



The Federal Redistribution 2006  
**QUEENSLAND**



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**Objection Number 47**

**Remote Area Planning and Development Board**

**15 pages**

RAPAD

Incorporating Central Western  
Regional Organisations of Councils



Ref No:

18 July 2006

**Redistribution Committee for Queensland**

GPO Box 2590

BRISBANE QLD 4001

**Subject: Proposed seat of Wright**

Dear Committee members

Please find attached our organisations objection to the proposed seat of 'Wright'.

The Remote Area Planning and Development (RAPAD) Board is a regional organisation of councils owned by and representing the eleven shires of Central Western Queensland: Longreach, Boulia, Aramac, Ilfracombe, Isisford, Barcoo, Diamantina, Winton, Tambo, Blackall and Barcaldine. Membership is voluntary and governance is via a board, representative of all member shire councils.

The RAPAD Board did not make an initial submission to the Queensland Redistribution Committee as the general view amongst members was that Maranoa was within the permissible range of margin tolerance and that the Committee would follow practices of the past Queensland redistributions of minimising disruption to as few divisions as possible. We were therefore surprised and dismayed by the significant changes wrought upon our region in the committee's proposal.

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Members resolved that, on behalf of the Central Western Qld local governments and communities they serve, an objection be lodged opposing the proposed changes for the reasons explained our attached submission.

Members also wish to extend an invitation to the Chair and or Redistribution Committee members to visit the Central West and speak to Board and other community members on this matter. I look forward to your response on this.

If you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to call me on 46583301 or alternatively our Board Chairman, Cr Gary Peoples on 46513311.

Yours Sincerely

David Arnold  
Manager

Visit: [www.rapad.com.au](http://www.rapad.com.au)

Att

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## Remote Area Planning and Development Board

Representing the local government shires of:

Aramac, Barcaldine, Blackall, Boulia, Barcoo Diamantina, Isisford, Ilfracombe, Longreach, Winton, Tambo

### Objection to the AEC on the proposed seat of Wright

#### Introduction

The Remote Area Planning and Development (RAPAD) Board is a Regional Organisation of Councils and a regional economic development organisation consisting of eleven shires in Central Western Queensland – Longreach, Boulia, Aramac, Ilfracombe, Isisford, Barcoo, Diamantina, Winton, Tambo, Blackall and Barcaldine.

The RAPAD Board did not make an initial submission to the Queensland Redistribution Committee (The Committee) as the general view was that Maranoa was within the permissible range of margin tolerance and that The Committee would follow practices of the past Queensland Redistributions of minimising disruption to as few divisions as possible. We were therefore surprised and dismayed by the significant changes wrought upon our region in The Committee's proposal.

Individually and collectively we have examined the proposed Division of Wright which excludes eight (Longreach, Aramac, Ilfracombe, Isisford, Winton, Tambo, Blackall and Barcaldine) of the eleven shires from the proposed division of Maranoa transferring them to the proposed division of Wright. We wish these to remain as is and strongly object to the proposed changes for the reasons explained in the body of this submission.

As a uniquely *central west* and *remote outback* organisation we desire that the Shires that configure and form RAPAD remain as a single entity retaining its identity by being in Queensland's only significant *inland* division of Maranoa. We recommend that the eight *central west* and *outback* shires in the proposed Wright be transferred to the proposed Maranoa. We will propose an alternative which meets the principles stipulated in the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 S 66(1), (3), and (3a)*.

#### Redistribution Committee's General Strategy

The RAPAD Board has examined the general strategy and is concerned The Committee has put importance on the "*principle of equality of electors between electoral divisions*" (Para 34) instead of the application of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 S 66(1), (3), and (3a)*. We believe that the pursuit of numbers to meet The Committee's "principle of equality of electors" has resulted in unnecessary dislocations such as the **central west** and **remote outback** being excised from its historical and contemporary networks, associations and affiliations.

The RAPAD Board notes the premise that underpins the General Strategy (Paragraph 41) "*that most provincial and or rural divisions need to be configured with a major coastal centre supporting a rural element. This is achieved by using either an east-west or a north-south orientation as appropriate.*" The application of the premise to the **central west** and **outback** shires is inconsistent with the term "rural element". The Drummond Range as a part of the Great Dividing Range which is also the Tick Line separates **outback** from rural.

