



THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
QUEENSLAND

Objection Number 9

Liberal National Party

3 pages

25th October 2017

The Australian Electoral Commission
(Att: Redistribution Secretariat)
GPO Box 2590
Brisbane QLD 4001

Email: Fedredistribution-QLD@aec.gov.au

Dear Redistribution Committee for Queensland

**Objections to the Redistribution Committees proposed redistribution of electoral
divisions
for consideration
by the augmented Electoral Commission**

1. Introduction

1.1 The Liberal National Party (the Party) responds to the Queensland Redistribution Committee's (QRC) September 2017 report *Proposed redistribution of Queensland into electoral divisions* (the report). The Party, in consultation with its sitting Members of Parliament and the membership, has examined thoroughly the report's contents for the purpose of participating in this phase of the redistribution process.

1.2 The following comments and objections are submitted for the Augmented Electoral Commission's (AEC) consideration in making its final determination on Queensland's electoral divisions.

2. Comments

2.1 The Party's assessment is that the QRC's proposed redistribution of Queensland's electoral divisions meets the legislative requirements of *The Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*. It is the Party's view that the proposed electoral divisions are largely fair and balanced in the context of community dislocations kept to a minimum where possible. We submit for the consideration of the AEC minor objections with the intention to ameliorate community of interest.

2.2 It is noted that this redistribution, by only forecasting enrolment growth for four years to September 2021, has excluded the substantial projected enrolment growth in the out years.

2.3 The Party endorses the QRC's proposal to maintain the existing electoral division names.



3. Objections

3.1 Groom - Maranoa

3.1.1 Recommend the AEC transfer the electors of Crows Nest and its vicinity from proposed *Maranoa* to proposed *Groom*. There is strong and growing community of interest links between Crows Nest and its regional centre of Toowoomba. This is evidenced by the Toowoomba suburb of Highfields increasingly extending to the township of Crows Nest.

3.1.2 The Party's original proposal for the redistribution identified the isolation of Crows Nest from its centre of economic and social influence in Toowoomba. Crows Nest is located only 43kms from the Toowoomba General Post Office (GPO). Crows Nest electors have expressly requested that the AEC consider resolving this community of interest conflict.

3.1.3 It is recommended the proposed *Groom/Maranoa* boundary be revised to follow the northern boundary of SA1s 117918C and 117908. This would result in the transfer of 2211 (current) and 2407 (projected) electors from proposed *Maranoa* to proposed *Groom* (see table below).

3.2 Maranoa – Kennedy

3.2.1 Representations have been received from the Boulia Shire Council seeking the transfer of this Local Government area from proposed *Kennedy* to proposed *Maranoa* to align with its Central Western shire neighbours as a member of the Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD Group). Boulia Shire is the only one of the seven shires in the RAPAD Group not in proposed *Maranoa*. The RAPAD Group consists of the following Councils: Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall/Tambo, Boulia, Diamantina, Longreach and Winton.

3.2.2 The Member for Maranoa, Mr David Littleproud MP, submits that it would be advantageous for Boulia to be included in proposed *Maranoa*, to allow the effective and holistic representation of these Shires in the RAPAD Group.

3.2.3 It is recommended the proposed *Kennedy/Maranoa* boundary be revised to follow the northern boundary of Boulia Shire Council to include SA1s 141001 and 141003 into proposed *Maranoa*. This would result in the transfer of 262 (current) and 297 (projected) electors from proposed *Kennedy* to proposed *Maranoa* (see table below).

3.3 Dawson – Kennedy

3.3.1 Representations have been received raising the split community of interest that results with the Burdekin Shire Council being split between proposed *Dawson* and proposed *Kennedy*.

3.3.2 It is recommended that the entirety of the Burdekin Shire Council area be included in proposed *Dawson*. This would allow more effective representation for electors in the area of Dalberg and its surrounds.

3.3.3 It is recommended the proposed *Kennedy/Dawson* boundary be revised to follow the Western boundary of Burdekin Shire Council to include SA1s 146115 B&D and 146114 A into proposed *Dawson*. This would result in the transfer of 128 (current and projected) electors from proposed *Kennedy* to proposed *Dawson* (see table below).

3.4 Bonner – Petrie

3.4.1 Stakeholders have indicated that Moreton Island has closer commercial and social connections to the division of *Petrie*, as opposed to proposed *Bonner*.

3.4.2 Therefore it is recommended Moreton Island is transferred from proposed *Bonner* to *Petrie* as per our original submission.

3.4.3 It is recommended the proposed *Bonner/Petrie* boundary be revised to include Moreton Island (Redland Island) into proposed *Petrie*. This would result in the transfer of 153 current) and 158 (projected) electors from proposed *Bonner* to proposed *Petrie* (see table below).

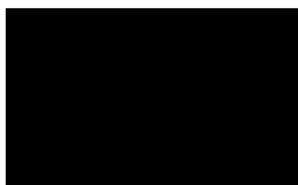
4. Summary of recommended enrolment transfers

		Current Enrolment (January 2017)	Projected Enrolment (2021)
Groom	QRC Proposal	102,009	108,463
From <i>Maranoa</i>	Crows Nest & vicinity	+2,211	+2,407
	Recommended Groom	104,220	110,870
Maranoa	QRC Proposal	103,151	109,197
To <i>Groom</i>	Crows Nest & vicinity	-2,211	-2,407
From <i>Kennedy</i>	Bouli Shire Council	+262	+297
	Recommended Maranoa	101,202	107,087
Kennedy	QRC Proposal	105,212	111,682
To <i>Maranoa</i>	Bouli Shire Council	-262	- 297
To <i>Dawson</i>	Unite Burdekin Shire Council	-128	-128
	Recommended Kennedy	104,822	111,257
Dawson	QRC Proposal	102,818	109,477
From <i>Kennedy</i>	Unite Burdekin Shire Council	+128	+128
	Recommended Dawson	102,946	109,605
Petrie	QRC Proposal	106,757	113,350
From <i>Bonner</i>	Moreton/Redland Island	+153	+158
	Recommended Petrie	106,910	113,508
Bonner	QRC Proposal	100,770	107,808
To <i>Petrie</i>	Moreton/Redland Island	-153	-158
	Recommended Bonner	100,617	107,650

5. Conclusion

5.1 The Party appreciates the augmented Electoral Commission's consideration of these minor objections that resolve genuine community of interest concerns.

Yours sincerely



Michael O'Dwyer

