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Submission CS28

Judith Davies

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, Judith Davies - Redistribution QLD - Submission

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Submission details

Submission:	Boundaries
Details:	I write to respond to the suggestion lodged by the Australian Labor Party (S60) for Capricornia. To justify moving the Central Highlands into Capricornia, Labor points to their "long established transport, economic and employment connections with regions to the north, particularly the Isaac region, which have been placed in Capricornia by Redistribution Committees for decades". It is a fair point about the Isaac region. Moranbah, Nebo, Clermont and the other mining towns of the Isaac look beyond themselves for work, supplies and services. But many of those connections run east, to the coast around Mackay. The Peak Downs Highway, which carries

workers and supplies to the Bowen Basin mines, runs from Clermont past the turn-off to Moranbah and through Nebo, Eton and Walkerston to Mackay. The Goonyella rail line carries Bowen Basin coal to the terminals at Hay Point, near Sarina.

Labor would keep the Isaac region in Capricornia while moving Walkerston, Eton, Sarina and the Pioneer Valley out of it, cutting the division off from the communities at the other end of those links. It would then add the Central Highlands to make up the numbers.

If the Isaac region's connections matter, and they do, they argue for keeping Capricornia's Mackay hinterland where it is. I ask the Committee to do so, and to leave the Central Highlands in Flynn.