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The premise 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.

Paragraph 40 states that a Central Queensland new division “*enabled the Committee to give a significantly higher degree of consideration to the community of interest, transport and geographical criteria for it and the remaining Queensland divisions.*” We feel our interests; our policies; our community of interest; our communications; our geographical situation and our transport systems have been subjugated by The Committee’s preference to create a new division in Central Queensland area to satisfy the premise of the “east-west ... orientation” and “equality of numbers” (refer Para 48).

Para 49 (supported by Paras 50 and 51) states that “*the new division draws together a number of shires with complementary communities of interest, with the major rural industries being mining, grazing and agriculture, all of which are dependant on the infrastructure and transport links radiating from Port of Gladstone through Central Queensland to the west.*” We challenge these statements and loose application to the *central west* and *outback*. The areas east of the Drummond Range commencing with the Shires Bauhinia, Emerald and Peak Downs have the attributes referred in Paras 49 -51.

#### **Discussion - Community of Interest Linkages**

##### **Industry and Commerce**

The main industry in the *central west* is grazing. Livestock disposals and livestock products comprise 99.2 per cent of the total value of agricultural production in the central west statistical region. (ABS Census 2001) There are no large scale resource (mining) developments or mixed farming operations in the *central west*, similar to that existing in the shires east of the Great Dividing Range.

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Gross value of agricultural production by local government area, Central West Statistical Division, year ended June 2001

(Office of Economic & Statistical Research Regional Profiles)

Local government area	Agricultural production			Total gross value of agricultural production
	Gross value of crops	Gross value of livestock disposals	Gross value of livestock products	
— \$m —				
Aramac (S)	—	16.4	10.3	26.8
Barcaldine (S)	1.0	15.5	7.9	24.4
Barcoo (S)	—	44.9	4.2	49.2
Blackall (S)	0.2	30.9	9.8	40.9
Boulia (S)	1.1	40.4	1.3	42.8
Diamantina (S)	—	25.7	—	25.7
Ilfracombe (S)	0.1	5.5	7.7	13.2
Isisford (S)	0.1	9.3	7.0	16.3
Longreach (S)	0.2	26.0	18.2	44.4
Tambo (S)	0.1	25.1	3.4	28.6
Winton (S)	0.1	39.1	14.3	53.6
<b>Central West SD (a)</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>278.8</b>	<b>84.2</b>	<b>365.9</b>
Queensland	3,391.2	3,368.4	490.3	7,249.9
Central West SD as a % of Qld	0.1	8.3	17.2	5.0

This contrasts with the mixed farming industries shires east of the Great Divide. For example the value of agricultural crop production was largest in Emerald Shire (\$100.0 million) and Banana Shire (\$91.1 million). The value of livestock disposals was largest in Emerald Shire (\$114.1 million), Bauhinia Shire (\$107.2 million) and Banana Shire (\$101.1 million). Banana Shire made the largest contribution to the value of livestock products (\$6.7 million). (Office of Economic & Statistical Research, Qld Regional Profiles June 2002, Fitzroy Statistical Division)

The transport, commercial and communications linkages for the livestock industry are not with Gladstone but the renowned beef City of Rockhampton with its bull sales, selling facilities and meat works, Roma which has Australia's largest saleyards, and Toowoomba, Warwick and Dalby on the Darling Downs and Goondiwindi as selling centres and feedlot operations. The cattle tick line with the dipping centre at Alpha, is a mandatory barrier implemented by the State Government, and supported through supporting national legislation, on strict animal health grounds. This creates a legislative<sup>1</sup> animal health barrier between the *central west* and *outback* and the east. Practice show that producers from the northern part of RAPAD's region prefer to send cattle south for fattening or selling and east for slaughter; while those in the southern areas prefer the southern slaughter and fattening ports.

