Comment Number 29 on Objections

Mr Bob Richardson

34 pages

NOTE: 2 Maps were provided but are not reproduced here.

These may be viewed at the office of the AEC Brisbane.

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The Redistribution Committee for Queensland
Australian Electoral Commission
Level 7
Collection House
488 Queen Street
BRISBANE, 4000

Comments on Objection to Proposed Redistribution of Electoral Boundaries, Queensland 2006.

Dear Committee Members

I hereby voice my concern at the lack of availability of copies of the 'Objections' received by your Committee.

When the proposed boundaries were released, I requested from the Australian Electoral Commission (A.E.C.), Brisbane Office, a copy of the proposed boundaries.

Within two (2) days I had delivered to me, by Australia Post, a booklet outlining the proposed boundaries, together with maps and a CD Rom containing all the 'Suggestions' and 'Comments on Suggestions' your Committee had received.

I phoned the A.E.C., Brisbane Office, on Monday, July 24th, 2006, and asked if the 'Objections' would be collated in a similar manner.

I was told 'not immediately', a copy would be available in the 'full report' at the end of the redistribution process.

The only access to the 'Objections', prior to 'Comments on Objections' closing would be by inspection at the A.E.C. Brisbane Office, or on the Internet.

As I live 1,600 kms from Brisbane, and do not have the Internet connected to my home, my only access to these 'Objections' within the time allowed for 'Comments on Objections' was to 'take my turn', for access to the Internet, at a Public Library.

In the short time available (2 weeks) for 'Comment on Objections' it was not possible to have enough 'Internet time' available to me at a Public Library to read all of the 189 'Objections'.

I prioritized them, concentrating on the Political Parties, Members of Parliament, Local Government Authorities, and some individual 'Objections'.

I understand the two (2) weeks allowed for 'Comments on Objections' is a statutory limit, however I do believe the A.E.C. could do more to make sure that the 'Objections' available to interested persons by producing the same material, e.g. booklet and/or CD Rom, as they did for the 'Proposed Boundaries', 'Suggestions', and 'Comments on Suggestions'.

'Objections' by Political Parties

Australian Labor Party

By and large the A.L.P. is supportive of the proposed boundaries, lodging an 'Objection' in only seven (7) of the twenty nine (29) Divisions.

National Party

The Nationals, while critical of the dislocation of many rural communities were 'reasonable' in the tone of their 'Objection' probably as they consider they have come out of it with better electoral prospects than they had expected.

Liberal Party

I am concerned with the 'bully boy' attitude of the Liberal Party to the Committee Members, because they did not 'get their own way' in regard to the proposed boundaries.

In 1983, after the election of the Hawke Government, an all party Parliamentary Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of the then Member for Prospect, Dr. Dick Klugman, M.P., to examine the Electoral Act.

One of the recommendations in this Committee's Report was that all Divisions should be 'as far as practicable' of equal votes (within a State or Territory) at the 'half way mark' of a redistribution cycle, which they suggested, subject to the Constitution and other parts of the Electoral Act, would be seven (7) years, i.e. 3 ½ years after a redistribution all Divisions within a State or Territory should be 'as far as practicable' be of equal number of voters.

Since that Report, some twenty (20) years ago, this 'as far as practicable equal numbers of voters' has been defined to be 3.5% + or – the average projected enrolment.

There was nothing in that Committee's Report which indicated that the full extent of this variation had to be used.

To do this would constitute a 'gerrymander' within the variance.

I congratulate the Redistribution Committee for preparing more Divisions which are closer to the projected average in November 2007, than are at the extremities of the variance.

Suggestions, I made in 'Objections' would reduce this variance further in the North Queensland Divisions of Leichhardt, Herbert, Kennedy, and Dawson.

I consider that the Liberal Party's anger at the proposed Divisions has more to do with 'number crunching' than the 'community of interest' criteria of the Commonwealth Electoral Act, 1918.

The 'number crunchers' have done their sums, and the electoral bias towards the Liberal Party, which existed after the 2004 Federal Election, has been reduced by the proposed redistributed boundaries in Queensland and New South Wales.

Prior to the proposed redistribution in Queensland and New South Wales, the swing required for the Coalition to loose Office was 4.4%.

