

Submission ID: O-0394
Date Received: 24/3/26, 11:12 am
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Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Noosa; Nambour (formerly Nicklin)

Submission:

Dear Commissioners,

I write as a resident of the Electoral District of Noosa to lodge a formal objection to the proposed transfer of part of the Federal area from Nambour into Noosa, and to respectfully urge the Commission to reconsider the exclusion of Cooroy from Noosa.

Whilst I understand the arithmetic argument of the potential redistribution, I question whether the federal area residents would identify with Noosa shire's planning philosophy, or with the Sunshine coast's growth corridor?

My objection is grounded in the statutory criterion of community of interest, which I submit has not been given sufficient weight in the proposed redistribution as it applies to this electorate.

NOOSA IS A DISTINCTLY DEFINED COMMUNITY

The Electoral District of Noosa sits entirely within the Noosa Shire local government area, one of only a small number of Queensland electorates that aligns so cleanly with its local government boundary. That alignment is not incidental. It reflects a deeply held and well-documented community identity that is materially different from the adjoining Sunshine Coast Council area. Noosa Shire is home to the Noosa Biosphere Reserve, designated by UNESCO and affirmed through sustained community advocacy and deliberate planning policy. Residents of Noosa have, over many decades, made a conscious and collective choice to prioritise environmental stewardship, constrained development, and liveability over growth-oriented urban expansion. This is not an abstract preference, it is a commitment that is embedded in local planning instruments, community expectations, and the lived experience of residents who have accepted significant financial and lifestyle trade-offs to be part of this community

THE PROPOSED TRANSFER CREATES A COMMUNITY OF INTEREST CONFLICT

The Federal area proposed for transfer into Noosa sits adjacent to Nambour, a township that is part of the Sunshine Coast Council area. That broader region has a fundamentally different development trajectory: higher density, active infrastructure growth, and planning frameworks that actively encourage urban expansion.

Introducing voters from a planning context that is structurally and philosophically opposed to Noosa's would dilute the community of interest that currently gives the Noosa electorate its coherence and its voice. **A member of parliament representing Noosa must be able to advocate unambiguously for the environmental and planning values that define this community. Importing voters whose immediate community**

**context reflects different priorities undermines that capacity.
I respectfully submit that the numerical convenience of this transfer
does not outweigh the material harm to community of interest.**

COOROY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR INCLUSION IN NOOSA

I note that numerous submissions called for Cooroy to be included in the Noosa electorate, and that the Commission declined on enrolment-balancing grounds. I understand the arithmetic challenge, but submit that Cooroy's inclusion would more accurately reflect community of interest and local government alignment than the proposed Federal transfer.

Cooroy sits within Noosa Shire, shares its planning framework, and its residents identify with the broader Noosa community. Its exclusion, while Noosa absorbs voters from a structurally different community to the south, represents a compromise of identity for purely numerical reasons.

CONCLUSION

I respectfully request that the Commission:

1. Reconsider the transfer of the Federal area from Nambour to Noosa on community of interest grounds;
2. Give greater weight to the Noosa Biosphere Reserve designation and its associated planning identity as a criterion distinguishing this community from adjacent electorates; and
3. Revisit the case for Cooroy's inclusion within Noosa, in recognition of its Noosa Shire membership and shared community identity.

I appreciate the Commission's consideration of this objection and the important work it undertakes in ensuring fair and meaningful electoral representation for all Queenslanders.

Yours sincerely,

Frederique Dennison