

Submission ID: O-0125
Date Received: 12/3/26, 3:23 pm
Name: Averil Douglas
Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Hill

Submission:

RE: ELECTORATE OF HILL - Removing the Electorate of Hill and attaching the areas around Atherton and Yungaburra to the electorate Mulgrave will place the residents of Atherton and Yungaburra at a distinct disadvantage in regard to services and representation.

Atherton and Yungaburra are approximately 70 kms by road from Cairns which is the main city in the existing electorate of Mulgrave.

Not only is the distance isolating but also access to the two townships on the Atherton Tablelands by road is difficult when taking into consideration the only road which can be used to access those towns from the coastal strip must traverse a steep and winding road approximately 57 kms long (Gordonvale to Atherton). That roadway is the Gillies Highway, and it climbs to 720 metres (2400 feet) from the coastal plain. Frequently the Gillies Highway can be closed due to accidents, landslips, fallen trees or flooding. For the electorate of Mulgrave to service the regions of Atherton and Yungaburra will not be practical or appropriate. Atherton and Yungaburra will be considered as an 'isolated add-on' which cannot and dare I say will not, be serviced adequately from Cairns.

I believe that already the Hill electorate, as a rural entity, is part of what we locals call 'The Forgotten North'. And Atherton and Yungaburra will be doomed should they be attached to Mulgrave, they will be forgotten amid the flash and glamour of Cairns.

This region is expanding and population growth, particularly in the Yungaburra area has been phenomenal due to the attractive environment and climate. We deserve better representation.

If you must, attach us to an electorate in OUR region, not to Mulgrave.

Or better still leave Hill as it is. Up here we are tired of seeing services and resources being added to 'The Great South-East' while our region is disadvantaged.