The Coalition could have retained Office with 48.14% of the two party preferred vote at the next Federal Election.

On the figures produced by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Library, if the proposed boundaries in Queensland and New South Wales are adopted, the swing required for the Coalition to loose Office is reduced to 2.9%.

That means, if the proposed boundaries in Queensland and New South Wales are adopted; the Coalition will need 49.84% of the two party preferred vote to retain Office, a slight bias in favour of the Coalition parties, but not good enough in the Liberal Party's view.

I do not believe that the Liberal Party would have 'carried on' the way they are, if the bias in their favour was greater.

I also do not believe that there would have been an 'Objection' on the grounds that 'the Redistribution Committee has adopted an approach to the redistribution which is not required or specified in the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918'.

Not only has the Liberal Party organisation objected on the above basis, they have 'rolled out' a number of their Federal Liberal Members of Parliament from Queensland, singing from the same hymn sheet – just have a look at some of their 'Objections'.

Before commenting on a particular area of concern, they recite the Liberal Party Organisations theme; 'the Redistribution Committee has adopted an approach to the redistribution which is not required or specified in the commonwealth Electoral Act 1918'.

I refer the Augmented Committee to '3 Disruption to communities of interest / existing boundaries' which is on, what appears to be, Page 10 of the Liberal Party's 'Objection'.

The fourth paragraph says:-

'The Liberal Party proposal more effectively took into account the communities of interest criteria in, as far as practicable, seeking to keep the following regional or provisional centres and their surrounds within divisional boundaries:

- Mackay within Kennedy
- Townsville within Herbert
- Rockhampton within Capricornia
- Bundaberg within Hinkler
- Maryborough within Hinkler
- Coomera within Fairfax
- Caloundra within Longman'

The Liberal Party's 'Suggestion' as submitted to the A.E.C. on the 28th February, 2006, by the State Director, Mr. Geoffrey Greene, said explicitly, or 'between the lines' that:-

- Dawson be centred on Mackay; as it has been since the Division was created in the 1948 Redistribution.

- Wide Bay 'remains based on the township of Maryborough and Hervey Bay'.

- Fairfax 'remains a costal electorate based on Noosa'. From the UBD directory there is no Coomera on the Sunshine Coast, or if there is, it does not have the population to base a Federal Division on. The only Coomera in Queensland I know is on the Gold Coast.

- Longman 'remains centred on Caboolture and Bribie Island'.

From the above inaccuracies it can only be assumed that Mr. Greene:-

> Does not know his geography of regional Queensland.
> I understand he came to the position of State Director from interstate and is Brisbane based.

and/or

> Cannot remember what he submitted in 'Suggestions' some five (5) months earlier.

and/or

> Did not check his 'Objection' before submitting it.

No matter what the reasons, I believe, these 'glaring inaccuracies' questions Mr. Greene's competence, and tarnishes the credibility of the Liberal Party's 'Objection'.

I urge the Augmented Committee to reject the Liberal Party's intimating tactics, even, according to the press,. the threat of legal action, and continue to create Divisions as far as practicable of equal voters at the half way point of a redistribution cycle, as recommended by Dr. Klugman's Report in the 1980's.

Individual Divisions

I restrict my 'Comments on Objections' to the Divisions I discussed in my 'Objection'.

Leichhardt

From the 'Objections' I have read, the only contentious issue is the inclusion of the Yarrabah community in the proposed Kennedy Division.

The A.L.P., the Member for Kennedy, Mr. Bob Katter, M.P., the Yarrabah Day Care Centre have all objected to Yarrabah's inclusion in the proposed Division of Kennedy.

I have an 'open mind' on whether Yarrabah should be included in Kennedy or Leichhardt.

- There are several social/cultural ties between the people of Yarrabah and the indigenous communities on Cape York Peninsula.

- Cairns is where the Federal services provided to the Yarrabah community have their regional offices, and where most non government service providers are located, but this is also the case for a lot of other communities surrounding Cairns that have transferred to Kennedy since the 1984 redistribution.

On the other hand:-

- Access to Yarrabah is by road, through the existing and proposed Division of Kennedy. The boat service between Cairns and Yarrabah was replaced by a road some thirty (30) years ago.

