



The Federal Redistribution 2006
QUEENSLAND



Comment Number 21 on Objections

Chris Cooper

Hermit Park ALP

1 page

24 July 2006

AEC
GPO Box 2590
Brisbane QLD 4001

Re : Electoral Boundaries for Herbert
And Enrollment programmes

Dear Sir or Madam,

I write as secretary of the Hermit Park branch of the ALP with input from branch members regarding the proposed boundaries for the federal electorate of Herbert, and to enquire as to the AEC's plans to maximize enrolment.

At our most recent meeting branch members felt that when considering the boundaries of the electorate of Herbert the Bohle river in the north, and the edges of the suburbs of Stuart in the West and Oonoonba in the South could act as electoral boundaries and also reflect a relatively unified entity based on greater Townsville. Branch members are well aware of the constraints under which the AEC operates and they thought that should the above suggestion be rejected on the basis of the number of enrolments, then the whole border issue requires, and should be open to, more radical treatment rather than just whittling away at the core of the Townsville-Thuringowa unit on which Herbert is based. Allowing the already diverse electorates of Kennedy and Dawson to include more and more of the greater Townsville suburban and rural-residential areas may not be the best approach to redrawing boundaries.

Also in light of recent legislation that closes rolls at the start of an election (when a writ is issued) branch members are concerned as to what programmes the AEC plans to use to maximize voter enrolment prior to the calling of an election.

Best regards,



Chris Cooper
Secretary, Hermit Park ALP
P.O. Box 1066 Castletown 4812

COMMENT

12-21

