



The Federal Redistribution 2006
QUEENSLAND



Objection Number 35

**The Western Queensland
Local Government Association**

2 pages

THE WESTERN QUEENSLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Incorporating the Shire Councils of Aramac, Barcaldine, Barcoo, Bauhinia, Belyando, Blackall, Boulia, Diamantina, Emerald, Flinders, Ilfracombe, Isisford, Jericho, Longreach, McKinlay, Tambo and Winton.

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7 July 2006

Australian Electoral Commission
Redistribution Committee for Queensland
GPO Box 2590
BRISBANE 4001



Dear Sirs

Re: Proposed Federal Electoral Distributions

The Western Queensland Local Government Association has become aware of the Australian Electoral Commissions proposed changes to the electoral boundaries of the current Maranoa electoral division placing several of the above incorporated shires in the new proposed electoral division of 'Wright'.

The Association objects strongly to these boundary changes based on the verity that the current electoral boundary of Maranoa includes neighbouring shires of Aramac, Longreach, Winton, Jericho, Barcaldine, Blackall, Ilfracombe, and Isisford all of which have a community of interest.

The change is at the expense of central west and outback shires and electors. It results in both shires and electors being hooked to a distant sea board industrial provincial city with which there is little to nil affinity, and limited to nil trade, commerce, transport, infrastructure, communications, educational and social linkages.

Road access to Gladstone city from central west and outback shires is not easy. The Great Dividing Range divides the eight central west shires from the majority of the proposed electorate of Wright. The conventional route would be via the Capricorn Highway after traversing unsealed roads to Rockhampton and south to Gladstone via the Bruce Highway, or the mainly unsealed Dawson Development Road.

Sixteen Outback Shires form the Outback Regional Roads Group. The proposed redistribution of the eight central west shires would split this alliance between the proposed electorate of Wright and Maranoa.

General freight services to the central west are provided by rail from Rockhampton, and road transport primarily from the south. Overall **OBJECTION** to the proposed changes and services

Tambo State School is part of the Roma District for Education and the South West District for sport, all part of the Maranoa electorate. Students primarily travel to the south east to further their education.

Tambo Shire also has considerable business connections eg. Banking and livestock agents with Charleville and Roma, nil in the Gladstone region.

Tambo Shire is a member of the Outback Regional Roads Group incorporating sixteen shires. The proposed redistribution of the eight central west shires would split this alliance between the proposed electorate of Wright and Maranoa.


The Central West Health Services District is the chief health provider. The District's Administrative Area encompasses the Shires of Aramac, Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall, Boulia, Diamantina, Ilfracombe, Isisford, Jericho, Longreach, Tambo and Winton. As can be seen, the eight shires to be moved into the proposed seat of Wright are in the Central West Health Services.

An examination of referrals from the five hospitals and three Primary Health Care Centres (Aramac, Barcaldine, Blackall, Longreach and Winton Hospitals and Isisford, Muttaborra and Tambo Primary Health Care Centres) in the eight impacted shires reveals no reference to Gladstone. The referral Hospitals are Townsville, Rockhampton, Toowoomba and Royal Brisbane Hospital. In practice, Toowoomba is preferred to Rockhampton due to the availability of public transport.

Tambo Shire Council urges the Committee to allow the Tambo Shire to remain in the electorate of Maranoa. As can be seen from the arguments expressed, Tambo Shire does not have any community of interest, educational, economic, health or social connections with the majority of the proposed new electoral of Wright.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned if you require any further clarification of any of the above content.

Yours faithfully


Cr Doug Davidson
Mayor of Tambo

OBJECTION

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