- Yarrabah is in the Mulgrave State Electorate which encompasses the costal area from White Rock to Innisfail. The Member for Mulgrave, Mr Warren Pitt, M.L.A., has his electorate in Gordonvale.

I note the A.L.P. 'Objection' recommends 'that Yarrabah be retained in Leichhardt, and additional CCD's in Edmonton be transferred into Kennedy' and 'The A.L.P. preferred option is to transfer three Edmonton CCD's 3012220, 3012212 and 3012203 to Kennedy. These CCD's are on the west of the Bruce Highway between Petersen Road and Mount Peter Road.'

I oppose Mount Peter Road as a boundary as it would split the Business centre of Edmonton into both Kennedy and Leichhardt.

As stated in my 'Objection', I believe that Blackfellow Creek, from its source to its mouth, as proposed by the Member for Kennedy, Mr. Bob Katter, M.P., in his 'Suggestion', would be a suitable boundary.

According to the A.E.C. booklet, '2006 Proposed Redistribution of Queensland into Electoral Divisions' the SLA of Cairns (C) Part B (including Yarrabah) has a projected enrolment in November 2007 of 1,202.

The 'Objection' from the A.L.P. advises that the 7 CCD's in Edmonton have a projected enrolment in November 2007, of 3,563. I do not know if these 7 CCD's would move the boundary to, or beyond Blackfellow Creek.

If the boundary is moved, as suggested by the A.L.P, there would be a net gain to Kennedy, after transferring Yarrabah back to Leichhardt, of 2,361 voters on projected enrolment in November 2007.

While this is approximately 600 votes less than the 3,000 votes I suggested to be transferred in my 'Objection', it would fit into the parameters of my 'Objection'.

Moving the boundary in the Edmonton area would allow the existing and proposed boundary between Kennedy and Leichhardt from the Gulf of Carpentaria and in the Mareeba Shire to remain intact.

Herbert

There were numerous; 'Objections' referring to the proposed transfer of the Townsville City suburbs of Stuart, Wulguru, Idalia, and Oonoonba to the proposed Division of Dawson.

The Townsville City Council, and Cr. Jenny Hill, also suggested 'that pushing the boundary of Herbert past the Bohle River should be reconsidered.

These 'Objections' were similar to my 'Objection', and therefore I support them.

I oppose the Liberal Party's suggestion that only Idalia be transferred back to Herbert, as it appears to me, that this suggestion is based electoral advantage, and not 'community interest'.

I consider that suburbs like Stuart, Oonoonba, and Wulguru have as much 'community interest' ties to Townsville as Idalia, and should be retained in Herbert as well as Idalia.

Kennedy

The 'Objections' to Kennedy were mainly related to Yarrabah and the Townsville area, as discussed in Leichhardt and Herbert, and, to which Division the excess number of voters should be placed.

The Nationals, and Mr. Warren Truss, M.P., suggested that the Dalrymple Shire and the City of Charters Towers should be removed from Kennedy and placed in Capricornia.

The A.L.P. states, 'to compensate for this, the western boundary of Dawson with the seat of Kennedy could be altered to bring Dawson to quota'.

The only area of the existing and propose Division of Kennedy which has a common boundary with the existing and proposed Division of Dawson is the Dalrymple Shire, so I take it, that it is this area, including the City of Charters Towers, which Mr. Dick is referring to.

It appears to a bit of 'tit for tact', the Nationals want this area placed in the Labor held seat of Capricornia, and the A.L.P. have responded by suggesting it be placed in the Nationals held seat of Dawson.

I reject both of these proposals.

The Nationals suggest changes be made to the Groom/Maranoa Divisions in the Crows Nest and Rosalie Shires because there is no direct road link to the rest of Maranoa, yet they suggest removing the City of Charters Towers and Dalrymple Shire from Kennedy.

To do this would create the same situation as they objected to in Crows Nest and Rosalie Shires.

The principal road link to the western areas of Kennedy, from the coastal areas, is via the Flinders Highway which passes through the City of Charters Towers and the Dalrymple Shire.

I consider this suggestion has more to do with upsetting the former National Party Member, now Independent Member for Kennedy, Mr. Bob Katter, M.P. than 'community of interest' considerations.

