

The Federal Redistribution 2006 QUEENSLAND

Objection Number 59

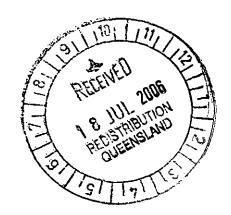
Mrs Michelle Smith

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Mrs. Michelle Smith, 39 South Street, WONDAI. 4606

17th July, 2006

Australian Electoral Commission, Redistribution Committee for Queensland, G.P.O. Box 2590, BRISBANE. 4001



Dear Commissioners,

COMMENTS REGARDING THE FEDERAL DIVISIONS OF MARANOA AND WIDE BAY

I have lived in Wondai for 36 years, and wish to strongly object to the inclusion of the Wondai Shire into the Division of Maranoa and should be left in the Division of Wide Bay.

The new proposed Division of Maranoa includes Wondai which has nothing in common with the people from the western side of the Great Dividing Range and as you will see from our history, it has always been with the Wide Bay district.

We have no community of interest with the people of Dalby, Roma, Charleville, Quilpie or Birdsville.

Our history started with the train line coming from the Maryborough branch line, so therefore since the early 1900's, our produce has all gone to the east and not west. We have no transport system with the west.

Our sporting ties also are with the Wide Bay/Burnett area, not the Darling Downs area.

Our Police District is based on the Gympie District, again from the east not west.

Our Schooling history is with the Maryborough district. Our District has always been based at Maryborough as well as our District Inspectors etc.

Tourism is starting to take off in the South Burnett and once again our area's office is in Hervey Bay and is known as the Fraser Coast South Burnett Tourism Association. Nothing is connected to the Downs and Western areas.

Our South Burnett area is a farming district with crops with most of the other areas in the Division of Maranoa being grazing land. Again no community of interest.

Our Hospital Boards were always connected to the Wide Bay area.

Our Churches in the district are in what is called the Inland Zone which forms part of the Presberty of Mary Burnett which runs from Bundaberg in the north, Caboolture in the south and out to the South Burnett in the west. Another area which does not link us with the Downs and Maranoa.

All of the above points us to believe that we should be retained in the Wide Bay Division and not included in the Division of Maranoa.

I hope you will take my submission into account before you finalise the boundaries and leave the Wondai Shire in the Division of Wide Bay.

Thank you for your time in reading this submission.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. MICHELLE SMITH.

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