



The Federal Redistribution 2009
QUEENSLAND



Objection Number 47

Mariliyn Gayle Pugh

2 pages

From: Pugh Family [pughfamily@westnet.com.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 11 August 2009 11:49 PM
To: QLD Redistribution
Subject: PROTEST - PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION OF SEAT OF HERBERT

4 Argyle Court
Annandale Qld
11 August 2009

The Australian Electoral Commission
GPO Box 2590
Brisbane Qld 4001

Dear Australian Electoral Commissioner,

I am writing to you in relation to the proposed redistribution in the seat of Herbert. I wish to lodge an objection to these proposed changes which would see significant parts of Townsville become a part of the division of Dawson.

These are the reasons for my objections.

1. It would be impossible for someone living approximately four hundred kilometres away to represent, fairly or reasonably, the people of Townsville.
2. There is little or no coverage in any press/media of Townsville issues in the Mackay press etc or vice versa. Therefore it is unlikely the residents of either locality would have sufficient knowledge of local issues on which to vote.
3. Comments from residents already in southern seats indicate they are unhappy and dissatisfied with their present representation.
4. Community of Interest should be a priority factor when considering electorate boundaries. Annandale, Wulguru etc all relate to Townsville.
5. There would be zero, or minimal contact with the member in Dawson. And given the distance most contact would be by telephone, mail etc.
6. It is essential that local members are available for immediate contact by all members of the community, especially pensioners and those who cannot afford large telephone or communication bills.
7. It appears that little or no thought has been given to the pending increase in military personnel in Townsville. Most of whom live in or around Annandale. Also the continued growth of Townsville.
8. There is a suggestion that many of the military personnel who live at Lavarack Barracks do NOT change their permanent place of residence. Hence the idea of excluding Lavarack is not relevant.
9. This proposal clearly devalues the vote of every resident in the Townsville and surrounding areas. In particular when dealing with present local issues such as The Townsville Hospital, Roads, Education and Welfare.
10. The lack of proper and timely community consultation hints of arrogance and lack of consideration of residents' concerns.
11. Dawson electors would not, in my opinion, be happy with a pocket of fiercely resistant voters on their northern boundary. Especially if there was an important issue that was centred on Mackay.
12. Townsville and Mackay already compete in many business and commercial areas. It would not be reasonable to expect voters who live in Annandale, Wulguru to be excluded in voting on issues that were relevant to Townsville.
13. Is Annandale actually a formal approved place name, or is it a Developers name, ie., When was Annandale formally excised from the suburb of Murray/Douglas via proper due process with the Qld Place Names Board.. If it is NOT a formally approved Suburban name does this make a difference to the formal process.
14. Townsville is Northern Australia's largest city. ie, draw a line across the middle of Australia and Townsville is the Capital. It is unacceptable that a portion of this city be excised to fill a dubious lack of numbers in a seat based over four hundred kilometres away.
15. Last but not least, no one, not one single person whom I have had discussions supports the proposal.

Yours sincerely

Marilyn Gayle Pugh 4 Argyle Court Annandale Qld 4814