Mr. Katter's lives in Charters Towers.

As for A.L.P. making as similar suggestion, I believe it is to avoid Mr. Dick incurring the wrath of his party's members in Mount Isa and his internal power base, by not, again, suggesting that Mount Isa be removed from Kennedy, as he did in the A.L.P. original 'Suggestions'.

It should be noted in this whole redistribution process the only Western Shire Council, in the existing division of Kennedy, to make a contribution was the Flinders Shire Council.

In 'Comments on Suggestions' which opposed the A.L.P.'s 'Suggestion' that the Shire be placed in the Division of Maranoa.

Neither, the Redistribution Committee, or any of the participants, since that initial stage have suggested transferring the Flinders Shire from Kennedy.

By the lack of contribution by the other Shires, it can be assume they will be contented where ever the redistribution places them.

I still consider that the best solution for reducing the number of electors in the Division of Kennedy is by transferring out of the Division, the City of Mount Isa, and the Shires of Cloncurry and Boulia.

Dawson

Most of the "Objections' referring to Dawson, were related to the inclusion of parts of the City of Townsville into the division, and the transfer out of the Division parts of the City of Mackay, and the Shires of Mirani and Sarina in the Mackay area.

There was at least one 'Objection' requesting that the all the Bowen Shire be included in the Division of Dawson

This is in line with my suggestion in 'Objection'.

It is noted that all the major political parties support the transfer of the Sarina Shire to the Division of Capricornia, because of quota requirements.

The Member for Dawson, Mrs. De-Anne Kelly, M.P., supports retention of the Mirani Shire, and presumedly all of the City of Mackay, in the Division of Dawson, but accepts that there is very little option but to accept the transfer, out of the Division, of the Sarina Shire.

She also suggested that the northern boundary between the Divisions of Dawson and Herbert be returned to the boundary that existed at the 1996 elections, namely, Alligator Creek.

The National Party had a similar view to Mrs. Kelly on the proposed Division of Dawson.

These suggestions are in line with my 'Objection' and I have nothing further to add in relation to the Division of Dawson.

Capricornia

Most of the 'Objections' for the proposed Division of Capricornia centred around:-

- The inclusion of the Mirani Shire, and parts of the City of Mackay in the proposed Division. These have been discussed in 'Dawson'.

- The transfer of the Mount Morgan Shire, and part of the Fitzroy Shire, to the proposed division of Wright.

These 'Objections' are in line with my 'Objection', however, I suggested the inclusion of that part of the Duaringa Shire, north of the Dawson Highway, into the Division, on 'community of interest' grounds.

I also suggested that part of the Bowen Shire in the existing and proposed Division, be transferred to the Division of Dawson, inline with the Committee's policy of keeping local authority areas within the same Division, where quota requirements allow this to occur.

Hinkler

Most of the 'Objections' in this Division concerned:-

- The exclusion of the areas north of Bundaberg, namely part of the Burnett Shire and the Kolan Shire from the proposed Division.

- The transferring of the Biggenden Shire into either the Hinkler or Wide Bay Divisions from the proposed Division of Wright

- The inclusion of part of the Woocoo Shire in the proposed Division.

- The inclusion of the City of Hervey Bay in the proposed Division.

I was impressed by the 'Objection' from the Member for Hinkler, Mr. Paul Neville, M.P.

For a politician who has just lost nearly half of his electorate in a redistribution, to make such a reasoned contribution to the redistribution process is refreshing to say the least, especially, considering the rhetoric coming from the Liberal Party and its M.P.'s.

However, to agree to Mr. Neville's suggestion that all of the Burnett and Kolan Shires be included in the proposed Hinkler Division would involve transferring 9,446 voters on projected enrolment in November 2007.

This is a considerable number of voters and would have a 'flow on' effect involving surrounding Divisions, and therefore I cannot see how the Augmented Committee can accommodate his request, even though it does have 'community of interest' merit.

Small changes may be possible, but not to the extent suggested by Mr. Neville, and the effected Shire Councils.

I do believe the inclusion of the Biggenden Shire and the exclusion of that part of the Woocoo Shire, included in the proposed Division of Hinkler, is feasible due to the close proximately of projected enrolments in November 2007.

