

The Federal Redistribution 2006 QUEENSLAND



Comment Number Twenty Two on Public Suggestions

Gatton Shire Council

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17 March, 2006

The Electoral Commissioner, Redistribution Committee for Queensland, 488 Queen St. Brisbane Queensland 4000 Fax: 07-38394854

Dear Sir,

SUBMISSION - PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL BOUNDARIES

I am writing to comment on and object to the submissions made to you regarding the proposed redistribution of Federal boundaries in Queensland.

Gatton Shire Council is eager to see the preservation of the community of interest of electors within the Shire.

To this end, Council would have grave concerns with any proposal which involves transferring the area of Gatton shire to the electorate of Groom which focuses on Toowoomba and areas West of the Great Dividing Range,

The Shire has strong community links with the adjacent shires of Laidley and Esk and the major population area of Ipswich to the East.

The Gatton Shire is included in the area covered by the South East Queensland Regional Plan which provides a commonality among Councils in South East Queensland. Council is also a member of the WESROC organisation of Councils which again covers Councils below the range.

Council considers the Great Dividing Range is a major physical barrier for service provision and administration.

We support the submissions which essentially maintain the grouping of the 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.

Yours faithfully

Cólin O'Connor

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER