



The Federal Redistribution 2006
QUEENSLAND



Objection Number 165

Mr Ian & Ms Cathy Herbert

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Redistribution Committee for Qld
Australian Electoral Commission
GPO Box 2590
Brisbane Qld 4001 by fax 3839 4854

Dear Committee Members,

Redistribution of electorates of Capricornia and Wright

We object to the proposed boundary change for Capricornia in particular where the change is part of the creation of the new seat of Wright.

(1) The Shire of Mount Morgan has been taken into and out of Capricornia repeatedly over the last several redistributions. In describing the new seat of Wright your document (para 77) states that "It has the beef, mining and tourism industries as a common link, transport access via the Capricorn and Dawson Highways and the Central Railway, with Gladstone as its major administrative centre." (Whatever happened to Rockhampton?) We disagree that there is a common link between Mount Morgan and Gladstone. Instead there is a very significant link between Mount Morgan and Rockhampton. Since mining at Mount Morgan ceased many years ago, the town is effectively a dormitory suburb of Rockhampton. Rockhampton, not Gladstone, is the major administrative centre for the residents of Mount Morgan. Therefore the Shire of Mount Morgan should remain in the same federal electorate as Rockhampton, i.e. Capricornia.

(2) The carving up of Fitzroy Shire by the Wright/Capricornia boundary is quite ridiculous, particularly where the proposed boundary goes down the back streets of Gracemere, only a few km from Rockhampton, which is the centre of Capricornia. There is a strong community of interest between the residents in this western part of Fitzroy Shire and Rockhampton compared with any negligible common interest between this area and Gladstone. This proposed boundary fails even the most basic test of common sense.

(3) Sarina and Mirani Shires have a significant community of interest with the City of Mackay. The sugar industry is one of the main activities of the seat of Dawson. At present there is no sugar industry in the seat of Capricornia. It seems senseless to move these two shires from Dawson to Capricornia when they are so close to Mackay and have such strong links with Mackay.

Yours faithfully,

Ian and Cathy Herbert

OBJECTION

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