It should be noted that in the 'Objection', from the Biggenden Shire, their first preference was to be included in the Wide Bay Division, however if that was not possible, they preferred inclusion in the Hinkler Division over the Committee's proposal to include the Shire in the proposed Wright Division.

Wide Bay

Most of the 'Objections' in this division concerned:-

- The inclusion of the Noosa Shire and part of the Maroochy
Shire on the Sunshine Coast in the Division.

- The splitting of the Cities of Maryborough and Hervey Bay into separate Divisions, namely Wide Bay and Hinkler.

- The exclusion of part of the Woocoo Shire from the proposed Division, as well as the Biggenden and Wondai Shires.

- That the geographical feature, 'Wide Bay' is no longer in the proposed Division.

Without fundamental changes to the whole redistribution, I cannot see how the Augmented Committee can avoid:-

- Including the Noosa Shire into the proposed Division of Wide Bay

- The splitting of the Cities of Maryborough and Hervey Bay

I do agree with the 'Objection' from the Member for Wide Bay,

Mr. Warren Truss, M.P., in that:-

- All of the Woocoo Shire be included in the wide Bay Division.

  This involves a projected enrolment in November 2007 of 1,270 voters.

- Transfer that part of the Maroochy Shire in the proposed Division of Wide Bay back to the proposed Division of Fairfax.

  This would involve a projected 2,383 voters in November 2007, and would cause minimal 'flow on' effect, as the additional voters could be absorbed into the Sunshine Coast Divisions of Fairfax (100.15% of the projected average enrolment in November 2007) and Fisher (98.10% of the projected average enrolment in November 2007).

- Retain the Wondai shire in the Wide Bay Division.

  This would involve a projected 3,135 voters in November 2007, and could be accommodated by the transfer of that part of the Maroochy Shire in the proposed Wide Bay Division back to the proposed Fairfax Division.

There have been 'Objections' to the proposed Divisions of Wide Bay because the geographical feature 'Wide Bay' has been taken out of the proposed division of Wide Bay.

I suggest to the Augmented Committee that should this matter concern them, they do what the Augmented Committee did in 1984, when similar 'Objections' were received, because the proposed Division of Darling Downs extended 'down the Range' and included Gatton and Laidley.

They simply changed the name of the proposed Division to Groom.

Should the Augmented Committee decide to change the name of the the proposed Wide Bay Division, I suggest that the name 'Hansen' be considered, after Mr. Brendon Hansen who represented the district in both the State and Federal Parliaments throughout the 1960's, 1970's and the early 1980's.

Wright

Poor Gladstone.

It appears no body wants to be in a Division with the City of Gladstone, with, or without, the prosed name of 'Wright'.

Numerous 'Objections' were received from the North, South (coastal), South (inland), and the West of the proposed Division.

'Objections' from the North of the proposed Division.

These 'Objections' centred on the inclusion of the Mount Morgan Shire, and that part of the Fitzroy Shire included in the proposed Division.

These 'Objections' have been discussed in 'Capricornia' and are inline with my 'Objection', that suggested that these areas be transferred to the proposed Division of Capricornia, as well as the Duaringa Shire, north of the Dawson Highway.

'Objections' from the South (coastal) of the proposed Division.

These 'Objections' requested that the Kolan Shire and, that part of the Burnett Shire, which is proposed to be included in the proposed Division, be transferred to the proposed Hinkler division, due to their 'community of interest' with Bundaberg.

The projected enrolment in November 2007 for these areas is:-

Burnett (S) - Pt A (part)	495
Burnett (S) - Pt B (part)	5,958
Kolan (S)	2,993
Total	9,446

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As I stated in 'Hinkler', this is a considerable number of voters and would have a 'flow on' effect, to surrounding Divisions, and therefore I cannot see how the Augmented Committee can accommodate these 'Objections', even though they do have 'community of interest' merit.

I consider the minimum 'meaningful' change would be to include all the Burnett Shire into Hinkler, but these additional 6,453 projected voters, in November 2007, would exceed the quota provisions of the Act, requiring changes to other Divisions.

Objections from the North (inland) of the proposed Division

Again there were a number of 'Objections' requesting that their local area not be included in a Division based on Gladstone.

