARE STANDING  
STILL, WITHOUT ANY SOCIAL COHESION, COMMUNITY CARE, APPRECIATION  
OF LIFE STYLE, VISUAL AMENITY, CLEAN AIR, CLEAN WATER, LACK OF  
NOISE POLLUTION, FRESH FOOD, COMMUNITY LIVING - A SHORT LIST.

HOWEVER THERE SHOULD BE REASONABLE ACCESS & COMMON GOALS, &  
AVAILABILITY OF EDUCATION CENTRES (A TABLELANDS UNIVERSITY

/2)

CAMPUS 2) HEALTH FACILITIES, PUBLIC TRANSPORT, RELIABLE  
'PHONE COMMUNICATIONS - SHORT LIST STILL.

ANY SUGGESTION THAT TABLELANDS BE ENSLAVED BY CHARTERS  
TOWERS & MARREDA SOUTH + NORTH IS ABHORRENT TO ME.

FROM A THEFT ON SOUTH IS NET TROPICS & TO THE EAST. CHARTERS  
TOWERS & MARREDA ARE DRY TROPICS, A DIFFERENT LIFE STYLE,  
DIFFERENT PRODUCTS.

MY SUGGESTION IS TO INCLUDE MARREDA IN COOK & CHARTERS TOWERS  
CUT OFF / OUT OF ANY TABLELAND SEAT.

TABLELANDS TO BE EXTENDED EAST TO ENCOMPASS INNISFAIL AS THE  
HUB CITY, TO THE MUD-GARVE RIVER NORTH, TO THE TULLY RIVER SOUTH,  
OR EVEN FURTHER TO INCLUDE CADDYHILL. THE SOURCE OF THE COASTAL  
RIVERS IN THAT AREA IS THE TABLELANDS, WATER SUPPLY WILL ALWAYS  
BE A CONCERN WITH POPULATION GROWTH, A CONCERN WHICH SHOULD  
BE FOCUSSED IN DEFINED AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST.

AS THERE ARE EXTENSIVE SUBDIVISIONS BEING APPROVED IN THE  
SOUTHERN TABLELANDS THE POPULATION WILL INCREASE DRASTICALLY  
WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

COULD I SUGGEST ALSO THAT THE PROponents OF THIS PLAN GET  
OUT & ABOUT MORE, IN THE AREAS THEY PROPOSE THIS FUDGAL ATTITUDE  
COMES INTO FORCE, TALK WITH PEOPLE, THE CITIZENS WHO ARE PREPARED  
& RELIEVED TO LIVE IN CIVILISED, NATURAL AREAS WITH OTHER  
NATIVE SPECIES, LOVE THE CLIMATE & COMMUNITY & DO NOT WISH  
TO BE "MOVED AROUND" IN AN ELECTORAL CHESS GAME.

I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WRITE THIS GENERAL SUBMISSION  
& I WOULD APPRECIATE AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIVING IT.

Shirley Prout Lnx.  
(SHIRLEY PROUT SNR.)



# CRESTM EAD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

Management Committee

ABN 39 986 113 176

QRC/C 144

December 14, 2007

QRC/S  
The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane Q 4001

To Whom It May Concern

The Crestmead Community Centre is writing in regard to the invitation for submissions to redistribute electoral districts.

Crestmead Community Association Inc (CCAI) is a Community based and managed organization, established in 1993 and incorporated in May 1994. The Crestmead Community Association has since its inception, been pro-active in responding to the needs of the local community and maintains close links with its clients in the surrounding suburbs of Crestmead, Marsden, Logan Reserve, Park Ridge, Heritage Park, Regents Park and Browns Plains.

The Crestmead Community Association has the view that the suburb of Crestmead has a Community of interest with the suburbs of West Logan then with Logan Central and that these suburbs should be united not divided as it is currently. These suburbs if realigned into the Logan Electorate would bring a sense of cohesion and enhance common interest.

The Crestmead Community Centre proposes that:

- The Woodridge Electorate should be moved North of the Motorway, using the Pacific Highway as a border.
- That the Logan Electorate be based on the suburbs of Marsden, Crestmead, Park ridge, Heritage Park, Regents Park and Browns Plains.

We believe that this realignment will facilitate and maintain the sense of community and strengthen the identity of these suburbs by uniting them into the one Logan electorate.

Yours sincerely

George Thomas  
President

Gimlet Street CRESTM EAD 4132  
P.O. Box 597 MARSDEN 4132

Phone: (07) 3805-1423  
Fax: (07) 3805-5383

DEC/E 145



Date >> 04 December 2007

Mr Garry Wiltshire  
Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR >>

TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
103 WALKER STREET

PO BOX 1268, TOWNSVILLE  
QUEENSLAND 4810

TELEPHONE >> 07 4727 9200  
FACSIMILE >> 07 4727 9053

enquiries@townsville.qld.gov.au  
www.townsville.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Wiltshire,

I understand that the Queensland Nationals have provided a submission to exclude Kelso from the electorate of Thuringowa and include it within the electorate of Burdekin.

This submission is ill-conceived having no regard to community of interest, physical and social boundaries, proximity and the logistics of administering an electorate with overlapping boundaries.

