



The Federal Redistribution 2009
QUEENSLAND



Objection Number 551

Paul Neville MP

9 pages

From: Barwick, Kate (P. Neville, MP) [Kate.Barwick@aph.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 21 August 2009 4:49 PM
To: QLD Redistribution
Subject: Objection from Mr Paul Neville MP
Attachments: AEC OBJECTION.pdf; NM article.pdf

Importance: High

Please find attached Mr Neville's official objection to the 2009 Redistribution.

A hardcopy is being sent by mail.

<<AEC OBJECTION.pdf>>

<<NM article.pdf>>

Kate Barwick

Media/Research

Office of Paul Neville MP

Federal Member for Hinkler

Ph: 07 4152 0744 02 6277 4940

Mobile: 0408 072 809

Fax: 07 4153 1752

Email: kate.barwick@aph.gov.au

Paul Neville. Delivers.

Objections to Proposed Boundaries

Queensland Federal Electoral
Redistribution 2009

by

Paul Neville MP

Federal Member for Hinkler

August 21, 2009

Redistribution Committee for Queensland
GPO Box 2590
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Committee Members

I would like to make a submission to the 2009 Proposed Redistribution of Queensland Electoral Divisions in the greater Wide Bay and Central Queensland regions of the State.

My suggestions do not create major numerical changes to the Divisions involved but are aimed at minimising disruption to existing boundaries and strengthening communities of interest.

HINKLER

The Division of Hinkler has been subjected to many changes over the last five Redistributions. Parts of the Banana Shire have been in and out of the Division (currently out). Mount Morgan has been in for two terms and out. The North Burnett has been in, out, in again and is currently out. The Central Burnett (Gayndah and Mundubbera) has been in for one term, and now out.

The 2006 Redistribution saw a major change with Gladstone removed and Hervey Bay, Biggenden and Woocoo included for the first time (since 1983).

This caused a major upheaval in political and representation terms, and there was a fair amount of resentment over the separation of Hervey Bay and Maryborough.

But having gone through that upheaval – with new visions and alliances created around tourism, the environment, road and water systems and social infrastructure now emerging – the electorate is to change again. This creates a great deal of uncertainty and confusion about representational matters, especially in the bulbous area removed from the Hervey Bay SLA into the Maryborough SLA (ie roughly from Dundathu to Torbanlea). It also divides the Torbanlea/Howard community.

In essence, Hinkler needs to shed approximately 4,000 voters. I would submit it is far less disruptive to transfer North Bundaberg into Flynn. There is precedent for this, as the area had been in Capricornia on at least two occasions that I know of.

Further, the entire rural area of North Bundaberg (in the northern half of the old Burnett Shire or the entire Gooburrum Shire which preceded it) is currently contained in the Division of Flynn.

Thirty years ago, North Bundaberg was not the self-contained suburb it is today. It has a major shopping centre (with supermarket), post office, primary school, high school and private school, retirement village and proposed nursing home. It has an agricultural industrial park and several large produce agencies servicing the rural north side of the river. North Bundaberg's developing 'self-contained' status is illustrated by the accompanying newspaper article, which discusses the expansion of the existing shopping complex and the establishment of a new retirement village for the area. As the Acting Editor of the newspaper puts it in his editorial: *"With Northside Plaza becoming such a one-stop destination, it is already attracting shoppers from the north of Bundaberg and much further afield."*

Another interesting and compelling feature is that the Bundaberg Irrigation Scheme is divided into two distribution areas – one north of the Burnett River and one south of the Burnett River. In other words, there is a distinction in the water usage packages on either side of the river – hence the electorate would not be creating a new boundary but simply following a well-accepted demarcation.

Yet another reason for following this boundary is the fact that it would create a distinct line of delineation from the mouth of the Burnett River at Burnett Heads to the boundary of the Gayndah SLA.

The retention of the former Biggenden Shire within the Hinkler Division

I believe the former Biggenden Shire (SLA) should be wholly retained within the seat of Hinkler, as the area has strong educational, social and business links to the wider Bundaberg/Childers area. The Isis Highway runs through the SLA from Ban Ban Springs (west of Biggenden) through to Bundaberg, the new Paradise Dam, which services the Bundaberg Irrigation Scheme, is in Biggenden and has a strong effect on areas south of the Burnett River.

There are also longstanding educational links with Bundaberg/Childers. As the Biggenden State School only goes up to Year 10, students completing their senior years attend high school in Childers, which necessitates daily travel to and from Childers and has therefore fostered significant interaction between the two communities.

For instance, many of the after-hours sporting and cultural activities undertaken by these students take place in Childers, which means that the parents of these students are often spending time in the town and take advantage of its shopping and social activities. It should be noted that Childers is the closest centre to Biggenden to offer a major supermarket, numerous specialty shops and multiple health practices.

