

The Federal Redistribution 2006 QUEENSLAND



Comment Number Twelve on Public Suggestions

The Helidon Sandstone Association Inc

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THE HELIDON SANDSTONE ASSOCIATION Inc.

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16th March 2006

The Electoral Commissioner,
Redistribution Committee for Queensland,
48B Queen St. Brisbane
Queensland 4000
By Fax: 07-38394854
Dear Sir.

I am instructed by the management committee of this association to comment on and object to the submissions made to you regarding the proposed redistribution of Federal boundaries in Queensland. We have particularly studied the submissions made by the three main political parties as they relate to the area in which our member's core businesses are situated. This is best described as the Helidon district which is part of the Gatton LGA. We are aware of and refer to the principle enshrined in the Electoral Act of preserving where possible the community of interest of electors and the obvious corollary of keeping Local Government areas within single electorates.

We ask you to consider our objection to the submission (by the Australian Labor Party) which would see our area transferred to Groom. This is in essence an electorate based on Toowoomba and areas to the west of that city whereas our member's business interests are focused to the East where the major centres of population and the main transportation corridors lie. The shires of Gatton, Esk, Laidley, Boonah and indeed Beaudesert have a community of interest with each other, with Ipswich as their main service centre and with Brisbane as their principal market and export terminal. They have little community of interest with Toowoomba and areas to the west and indeed the link to the west from Helidon is very poorly serviced by the present transportation corridors.

We have examined the submissions (from both Liberal and National Parties) which essentially maintain the grouping of the above shires which form the western boundary of the South East Queensland growth area. This area has been identified in comprehensive studies by the State Government and the Local Government Association as being one contiguous area. This grouping is recognized in these submissions and we respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of the principles embodied in these as they refer to the Gatton Shire.

We are a non Political, non profit business association whose objectives include:

- To promote the Helidon Sandstone Industry.
- To promote the Helidon district as a desirable place to visit and enjoy and as a place to live and work.

Yours Sincerely

Secretary