In my 'Objection', I suggested that the Gayndah Shire be transferred to the proposed Division of Wide Bay, leaving the Biggenden Shire in the proposed Division of Wright.

As stated in 'Hinkler', I now suggest the Biggenden Shire be included in the proposed Division of Hinkler.

Also, as stated in 'Wide Bay', I now suggest that all of the Woocoo Shire be included in the proposed Division of Wide Bay.

This allows the Gayndah shire to remain in the proposed division of Wright.

The projected enrolment in November 2007, of the Gayndah Shire is 1,903.

This has increased the projected enrolment in November 2007, of the suggested Division by 768.

To compensate the proposed Division of Maranoa for the transfer of the Wondai Shire, to the proposed Division of Wide Bay, I suggest that the Taroom Shire, south of the Dawson River, but including the town of Taroom, be transferred to the proposed Maranoa Division.

This would involve 1,800 projected voters in November 2007, but would still leave the proposed Division of Wright within the required variance at that date.

This transfer is in line with the 'Objection' from the Taroom Shire Council.

<u>Objections from the West of the proposed Division</u>

Numerous 'Objections' were received from residents and the Local Government councils in the Shires of Aramac, Barcaldine, Blackall, Ilfracombe, Isisford, Tambo, Longreach, and Winton.

The Local Government 'Objections' were all practically the same, but on different letterheads.

A group of individuals hand wrote their name and address onto the same typed letter.

The 'Objections' mainly centred around:-

- Being on the 'tail end' of a Division based on the coast (Gladstone), they would not receive adequate representation.

- They do not have any 'community of interest' with the industrial City of Gladstone.

- Being placed in four (4) different Divisions in the last four (4) redistributions, namely Kennedy, Capricornia, Maranoa, and now Wright.

I believe that there concerns can partly be overcome by my suggestion, to include the City of Mount Isa, and the Shires of Boulia and Cloncurry in the proposed Division of Wright.

These Shires would then be part of a larger Western voice in the proposed Division, and would have to remain in that Division at future redistributions, to maintain the link between the two major centres, Gladstone and Mount Isa.

There is a direct road link throughout the Division I suggest, via the Dawson, Capricorn, Landsborough, Flinders, and Barkley Highways, Even though the Landsborough Highway passes through a part of the McKinlay Shire.

The Winton Shire is in the State Electorate of Mount Isa.

I envisage the proposed Division of Wright will 'take a more Western flavour' in future redistributions as Kennedy contracts to the coast as accommodate the growth in the City of Cairns, and the twin Cities of Townsville/Thuringowa.

'Objections to the proposed name of the Division

There have been a number of 'Objections' to the proposed name of the new Division, 'Wright'.

Archer, Morgan, and Theodore, have been suggested as alternatives.

I add to the list, the name, Flynn, after Rev. Flynn.

This would be an appropriate name, should the Augmented Committee adopt my suggestion in relation to including the City of Mount Isa and the Shires of Boulia and Cloncurry to the proposed Division.

It should be noted that 'Flynn' was the proposed name for a Western Queensland Division, in the 1975 Redistribution.

This redistribution lapsed on the dissolution of the Parliament in November 1975.

At the particular time Parliament had to 'accept' or 'reject' a proposed redistribution.

Maranoa

As I stated in 'Wright' there were many 'Objections' referring to the Central Western Shires being transferred from the existing Division of Maranoa to the proposed Division of Wright.

I have discussed these 'Objections' in 'Wright'.

The Liberal Party 'Objected' to the inclusion of Kingaroy, Nanango, and Crows Nest Shires in the proposed Division of Maranoa, having been transferred from the existing Division of Blair.

The Nationals 'Objected' to the Kingaroy, Wondai, Crows Nest and part of Rosalie Shires being included in the proposed Division of Maranoa.

They suggested an interchange with the Shires of Pittsworth, part of Rosalie, Wambo, Jondaryan Shires in the proposed Groom Division.

The projected totals in November 2007, of the Nationals suggestion is comparable, so there would be no quota difficulties with the suggestion, however I do not know if it is worth the disruption of approximately 18,000 voters in the existing Groom Division, on the grounds that there is no 'direct road connection with the rest of the Maranoa Division'.