As the Mayor of Townsville, and Chairman of the Local Transitional Committee for the new Townsville City Council that includes Kelso, I am concerned that the National Party's submission does not recognise Kelso's location within 10 kilometres of the Member for Thuringowa's electoral office. If the submission as proposed is accepted then a constituent located in Kelso would travel through the electorate of Thuringowa, passing within 2 kilometres of the Member for Thuringowa's office, on their more than 100 kilometre journey to visit their local member.

The National Party's submission does not recognise the social and economic relationship between Kelso, the electorate of Thuringowa and the broader community of Townsville. This is a single community with Kelso residents clearly being a part of the Thuringowa electorate.

It should be noted that all services accessed by the residents of Kelso are located within the electorate of Thuringowa or the broader city of Townsville. This includes schools, hospitals and health facilities, government social services, commercial and-retail services.

The recent development of Townsville and Thuringowa has resulted in Kelso changing from a predominately rural/residential to urban/residential constituency. This transition is set to continue with large tracks of land now being taken by developers.

Dec/c 145

Following recent media on this matter the community response to the National Party submission has been one of disbelief and rejection. I understand that the Member for Thuringowa, Craig Wallace, has received more than 400 submissions from constituents strongly opposing the excision of Kelso from the electorate of Thuringowa. I also understand that the National Party Member for Burdekin is also opposing the submission to bring Kelso into the Burdekin electorate.

In closing I would like to reiterate my objection to the Queensland National Party's ill-conceived submission to exclude Kelso from Thuringowa and place it in the Burdekin electorate. This suggestion has been condemned locally and even the National Party Member for Burdekin has rejected it as impractical.

Kind regards  
Yours sincerely



**Tony Mooney**  
Mayor of Townsville

QRC/C 146

A& R. Brooks,  
1A Empress Ave.,  
Herberton. Q. 4883.  
14/12/07.

QRC/c  
Secretary,  
Locked Bag, 33304,  
Bris. 4001.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The comment I wish to make on the proposed redistribution is that you should leave the Tableland Electorate well enough alone. In other words, hads off!!

Tablelands is unique with many of its own unique industries and has nothing in common with lowland sugar growing areas or the drier grazing areas!

As your statistics must show the Tableland population growth and that of North Queensland is second only to the South East Corner and if the South East continues to dry out with climate change it may yet outstrip it!

I can only emphasise once more, the area of the Tableland is a unique, cohesive community and in my opinion it would be absurd to fragment it!!!

Sincerely,

*AR Brooks*



PRC/C 147

Darren Edward  
179 Hansen Rd  
Dagun QLD 4570

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
Brisbane QLD 4001

December 14, 2007

**Re: Proposed re-distribution of the Queensland state electorate of Gympie**

Dear Sir or Madam:

It has been reported in the Gympie Times newspaper that both the National and Labor parties have made submissions regarding the redistribution of electoral districts, proposing that most of the Mary Valley (including my town of Dagun) become part of the Nanango District.

I wish to register my strong disagreement to these proposals.

From my town of Dagun, it is less than 15 minutes drive to the Gympie CBD. Gympie is where my wife works, and where we do our weekly shopping.

My family's doctor and dentist both have their practices in Gympie, and Gympie Hospital is where I was taken for treatment for food poisoning three years ago.

When anyone in the Mary Valley area requires emergency services such as ambulance or police, it is the Gympie emergency services which attend because they are the nearest.

My son attends Dagun State School, but he did his Prep year at Gympie South State School (because that was the nearest school at the time which offered Prep) and when he reaches high school the nearest public and private schools are all in Gympie.

In short, all of the key State Government services are provided from the town of Gympie, and this will continue to be the case in the future. Logically therefore my State Government representation should also continue to be from Gympie.

In contrast, Nanango is geographically remote from the Mary Valley, is over two hours away by road, and shares no social or economic links with the region south of Gympie.

I submit that it makes far more sense for the Mary Valley as far South as Imbil to remain part of the Gympie Electorate, and for towns further south and to the East of the Bruce Highway such as Cooroy and Pomona to merge with the Nicklin Electorate on the Sunshine Coast.

Regards,



Darren Edward



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

ORC/C 148  
192 Happy Jack Ch. Rd.,  
Ridgewood,  
via COORAY  
Qld 4563.  
13. Dec 2007



Dear Sir,

I read with dismay that the section of the Gympie electorate in which I live may be excised and added to the Nanango electorate. I would like to point out that this area has nothing in common with Nanango. The Premier keeps telling every one that the Mary Valley is "Coastal". Nanango certainly is not coastal.

There is no direct road link from Ridgewood/Carters Ridge to Nanango. There is a mountain range that separates us. Access would have to be via Gympie - Bells Bridge - then West.

Phone links with Nanango would be trunk line calls. (S.T.D.)

Social connections between our area and Nanango do not exist, nor do financial connections. Our area, though rural, is more closely aligned with Noosa, and the Coastal regions.

I urge you not to consider ~~joining~~ joining our area of the Mary Valley with that of Nanango. I would like to remain in Gympie.

Yours faithfully

Victor Hill

PRC/c 149

73 Riversdale Road  
KANDANGA QLD 4570

14<sup>th</sup> December, 2007

The Secretary  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
Locked Bag 3304  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Sir or Madam,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes which would see Amamoor, Kandanga, Imbil, Brooloo, Traveston, Cooran and other areas removed from the Gympie Electorate and included in Nanango.



Margaret Teunissen