An examination of the trade statistics through the Port of Gladstone (Department of Transport Queensland Ports Trade Statistics Report 2005) records no beef exports,

<sup>1</sup> Australian Standards Definition and Rules, Cattle Tick Control in Australia; Primary Industries Standing Committee, August 2000; Qld Stock Act 1915, Stock (Cattle Tick Notice) 2005

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On the other hand statistics showed that cattle go east or south to Rockhampton for slaughter, although declining substantially over the five year period due to the closure of a major meat works; and also Toowoomba and Brisbane – not Gladstone or the surrounding areas.

### Rockhampton

Financial Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Export Tonnes</b>					
Ammonium Nitrate	11,169	3,647	2,666	8,924	1,765
Explosives	345	293	323	375	467
General Cargo	78	0	48	84	349
Mear	40,983	28,800	22,462	18,928	17,020
Salt	48,967	89,074	75,433	0	23,534
Scrap Metal	15,683	15,134	14,484	4,033	C
Tallow	26,931	17,142	10,722	14,513	21,496
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>144,156</b>	<b>154,090</b>	<b>126,138</b>	<b>46,856</b>	<b>64,631</b>

Department of Transport Queensland Ports Trade Statistics Report 2005

The primary beef export port is the Port of Brisbane which emphasises that the livestock industry linkages to the south and not the industrial provincial city of Gladstone.

Banking and business services for the eight impacted shires are either with the inland towns, or cities of Toowoomba, Brisbane, Townsville; and Rockhampton, and to a lesser but very important degree, Charleville and Roma. Professional services for tax and legal are sourced from Brisbane due to the daily flights from the central west to capital city. Research failed to produce any business transactions between Gladstone and the eight shires transferred from proposed Maranoa to proposed Wright.

A search of Gladstone Economic and Industry Development Board website shows no references or connections with the *central west* and *outback* shires. The Queensland Coordinator General's page for the Gladstone region proudly promotes it as being the "premier port city and southern gateway to the Great Barrier Reef". There is no mention of Gladstone having any community of interest to the *central west* and *outback*.

RAPAD is also working closely with Desert Knowledge Australia (DKA). DKA, through its Linked Business Networks Pilot Project has seen a cross border desert based collaboration in which 15 regional development and business organisations joined with AusIndustry, Telstra Country Wide, Desert Knowledge Australia and the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre to build effective business networks within and between five desert regions (Kalgoorlie/Boulder, Upper Spencer Gulf, Alice Springs, Broken Hill and Mount Isa) in four Industries.

DKA has also developed strong networks linked with the Cross-Border Outback Tourism Project which resulted in the "Our Outback- Partnerships and Pathways to Success in Tourism" action plan, supported by AusIndustry through the Australian Tourism Development Program. "Our Outback" identified a range of steps that can be taken to improve the sustainability and profitability of *outback* tourism.

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RAPAD is now working in partnership with DKA on the proposed Cross-Border Business Networks Project (CBBNP) which seeks to build on the considerable success of the LBNP and the “Our Outback” Tourism Project by furthering existing initiatives to include more businesses, increasing the number of regions participating: i.e. the *central west*, and increasing the number of industries engaged. This is a uniquely outback project without any linkages to the east.(desertknowledge.com.au )

**Outback** tourism is a significant industry for the eight central west shires. Each of these shires offers a unique *remote outback* tourism experience – vastly different to that of shires east of the Great Dividing Range with their larger populations, diversity of interests and easy access to the coast,

The region east of the Great Dividing Range promotes itself as “Ranges to the Reef” whereas the area west, which includes the eight shires transferred from proposed Maranoa to proposed Wright showcase its region as “Outback Queensland Legendary”. There is no marketing commonality or community of interest between the two regions.

The Matilda Highway Queensland Heritage Trail, stretching from Barrington on the New South Wales Border to Normanton in North Queensland, helps visitors discover the *outback* providing insights into a different lifestyle compared with the closely settle areas.

The Trail runs through the Shires of Blackall with Australia's only remaining steam-driven Woolscour; Barcaldine with the Australian Workers Heritage Centre, Longreach with the Qantas Founders' Outback Museum and Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame and Winton with its Waltzing Matilda Centre. **Outback** experience continues in the Shires of Aramac with its Tramway Museum, Ilfracombe with its Machinery Display, Tambo with its Historical Court House and Tambo Teddies and Isisford with Clancy's Overflow Hotel and Post Office.

