



The Federal Redistribution 2009
QUEENSLAND



Objection Number 36

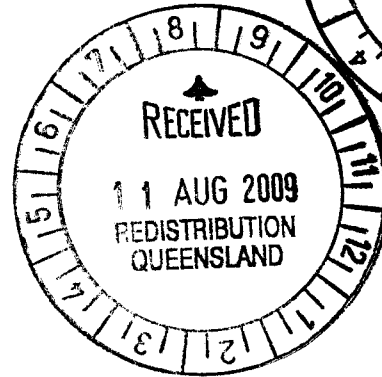
Mike Perry

2 pages

21 Tennent Street
WESTLAKE QLD 4074

7 August 2009

Australian Electoral Commission
GPO Box 2590
BRISBANE QLD 4001



Dear Sir/Madam

**2009 Proposed Redistribution of Queensland:
Objection to Proposed Changes to Ryan**

I object to the proposed boundary for the Division of Ryan and in particular the removal of the existing part of Ryan south of the Brisbane River (RSoR).

This removed section, essentially the 'Centenary Suburbs' of Jindalee, Mount Ommaney, Westlake, Middle Park, Riverhills, and Jamboree Heights, has a strong community of interest with the neighbouring parts of the existing Ryan. There is far more community of interest, in terms of social, economic and cultural similarity between RSoR and Indooroopilly, Kenmore, Chapel Hill and Fig Tree Pocket than there is between RSoR and the parts of Oxley to which it is proposed to be transferred.

There are key transport links between RSoR and the existing Ryan north of the River. The Council bus services to/from the City and RSoR cross the River at Jindalee/Fig Tree Pocket. These services traverse the existing Ryan: they do not travel to/from the City via any part of existing electorates south of the River. The most important and frequently used stop for most of these services is at the Indooroopilly Shopping Centre. The latter is the closest and most frequented major shopping centre for RSoR residents.

No substantive arguments are put forward in the Report for excising RSoR. Ryan's projected enrolment as at 9 July 2012 is within the permissible range of plus or minus 3.5% of the projected average enrolment. It beggars belief that Ryan is expected to be below the average enrolment in 2012, yet the committee wants to take a large, long-standing section of the division out of it. Ryan is expected to have slightly fewer electors in 2012 than Griffith, Bonner and Groom, yet the latter three divisions are to be left unchanged!

The Redistribution committee's sole justification for excising RSoR from Ryan is set out in paras 62-63 and 66 of its Report. The Committee seems to want to invent a new criterion for Commonwealth redistributions, namely the division of States or Territories into 'regions'. The only grounds it can offer for the proposed excision is to avoid splitting a division by the Brisbane River, and it therefore assigns RSoR to the 'South-East Queensland South of the Brisbane River' region, regardless of the ruin it would cause to the community of interest for the electors involved.

Focus on 'regions' will constrain the ability of redistribution committees to achieve optimal solutions. Divisions, not regions, should be the concern. The bizarre attention to regions in the Report is disturbingly reminiscent of the infamous and discredited Zonal system used in Queensland State redistributions prior to 1992! In particular, the 'Proposed Country divisions' in the Report reminds one chillingly of the 'Country Zone' in the notorious pre-1992 Queensland State system.

The Committee has erred in its desire for geographical simplicity and neatness. Community interest must, on principle as well as on legal grounds, override such superficialities. RSoR should be retained as part of Ryan.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Perry', with a stylized, cursive script.

Mike Perry