It should also be noted that many Biggenden residents are employed throughout the Childers/Bundaberg region, which further strengthens their ties to those areas. Commercial interests also link the Biggenden and Isis regions, such as the Biggenden saleyards which service graziers to the east.

PROPOSED HINKLER

	Feb 2009	July 2012
HINKLER (as per AEC)	88,420	100,319
<u>Add from Proposed Wide Bay:</u>		
Fraser Coast – Hervey Bay Part A (part)	318	374
Fraser Coast – Hervey Bay Part B (part)	633	771
Fraser Coast – Woocoo-Tiaro (part)		
CCDs		
3-10-07-01	90	94
3-10-07-02	141	137
3-10-07-03	126	140
3-10-07-04	207	208
Sub-total	1,515	1724
<u>Add from Proposed Flynn:</u>		
North Burnett – Biggenden	1,141	1,165
Sub-total	2,656	2,889
Add Sub-totals	91,076	103,208
<u>Delete from Proposed Hinkler:</u>		
Bundaberg-Bundaberg		
CCDs		
3-07-16-01	503	511
3-07-16-02	558	568
3-07-16-03	366	386
3-07-16-04	305	330
3-07-16-05	694	817
3-07-16-12	419	464
3-07-16-13	485	580
3-07-16-14	563	702
Total of North Bundaberg (suburban)	3,893	4,358
Net after deleting North Bundaberg:	87,183	98,850

WIDE BAY

As regards Wide Bay, I have argued above that retaining Biggenden in Hinkler and returning the CCDs in the Dundathu to Torbanlea area to Hervey Bay from Maryborough SLA, causes less disruption. That leaves the six CCDs of Fraser Coast-Woocoo-Tiaro.

I propose that the four rural CCDs 3-10-07-01, 3-10-07-02, 3-10-07-03 and 3-10-07-04, which contain 564 (2009) and 579 (2012), remain in Hinkler and help retain the rural character of the Biggenden-Woocoo-Isis cluster. They also create a rural-city balance in Hinkler which is dominated by Bundaberg and Hervey Bay.

The remaining two CCDs should go into a Maryborough cluster, which is consistent with the 2006 redistribution where urban areas of Woocoo-Tiaro were placed in Wide Bay. They consist of 3-10-07-07 and 3-10-07-10, and contain 853 voters at February 2009 and 992 voters in 2012.

(These figures do not appear below as they are already contained in the PROPOSED WIDE BAY as per AEC. Only the four rural CCDs need to be deleted).

PROPOSED WIDE BAY

	Feb 2009	July 2012
WIDE BAY (as per AEC)	90,596	95,962
Transfer 4 Woocoo CCDs from Wide Bay to Hinkler (Wide Bay retaining 2 urban CCDs)	564	579
Transfer Hervey Bay Part A (part)	318	374
Transfer Hervey Bay Part B (part)	633	771
Sub-total	1,515	1,724
Total	89,081	94,238

FLYNN/CAPRICORNIA

The area around Gracemere and Mount Morgan is contained in three SLAs – Fitzroy Part A, Fitzroy Part B (part) and Mount Morgan. In turn, this breaks down into two subsets – a Gracemere cluster of CCDs - 3,906 (19/2/2009) and 4,669 (9/7/2012) - and Mount Morgan/Fitzroy B (part), which is required to make the link with the rest of Capricornia – 3,524 (19/2/2009) and 3,575 (9/7/2012).

I propose that the Mount Morgan/Fitzroy B (part) SLAs should remain in Capricornia. As the Federal Member for Hinkler, I represented Mount Morgan for six years. Mount Morgan was

in the most northern part of my electorate and had far more direct links to the city of Rockhampton, rather than the city of Gladstone on which the division of Flynn is based.

Residents work in Rockhampton, shopping and social activities occur in Rockhampton and the nearest educational, health and transport hubs are in Rockhampton. By road, Mount Morgan is less than 39 kilometres from Rockhampton, as compared to 127 kilometres from Gladstone.

I might also add that during my time as Mount Morgan's Federal representative, the Commonwealth invested \$1 million in upgrading the Mount Morgan-Kabra Road so as to improve residents' access to Rockhampton. This has increased tourism and business links between the two centres.

In terms of servicing the community, a Federal Member based in Bundaberg or Gladstone cannot utilise their charter allowance effectively as there is no airstrip at Mount Morgan. This point was made to the Augmented Commission at its 2006 hearings – and presumably was accepted, as Mount Morgan was moved back into Capricornia (from the then Committee's first draft).

There is no doubt in my mind, supported by recent media reports, that the people of Mount Morgan saw themselves as part of Capricornia and this has become even more so with the completion of the Kabra Road.