DKA's major Australian tourism initiative -“The Desert Knowledge Cross Outback Tourism Project” also reflects the community of interest of the *Central West to Outback*. This project extends across five jurisdictions – Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia Western Australia and the Northern Territory. This project coordinates the marketing approach for the *Outback* and focuses on delivering real outcomes for regional and *Outback* communities. These are initiatives RAPAD shires fully support as clearly articulated in our strategic plan which states we will support the sustainable growth of tourism in *Outback Queensland* ([www.rapad.com.au](http://www.rapad.com.au) and [www.desertknowledge.com.au](http://www.desertknowledge.com.au))

The Queensland Government established an Outback Queensland Tourism Authority to market and develop tourism in Queensland's outback. The latest statistics from Tourism Queensland shows the *outback* as a distinct marketing and destination region for visitors and for the year ending December 2005 performed well.

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## QUEENSLAND DATA SHEET

Domestic (Overnight) Visitors to Queensland's Regions - Year Ended December 2005													
Visitors by Origin	Gold Coast	Brisbane	Sunshine Coast	Fraser Coast Stn Burnett	Darling Downs	Sundberg	Fitzroy	Mackay	Whitsundays	Northern	Tropical North Queensland	Outback	Total Queensland
Total Visitors (000)	3,523	4,561	2,724	1,219	1,059	503	1,025	592	546	926	1,262	622	18,446
Growth % (YE Dec 2005 on YE Dec 2004)	-2	-5	1	16	-26	-9	-5	-6	32	-10	-16	-3	-
Interstate (%)	56	43	29	17	22	19	16	16	42	18	42	25	33
Intrastate (%)	44	57	72	83	76	61	84	84	56	82	58	75	67
Brisbane (%)	29	13	44	36	26	25	13	17	9	15	12	22	25

The RAPAD Board urges The Committee to return the eight shires to the proposed *inland* division of Maranoa so that we may maintain our homogenous grouping, focus and representations.

### Transport

Para 49 refers to "...grazing and agriculture, all of which are dependant on the infrastructure and transport links radiating from the Port of Gladstone through Central Queensland to the west." This statement may have relevance to the areas east of the Great Dividing Range but is not applicable to the eight shires that wish to remain in the present Maranoa.

As indicated above the beef industry linkages are either to Rockhampton, or south to Toowoomba and Brisbane, not Gladstone. Freight costs and road status are major determinants in moving cattle either to feedlots, selling centres or meatworks. Currently transport operators using Type 2 road trains - prime movers hauling three trailers - on the Capricorn Highway cannot proceed east of Alpha but may travel south to Mitchell via the Landsborough Highway making it more efficient to access selling centres and feedlots to the south.

Road access to Gladstone city from *central west* and *outback* shires is not easy. The conventional route would be via the Capricorn Highway to Rockhampton and south to Gladstone via the Bruce Highway. From the town of Longreach to Gladstone the distance is 837 kilometres whilst from Winton it is 1010 km. Tambo shire has no sealed access to the east with road infrastructure only being the unsealed Dawson Development Road.

An air service between the major *central west* and *outback* centre of Longreach to Gladstone or Rockhampton is non-existent but Longreach and Winton can access the north-east city of Townsville by air. No centres in the eight shires subject to transfer from proposed Maranoa to proposed Wright have air services directly to the east.

Bus passenger services from the eight *central west* and *out back* shires to Gladstone require co-ordination. There are a range of bus services, a main one being east from Longreach to Rockhampton; then a connecting service to Gladstone is required; and a main one south through to Toowoomba and Brisbane. A constituent from Blackall travelling by coach wishing to consult with the Federal Member based in Gladstone would either travel north to catch the Longreach to Rockhampton / Gladstone service or south to Miles to catch a connecting service to Rockhampton followed by a further connecting service to Gladstone.

A twice weekly return rail service (Spirit of the Outback) operates from Brisbane to Rockhampton (passing through Gladstone) and west to Longreach with a connecting bus

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service to Winton. General freight services to the central west are provided by road transporters primarily from Brisbane, Toowoomba and Rockhampton.

