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An important principle to consider when analysing the suggestions submitted to the Commission must be ensuring appropriate communities of interest have been considered. As a regional Queenslander, the representation of the various smaller cities in this state is important to me. I believe a focus must be placed on ensuring regional centres aren't tied to outlying regions if they have the capacity to support electorates within their metropolitan area.

For example, the current electoral map connects many coastal areas on the Sunshine Coast to the hinterland in seats like Ninderry and Caloundra, when these communities have very different characteristics economically and socially. As an example of a better arrangement, the current seat of Bundaberg separates the city from Burnett, which has a more agricultural economic base and better represents both communities.

Another area that could be improved is in central and outback Queensland. Calliope is a growing satellite suburb of Gladstone, yet is part of the seat of Callide on the current map which stretches all the way to the Darling Downs. The cotton and sorghum growing centre of Dalby is drawn in with the Channel Country of the far southwest, which is far more reliant on cattle grazing on large pastoral properties. Gregory has more historical and economic sense to its shape, but still ties coal mining communities with agricultural ones further west. I would suggest a rearrangement which creates a new seat of Western Downs, based around Dalby, Chinchilla and Miles. This would require splitting Gregory between Warrego and Callide. As part of this, the parts of the seat of Gladstone west of the Calliope river excluding Curtis Island could be moved to Callide and Calliope could be moved into Gladstone.