



The Federal Redistribution 2006
QUEENSLAND



Objection Number 13

Council of the Shire of Esk

2 pages

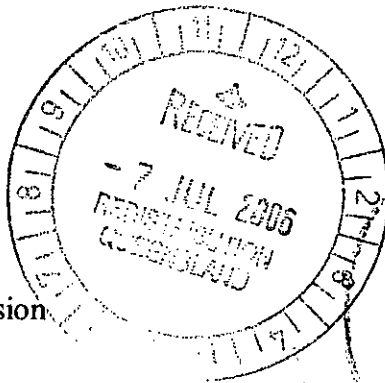
Council of the Shire of Esk



File No: 13/003/3

4 July 2006

The Manager
Australian Electoral Commission
Queensland Office
GPO Box 2590
BRISBANE Q 4001



Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Proposed New Federal Boundaries

Please accept this letter as a submission regarding the re-distribution of Federal Boundaries in Queensland.

It can be seen that Esk Shire Council has been removed from the seat of Blair and placed in the seat of Dickson.

This matter was considered by Council on 28 June 2006. Council resolved:

"That Council write to the Electoral Commission stressing that Esk Shire should be included in the same electorate as Laidley Shire and Gatton Shire and rural areas of Ipswich, due to Esk Shire's long established community of interest with these areas, instead of the proposed inclusion with Pine Rivers Shire."

Esk Shire has long established and strong community of interest links with the neighbouring local governments of Laidley, Gatton and Ipswich. These Shires are part of the Lockyer and Brisbane Valleys and the communities have much in common. By way of example, there exists and has existed for many years a regional organisation of Councils called WESROC which includes the above Shires and Ipswich City. Further, the above Shires are included in the Moreton Statistical District.

The Esk Shire Council populace has absolutely no community of interest with residents of Pine Rivers Shire. The communities are geographically separated by the Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams and the only road link is a road that exits Esk Shire and goes through Brisbane City Council areas to get to Pine Rivers Shire. The road is a road less travelled, certainly by residents of Esk.

Whilst I appreciate the difficulty of the Electoral Commission in re-drawing boundaries, it is felt more weight should be given to community of interest issues rather than just numbers.

OBJECTION

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ABN 94 128 161 282

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Email: eskshire@esk.qld.gov.au - Website: www.esk.qld.gov.au

Similar comments could be made about the inappropriateness of moving Kilcoy and certainly in relation to moving Kingaroy and Nanango into the seat of Maranoa and they are issues that the Australian Electoral Commission will most likely be receiving further submissions on from other interested parties.

Yours sincerely



Robert Bain

Chief Executive Officer

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