The National Highway also runs through the RAPAD region, east to south and links to the Gladstone and surrounding areas are linkages only. In the existing Maranoa region the Outback Regional Roads Alliance, an important strategic road planning body incorporating both local government and the Qld Main Roads Department encompasses all RAPAD shires as well as Quilpie and Bulloo in the South West. This grouping further highlights the local governance and planning of road infrastructure in the region, and again a nil linkage with Gladstone and surrounds.

Overall, transport linkages and services from the eight central west shires to Gladstone are difficult and geographically inconvenient.

### **Education and Health**

The eight shires transferred from proposed Maranoa to proposed Wright, source their education and services from centres other than the city of Gladstone. Education choices are between the local state or private schools, Longreach School of Distance Education and private schools at Toowoomba, Brisbane and Rockhampton and the most significant choices for families in the Winton Shire are private schools at Charters Towers and Townsville.

Distance Education enrolments number about 220 students from 110 families who either own or operate extensive sheep and/ or beef grazing properties. The catchment area for the students come from an area bounded by Bogantungan in the east, Bedourie in the west, Windorah in the south and Kynuna in the north. The thirteen shires in the area are: Aramac, Alpha, Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall, Diamantina, Flinders, Ilfracombe, Isisford, Jericho, Longreach, Tambo and Winton; covering 402 712 square kilometres.

Queensland Education's Central West District Education Office is based in Longreach and services an area similar to the School of Distance Education, with exception of Tambo shire which is serviced by Roma Education District, which is a part of Education Qld Darling Downs / South West region.

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 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 (coach services).

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## **Communications**

Communication providers for the *central west* and *outback* are located in the *inland* – not Gladstone or the east.

“The Area General Manager for Telstra Country Wide is based in Roma and is responsible for services to the *central west* and *outback*. Television is received by satellite – ABC, SBS and the two commercial channels Imparja and 7 Central. ABC Radio is based in Longreach and central west news emanates from that centre.”

A major initiative of the RAPAD Board is RAPAD Connect which a project undertaken by the Shires which form our organisation to increase the reach of penetration of broadband infrastructure and services within our region. It is facilitated and managed through the RAPAD Office. ([www.rapad.com.au](http://www.rapad.com.au))

There is no geographical or commonality of issues between the *central west* and the shires east of the Drummond Range.

## **Statistical Region**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics recognises the *central west* and *outback* as a distinct Statistical Division. This is supported by the Health and Education Districts. It underscores the approach that the *central west* is a discrete unit of common interests and issues.

We urge The Committee to maintain our grouping by allowing the eight shires to remain in the *inland* division of proposed Maranoa.

## **History and Heritage**

Para 50 refers to the primary industry areas being united as they “share history and heritage”. Development of the Central West followed the early explorers and settlers from the south contributing to Australia’s unique history. For example "Waltzing Matilda" was written on Dagworth Station in 1895 in the Winton Shire and was first performed a few days later in the original North Gregory Hotel. Banjo Patterson, the poet responsible for the song, based several of his poems on places or incidents from Western Queensland.

In 1920 the first board meeting of the airline QANTAS was held in the Winton Club, before the airline moved to its first operational base in Longreach. A part of Australian heritage is kept alive by the annual world-wide bush verse competition “The Bronze Swagman Award” run by the Winton Tourist Promotions Association. It is considered to be one of Australia's most prestigious literary awards.

All Australians own our unique history and heritage but it cannot be said that it unites dissimilar primary industry areas such as the *central west* and *outback* with the farming and mining areas east of the Drummond Range whose focus is towards the coast.

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## **Federal Political Representation**

As a *central west* and *remote outback* organisation we have many issues which require representations or deputations to Federal Parliamentary Members. For example issues relating to drought; funding of projects from regional programmes; communications services such as broadband and mobile access and lack of skilled workers. The RAPAD Board would find it costly, time consuming and geographically difficult making representations to two local Federal Parliamentarians on the same issue.