The effect on Capricornia would be as follows:

PROPOSED CAPRICORNIA		
	Feb 09	July 2012
Proposed Capricornia	89,826	95,822
Add Fitzroy Part B (part)	1,449	1,439
Add Rockhampton-Mount Morgan	2,075	2,136
Total	93,350	99,397

It can be seen then that these changes can be made to Capricornia within the tolerance levels of 2009 and 2012 without any other changes on Capricornia's northern or western boundaries.

Likewise, the effect on Flynn leaves it well within the 2009 and 2012 benchmarks.

	PROPOSED FLYNN	
	Feb 2009	July 2012
FLYNN (as per AEC)	90,120	96,781
<u>Add North Bundaberg CCDs:</u>	3,893	4,358
Sub-total	94,013	101,139
<u>Transfer Biggenden To Hinkler from Flynn:</u>		
North Burnett – Biggenden	1,141	1,165
<u>Transfer Mount Morgan and Fitzroy Part B (part) From Flynn to Capricornia</u>	3,524	3,575
Total	89,348	96,399

CONCLUSION

I believe these suggested changes go a long way to:

- Consolidating communities of interest (with a rationale for North Bundaberg)
- Maintaining arterial roads in relevant areas
- Connecting water schemes in the electorates they serve

REQUEST

I respectfully request an opportunity to appear before the Augmented Commission at its Brisbane hearings. As I will be on Parliamentary duties at the UN General Assembly in New York, I further request a phone or video link to the Commissioners on the Hearing Day.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely



Paul Neville
Federal Member for Hinkler

SUBURB'S GROWTH IS POINTING NORTH

■ Shopping centre expansion and retirement village planned: Page 3

DEVELOPMENT

More residents and shops headed north

Bundaberg NewsMail
14/8/09

OUR SAY

Growing places in all directions

IT is a sign of Bundaberg's growing importance as a regional centre that our city is spreading out in all directions.

Today's news of expansion to the shopping centre in North Bundaberg and another massive retirement village help to support this trend.

Business opportunities and population growth are happening at an impressive rate and these decisions come during tough economic times when many investments are often put on hold.



With Northside Plaza becoming such a one-stop destination, it is already attracting shoppers from the north of Bundaberg and much further afield. If you are heading into town from Gin Gin or Moore Park Beach, it is pretty much the first shopping complex you come to.

SEAN ATKINS
Acting editor

But all the angles are covered now. Barga has plenty of choice and Barga Central is like a mini-town.

Southside shops cover another approach to town and, of course, Hinkler Central and Sugarland Shoppingtown are at the heart of it all.

It all means convenience, choice and healthy competition.

And each new stage of every project is a fresh vote of confidence in the future of Bundaberg.



By KALLEE BUCHANAN

NORTH Bundaberg's economy is set to get a shot in the arm after two major developments were approved yesterday.

Northway Plaza on Queen Street will grow by 16 stores plus a coffee shop, while a 335 three-bedroom unit retirement village has also been approved by Bundaberg Regional Council's planning and development committee.

Committee chairman Cr Ross Sommerfeld said it was encouraging that different types of projects were going ahead in the region.

"We got a commercial and a residential development and I believe they complement each other," Cr Sommerfeld said.

"You need more houses to get more businesses and more businesses will come if you've got more people."

He said at a time when obtaining

finance to develop was difficult, the investment showed developers had confidence in the area.

"Hopefully it will be a forerunner of other developments — I'm glad we could move it forward," he said.

At yesterday's committee meeting, planning manager Rob Thompson said the retirement village would be developed by the the Green Group — the same company that produced popular villages Argyle Gardens and Carlyle Gardens.

The project includes a restaurant, 18-seat cinema, arts and craft room, library, indoor pool, consulting and treatment rooms for visiting doctors and a function room.

"These people do magnificent developments," division four representative Cr Mary Wilkinson said.

She said North Bundaberg was the "hidden jewel" in Bundaberg's crown, and people were looking for

quality development with easy access to the city.

"I think it is an ideal use for the site and the time is right now to start developing," she said.

The new shopping centre will occupy the land that wraps around the Northway Plaza.

It will be accessed by an upgraded roundabout at the intersection of Bundaberg-Gin Gin Road and Queen Street.

"That IGA is really successful, and this is adding to what is already there," Cr Wilkinson said.

Shoppers like Mt Perry jillaroo Samantha Baker and North Bundaberg's Jordana Widdon both welcomed the expansion of facilities in the area.

The new approvals come three months after council approved a lot reconfiguration that could pave the way for a service station and takeaway food outlets on part of the Northway Plaza site.

ABOVE: Samantha Baker supports more shops at Northway Plaza.

Photos: RON BURGIN dev1308d



Shopper Jordana Widdon thinks that more shops would be very handy.

dev1308d

What do you think about development over North? SMS 0429 062 247 or telephone 4153 8513