

Submission ID: O-0499
Date Received: 2/4/26, 9:03 am
Name: Sabine Holt
Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Burnett; Callide

Submission:

See below

Submission Attachments

Email - Sabine Holt - Objection to the Proposed Boundary Redistribution —
Baffle Creek (Burnett) to Callide.pdf

From: [sabine holt](#)
To: [QRC Submissions](#)
Subject: Objection to the Proposed Boundary Redistribution — Baffle Creek (Burnett) to Callide
Date: Thursday, 2 April 2026 9:03:40 AM

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Personal Submission to the Queensland Redistribution Commission

I write to object to the proposed transfer of Baffle Creek and surrounding communities from the electoral district of Burnett into Callide.

I have been a resident of Baffle Creek for more than 20 years. My household of five (myself, my partner, our two children, and my elderly mother) travels to Bundaberg constantly. Between us, someone makes the trip more than once a week, and it's not unusual for that to be three or four times. We run a mail order business and post items from Bundaberg weekly. We shop there. My children participate in a sports club in Bundaberg. Our entire family accesses medical services there — our doctor, dentist, multiple specialists, and physiotherapist are all in Bundaberg. When medical emergencies have arisen, we have been taken to Bundaberg Hospital by ambulance. Bundaberg is our regional centre. Although which is the nearest hospital obviously won't change because of a redistribution, our state MP is the person we call when those services are failing; one who advocates for infrastructure investment and has relationships with the relevant ministers and departments. A Callide member with different hospitals in their area (Biloela, Rockhampton...) will not naturally have the same working relationships with Bundaberg Hospital that the Burnett member has built. That advocacy gap is worrying.

Bundaberg is also where our children's schooling reaches beyond Baffle Creek. My children attend regional sports days with other schools in Bundaberg, and some of their friends attend Bundaberg high schools. This is no coincidence, Bundaberg is the regional hub for all the small schools in the area. We have no equivalent relationship with any inland community in the proposed Callide electorate. The idea that our family, and families like ours, would be better represented by an inland electorate just doesn't make sense. My elderly mother has previously lived near both Monto and Chinchilla, towns that fall within the Callide electorate, and both are a very taxing drive from us. That area really doesn't have a lot in common with us.

Since the proposed redistribution was announced, people have been surprised and dismayed. At any community gathering I've been to lately the topic is discussed with concern. Multiple local Facebook groups have been active with residents expressing concern and objection. People know where we belong, and it is not Callide. I hear a lot of "it doesn't make sense!"

The sitting Member for Burnett, Stephen Bennett, has been a genuinely engaged and effective representative for Baffle Creek and surrounds. When disasters have struck, including fires and floods, he has been present and helpful in ways that matter on the ground. He has navigated complex regulatory matters on our behalf, including working with the EPA and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority to resolve issues affecting our local boat club's ability to operate. Stephen knows this community, its particular issues, and has invested in it. Beyond formal matters, he has been a familiar face at local markets, art shows, the Baffle Creek raft race, and community meet-and-greets. Moving Baffle Creek into Callide would leave our community starting over with a member who doesn't know us at all and may only be able to travel to our area once a year.

Baffle Creek belongs in Burnett. I urge the Commission to reject the proposed transfer to Callide.

Sincerely

Dr Sabine Holt