The preference is for the *central west* to be retained as a unit in the proposed *inland* division of Maranoa.

## **Natural Resource Management**

For Natural Resource Management purposes at both Federal and State levels, the eleven shires that form RAPAD (including the eight impacted shires} is in Desert Channels Queensland (DCQ). DCQ is the peak natural resource management body responsible for ensuring sustainable social, economic and environmental future for the Queensland section for the Lake Eyre Basin. ([www.dcq.org.au](http://www.dcq.org.au)) RAPAD has a Memorandum of Understanding with DCQ and furthermore both organisations share director and management positions highlighting the interrelationships that exist.

The RAPAD Shires are in the Great Artesian Basin which underlies approximately one-fifth of Australia and extends beneath the arid and semi-arid regions of Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and the Northern Territory, stretching from the Great Dividing Range to the Lake Eyre depression.

The eleven shires that form RAPAD (which includes the eight impacted shires) have no natural resource management linkages to the east. We believe that we as the *Central West* for natural resource management purposes should be holistically located in the proposed *inland* division of Maranoa.

## **Partnerships**

RAPAD is a Regional Organisation of Councils and as such has an operating protocol with the Local Government Association of Queensland.

Apart from the Memorandum of Understandings with DCQ, RAPAD also has one with the South West Regional Economic Development Association (SWRED) which represents the four South West Qld shires.

Several of the RAPAD directors also hold executive positions with the West Qld Local Government Association & Local Government Association of Qld.

## **Proposed name of Wright**

The RAPAD Board has no view on a proposed name for the new Division.

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## **Conclusion**

The splitting of the central west shires between the proposed division of Wright and the proposed *inland* division of Maranoa destroys our unique operating and marketing tool of "*central west*" and being a genuine single *outback* identity and grouping.

The split undermines our policies and weakens the unity of purpose, outlook and our representations when one group of *central west* and outback shires must look east for its Parliamentary services and the other remains within the proposed *inland* division of Maranoa.

Splitting the Shires that form *central west* into two Federal divisions diminishes the advantages of being a concentrated grouping.

The transfer of the eight shires (Longreach, Winton, Barcaldine, Ilfracombe, Aramac, Blackall, Tambo and Isisford) from the proposed *inland* division of Maranoa to the proposed Wright does not maintain the unity of purpose which is important for us to achieve our goals as a remote *outback* board. The Committee's proposal shatters our community of interest and removes us from our historical and natural associations. We have no affinity or transport, communications or service links with the port City of Gladstone and its hinterland.

The RAPAD Board's vision is "*A united regional organisation proactively shaping and creating a prosperous future for Outback Queensland.*" We strongly recommend to The Committee that the eight impacted shires be returned to the proposed *inland* division of Maranoa so that we can remain "*a united regional organisation proactively shaping and creating a prosperous future for Outback Queensland.*"

## **Alternative Proposal**

The RAPAD Board notes Para 34 that "*The Committee considers that the principle of equality of electors between electoral divisions is of high importance. As a consequence of this, together with the "flow on effects" of the creation of a new division, a number of divisions are impacted ....*" The priority is to comply with the *Commonwealth Electoral Act* Section 66 (3) which provides upper and lower enrolment limits but does not mention "*equality of electors*".

The RAPAD Board believes that there are alternatives to that proposed by The Committee and offers the following for consideration.

The alternative proposal which impacts on proposed Wright, Maranoa and Groom conforms within the lower and upper range of limits for projections for November 2007 - 86,452 and 92,722 and respectively. The RAPAD Board is the view that the substantial industrial development in the Shires of Wambo and Chinchilla has the potential to change significantly the projected enrolment numbers for 2007 for proposed Maranoa.

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## **Proposed Maranoa**

The priority for the RAPAD Board is the transfer of Aramac, Barcaldine, Blackall, Isisford, Ilfracombe, Longreach, Tambo and Winton from proposed Wright to the proposed *inland* Maranoa so that we may remain as our vision states “a *united regional organisation proactively shaping and creating a prosperous future for Outback Queensland.*” It is important to us that we remain as unit in the proposed *inland* division of Maranoa.

