

**Submission ID:** O-0472  
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**Submission Topic:** Electorate Names  
**Electoral District:** Springfield (New)

### **Submission:**

**To:** The Queensland Redistribution Commission  
**Date:** 31 March 2026

**Subject:** Formal Objection to Electorate Naming – Recommendation for "Woogaroo"

### **Introduction**

I am writing to formally object to the proposed naming of the electorate currently identified as "Springfield". While the boundary changes are noted, the name does not adequately reflect the broader identity, history, or geographical features of the region. I propose that this electorate instead be named "**Woogaroo.**"

### **Criterion: Historical and Geographical Significance**

The name **Woogaroo** has deep roots in the local landscape that predate the modern development of the Springfield master-planned area.

1. **Woogaroo Creek:** This is a major geographic feature that traverses the region, connecting the suburbs of Spring Mountain, Springfield, and Augustine Heights. Using a natural landmark is a neutral and inclusive way to define an electorate.
- **The Woogaroo Scrub:** Historically, this area was known for its unique "Big Scrub" rainforest. Naming the electorate "Woogaroo" honors the natural heritage of the land that existed long before the current urban footprint.

### **Criterion: Recognition of First Nations Heritage**

The Commission's guidelines encourage the use of Indigenous names to reflect the traditional ownership of the land.

- "Woogaroo" is derived from local Indigenous language, often interpreted to mean "**whirlpool**" or referring to the waterholes in the creek.
- Adopting this name serves as a meaningful act of reconciliation and acknowledges the **Yuggera and Ugarapul people** as the traditional custodians of this specific corridor.

### **Criterion: Avoiding "Suburb-Centric" Bias**

Naming an electorate after a single suburb (e.g., "Springfield") may lead to a sense of disenfranchisement for residents such as myself in surrounding areas such as Bellbird Park, Camira, Brookwater, and Augustine Heights.

- "**Springfield**" is a corporate/development brand name. While iconic, it does not represent the diverse suburbs captured within the new boundaries.
- "**Woogaroo**" provides a shared identity that belongs to the entire catchment area rather than a specific postcode or developer entity.

### **Precedent**

The Commission has a history of choosing names based on local creeks and Indigenous landmarks (e.g., *Enoggera*, *Moggill*, *Bulimba*). "Woogaroo" fits perfectly within this established Queensland naming convention, ensuring the electorate name is timeless rather than tied to a 21st-century development phase.

### **Conclusion**

The name **Woogaroo** is evocative, historically grounded, and geographically accurate. It avoids the narrowness of the proposed name and offers a unifying identity for all constituents within the new boundaries. I urge the Commission to adopt this change in the final determination.

Iyrri Salvemini

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