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, Zach Kamp - Redistribution QLD - Submission

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Submission details

Submission:	Boundaries
Details:	Dear Chair, I write in support of the Liberal National Party's suggestion (S62) for Capricornia. In my view it is the approach that best strengthens Capricornia as a Rockhampton-based division without pulling it apart at either end. Uniting the Rockhampton council area is the right starting point, and I welcome the wide agreement on it. Gracemere, Mount Morgan and Bouldercombe belong with the city that serves them. As one suggestion puts it, "local services are located in Rockhampton City" (S63). Where I part company with Labor is what follows. I do not accept that Capricornia must give up Sarina, Walkerston and the

Pioneer Valley to Dawson. These communities link Capricornia's mining towns in the Isaac region to the coast, and they share the division's mix of agriculture and resources. Even suggestions that move much of the Mackay council area into Dawson stop at Sarina: S24, S42 and S43 all leave it in Capricornia. And as S34 recognises, the Committee faces a choice between "placing the Pioneer Valley or Bakers Creek/Ooralea into Dawson". The right choice is Ooralea and Bakers Creek, which are part of urban Mackay.

Nor do I accept that the Central Highlands should be moved to make up for those losses. Much of the region's coal goes to Gladstone's ports on the Blackwater rail system, and the suggestions that would move the Central Highlands cannot agree where they should go. Labor sends them to Capricornia, while S43 would send Emerald to Maranoa. A change with no settled destination is not one the Committee needs to make.

Capricornia works best largely as it is, completed by the rest of the Rockhampton council area. I urge the Committee to adopt S62.