The adjustments we recommend:

- The transfer of Crows Nest (S) (Part) **from** proposed Maranoa to proposed Groom uniting that shire into one division.
- The transfer of Kingaroy and Wondai Shires **from** proposed Maranoa to proposed Wright creating a community of interest with the Burnett region.
- The transfer of Shires Aramac, Barcaldine, Blackall, Isisford, Ilfracombe, Longreach, Tambo and Winton **to** proposed Maranoa from proposed Wright to create the powerful and unique *outback* community interest which is a key policy underpinning RAPAD.
- The transfer of Taroom Shire **to** proposed Maranoa from proposed Wright on the grounds of community of interest.
- The transfer of Pittsworth Shire **to** proposed Maranoa from proposed Groom aligning it with the other Darling Downs Shires which are in proposed Maranoa.

## **Proposed Wright**

The adjustments we recommend:

- The transfer of the Shires of Aramac, Barcaldine, Blackall, Isisford, Ilfracombe, Longreach, Tambo and Winton **from** proposed Wright to proposed Maranoa for the reasons enunciated in this submission.
- The transfer of Taroom Shire **from** proposed Wright to proposed Maranoa on the grounds of community of interest.
- The transfer of Kingaroy and Wondai Shires **to** proposed Wright which are east of the Great Dividing Range and naturally aligned to the Burnett Region – not the Darling Downs and *inland*.

## **Proposed Groom**

The adjustments we recommend:

- The transfer of Pittsworth Shire **from** proposed Groom to proposed Maranoa aligning it with the other Darling Downs Shires which are in proposed Maranoa.
- The transfer of Crows Nest Shire (Part) **to** proposed Groom from proposed Maranoa to unite that shire as a single unit with its natural linkages and interests.

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### Statistical Details

#### Proposed Groom

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2 Dec 05	Projected Enrolment 30 Nov 07
The Committee's Proposed Groom total	87249	91565
Transfer to proposed Maranoa Pittsworth (S)	3123	3231
Total for proposed Groom	84126	88334
Transfer from proposed Maranoa Crows Nest (S) Part B	2489	2580
<b>Total for proposed Groom</b>	<b>86615</b>	<b>90914</b>

#### Proposed Wright

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2 Dec 05	Projected Enrolment 30 Nov 07
The Committee's proposed Wright total	85120	87438
Transfer to proposed Maranoa		
Aramac (S)	526	514
Barcaldine (S)	1062	1067
Blackall (S)	1141	1111
Ilfracombe (S)	193	193
Isisford (S)	180	180
Longreach (S)	2337	2353
Tambo (S)	443	450
Winton (S)	966	962
Taroom (S)	1817	1800
Total transferred from proposed Wright	8665	8630
Total for proposed Wright	76455	78808
Transfer from proposed Maranoa		
Kingaroy (S)	7996	8225
Wondai (S) Part	3055	3135
Total transferred to Wright	11051	11360
<b>Total for proposed Wright</b>	<b>87406</b>	<b>90168</b>

**OBJECTION**

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## Proposed Maranoa

How Constituted	Actual Enrolment 2 Dec 05	Projected Enrolment 30 Nov 07
The Committee's proposed Maranoa total	88301	89957
Transfer to proposed Wright Kingaroy (S)	7996	8225
Wondai (S)	3055	3135
Transfer to proposed Groom Crows Nest (S) Part B	2489	2580
Total transferred from proposed Maranoa	13540	13940
Total for proposed Maranoa	74761	76017
Transfer from proposed Wright Aramac (S)	526	514
Barcaldine (S)	1062	1067
Blackall (S)	1141	1111
Ilfracombe (S)	193	193
Isisford (S)	180	180
Longreach (S)	2337	2353
Tambo (S)	443	450
Winton (S)	966	962
Taroom (S)	1817	1800
Transfer from proposed Groom Pittsworth (S)	3123	3231
Total transferred to proposed Maranoa	11788	11861
<b>Total for proposed Maranoa</b>	<b>86549</b>	<b>87878</b>

Thank you for the consideration given to our objection, the discussion and recommendations.

Yours sincerely

David Arnold  
General Manager

**OBJECTION**

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