I have suggested in 'Wide Bay' that Wondai Shire be included in the proposed Division of Wide Bay.

I have also suggested in 'Wright' that the Taroom Shire, south of the Dawson River, but including the town of Taroom, be included in the proposed Maranoa Division.

The changes I have suggested still allows the proposed Division of Maranoa to be within the allowable variance in November 2007.

Groom

I have discussed the Nationals 'Objection' in Maranoa, and I suggest no changes to the proposed Division.

Conclusion

Calculations and maps accompany this 'Comments on Objections'.

I thank the Committee for the opportunity to contribute to the redistribution process and urge them to resist the 'bully boy' tactics of the Liberal Party, and continue the 'good work' in determining a 'fair and accountable' redistribution.

Yours sincerely

R. J. Richardson

CALCULATION TO SUGGESTED CHANGES
(amended after consideration of 'Objections')

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2-Dec-05	Projected Enrolment 30-Nov-07
LEICHHARDT		
Proposed Division	88,118	92,490
Transfer **to** Leichhardt		
Cairns (C) – Pt B (part) (from proposed Kennedy)	1,152	1,202
Transfer **from** Leichhardt		
Cairns (C) - Trinity (part) (to proposed Kennedy)	3,222	3,563
Total suggested Leichhardt	86,048	90,129
% of Quota	100.97	100.60

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(amended)

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2-Dec-05	Projected Enrolment 30-Nov-07
HERBERT (no change)		
Proposed Division	85,018	90,785
Transfer **to** Herbert		
Oonoonba-Idalia-Cluden (from proposed Dawson)	1,938	2,481
Stuart-Roseneath (from proposed Dawson)	452	477
Townsville (C) - Pt B (from proposed Dawson)	2,485	2,510
Total transfer to Herbert	4,875	5,468
Transfer **from** Herbert		
Thuringowa (C) - Pt A (Bal (part) (to proposed Kennedy)	2,620	2,820
Thuringowa (C) -Pt A Bal (part) (to proposed Kennedy)	5,884	6,453
Total transfer from Herbert	8,504	9,273
Total suggested Herbert	81,389	86,980
% of Quota	95.50	97.09

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How Constituted	Actual Enrolment	Projected Enrolment
KENNEDY		
Proposed Division	89,459	92,001
Transfer **to** Kennedy		
Cairns (C) – Trinity (part) (from proposed Leichhardt)	3,222	3,563
Thuringowa (C) - Pt A (part) (from proposed Herbert)	2,620	2,820
Thuringowa (C) - Pt A (part) (from proposed Herbert)	5,884	6,453
Total transfer to Kennedy	11,726	12,836
Transfer **from** Kennedy		
Cairns (C) – Pt B (part) (to proposed Leichhardt)	1,152	1,202
Boulia (S) (to proposed Wright)	303	294
Cloncurry (S) (to proposed Wright)	1,754	1,802
Mount Isa (C) (to proposed Wright)	10,313	10,623
Total transfer from Kennedy	13,522	13,921

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(amended)

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment	Projected Enrolment
Total suggested Kennedy	87,663	90,916
% of Quota	102.87	101.48

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How Constituted	Actual Enrolment	Projected Enrolment
DAWSON (no change)		
Proposed Division	83,220	87,293
Transfer **to** Dawson		
Mackay (C) - Pt B (part) (from proposed Capricornia)	2,749	2,836
Mirani (S) (from proposed Capricornia)	3,369	3,478
Bowen (S) (part) (from proposed Capricornia)	1,563	1,576
Total transfer to Dawson	7,681	7,890
Transfer **from** Dawson		
Oonoonba-Idalia-Cluden (to proposed Herbert)	1,938	2,481
Stuart-Roseneath (to proposed Herbert)	452	477
Townsville (C) - Pt B (to proposed Herbert)	2,485	2,510
Total transfer from Dawson	4,875	5,468
Total suggested Dawson	86,026	89,715
% of quota	100.95	100.14

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How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2-Dec-05	Projected Enrolment 30-Nov-07
CAPRICORNIA (no change)		
Proposed Division	87,225	89,680
Transfer **to** Capricornia		
Duaringa (S) (from proposed Wright)	4,216	4,220
Fitzroy (S) – Pt (B) (part) (from proposed Wright)	1,954	2,012
Mount Morgan (S) (from proposed Wright)	2,081	2,064
Total transfer to Capricornia	8,251	8,296
Transfer **from** Capricornia		
Mackay (C) - Pt B (part) (to proposed Dawson)	2,749	2,836
Mirani (S) (to proposed Dawson)	3,369	3,478
Bowen (S) (part)	1,563	1,576
Total transfer from Capricornia	7,681	7,890
Total suggested Capricornia	87,795	90,086
% of quota	103.02	100.56

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2-Dec-05	Projected Enrolment 30-Nov-07
WRIGHT		
Proposed Division	85,120	87,438
Transfer **to** Wright		
Boulia (S) (from proposed Kennedy)	303	294
Cloncurry (S) (from proposed Kennedy)	1,754	1,802
Mount Isa (C) (from proposed Kennedy)	10,313	10,623
Total transfer to Wright	12,370	12,719
Transfer **from** Wright		
Biggenden (S) (to proposed Hinkler)	1,119	1,135
Taroom (S) (to proposed Maranoa)	1,817	1,800
Duaringa (S) (to proposed Capricornia)	4,216	4,220
Fitzroy (S) – Pt B (part) (to proposed Capricornia)	1,954	2,012
Mount Morgan (S) (to proposed Capricornia)	2,081	2,064
Total transfer from Wright	11,187	11,231
Total suggested Wright	86,303	88,926

Page 6(a) Calculations
(amended)

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2-Dec-05	Projected Enrolment 30-Nov-07
WRIGHT (cont)		
% of quota	101.39	99.26

COMMENT
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(amended)

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2-Dec-05	Projected Enrolment 30-Nov-07
WIDE BAY		
Proposed Division	84,829	88,298
Transfer **to** Wide Bay		
Woocoo (S) (part) (from proposed Hinkler)	1,224	1,270
Wondai (s) (from proposed Maranoa)	3,055	3,135
Total transfer to Wide Bay	4,279	4,405
Transfer **from** Wide Bay		
Maroochy (S) Bal (part)	2,113	2,383
Total suggested Wide Bay	86,995	90,320
% of Quota	102.08	100.82

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2-Dec-05	Projected Enrolment 30-Nov-07
HINKLER		
Proposed Division	82,485	87,202
Transfer **to** Hinkler		
Biggenden (S) (from proposed Wright)	1,119	1,135
Transfer **from** Hinkler		
Woocoo (S) (part) (to proposed Wide Bay)	1,224	1,270
Total suggested Hinkler	82,380	87,067
% of quota	96.67	97.19

Page 9 of Calculations
(amended)

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2-Dec-05	Projected Enrolment 30-Nov-07
MARANOA		
Proposed Division	88,301	89,957
Transfer **to** Maranoa		
Taroom (S) (from proposed Wright)	1,817	1,800
Transfer **from** Maranoa		
Wondai (S) (to proposed Wide Bay)	3,055	3,135
Total suggested Maranoa	87,063	88,622
% of quota	102.16	98.92

GROOM

I suggest no changes to the proposed Division.

COMMENT
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Map Notes

Map 'A'

Orange Shaded Area:

This is the area between the existing and proposed boundary between the Divisions of Herbert and Kennedy in the Townsville/Thuringowa area.

The existing boundary follows the coastline, whereas the proposed boundary extends into Halifax Bay and includes what appear to be, on the map, two small islands.

The Committee, in its Report, has not given any explanation for this change.

The only possible reason, I can see, is to follow the Townsville/ Thuringowa City boundary.

Yellow Shaded Area:

This area is the southern part of the Duaringa Shire, south of the Dawson Highway.

In my 'Calculations' I have included all the Duaringa Shire in my suggested Division of Capricornia, however in my 'Objection' and 'Details of Suggested Changes', I suggest that this area be included in the proposed Division of Wright

Blue Shaded Area

This is the area of the Taroom Shire, north of the Dawson River, but excluding the Town of Taroom, which suggest should remain in the Division of Wright.

Map B

There are no notes pertaining to this map.