

**Submission ID:** O-0500  
**Date Received:** 2/4/26, 12:21 pm  
**Name:** David Keenan  
**Organisation Name:** Scenic Rim Regional Council  
**Submission Topic:** Electorate Boundaries and Names  
**Electoral District:** Beaudesert (formerly Scenic Rim)

**Submission:**

See below

**Submission Attachments**

Queensland Redistribution Commission - Submission regarding the Scenic Rim Electoral District.pdf

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File Ref: 14/06/003  
Other Ref: Ordinary Meeting 31/03/26 Item 11.1

1 April 2026

The Commissioners  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
GPO Box 1393  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Sent by email to: [QRCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:QRCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au)

Dear Commissioners

### **Submission regarding the Scenic Rim Electoral District**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission regarding the "Proposal for the Redistribution of the State's Electoral Districts March 2026" (the Proposal).

The Proposal was discussed at the Ordinary Meeting of the Scenic Rim Regional Council held on 31 March 2026, and it was resolved that:

*Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to lodge a submission to the Queensland Redistribution Commission, by the closing date of 9 April 2026, stating that:*

- a) *Council supports the minor changes to the Scenic Rim electorate boundary; and*
- b) *Council proposes that the electorate be named "Wyaralong".*

In making that decision, Council considered facts pertinent to both the proposed boundary change and the renaming of the electoral district.

#### Boundary

Council noted that minor changes to the north-western boundary are proposed, in order to transfer an area that is part of the Ipswich local government area into the Ipswich West electorate. It was recognised that this will align with the local government boundary and recognises the community of interest, and therefore Council resolved to support the proposed changes.

#### Electorate Name Change

Council recognised the merit of the proposal that the Scenic Rim electorate's name should be changed to differentiate it from the Scenic Rim local government authority and was supportive of a name change for that reason.

However, Council did not support the name being changed to "Beaudesert" for the following reasons.

- While Beaudesert was an electoral district of the Queensland Legislative Assembly from 1991 to 2017 and the township of Beaudesert is a key administrative centre within the current Scenic Rim electorate, the name "Beaudesert" could not be said to satisfactorily represent the identity of the whole electorate.

- The electorate is the traditional country of the Mununjali, Wangerriburra and Ugarapul peoples. Its main towns and villages are Beaudesert, Boonah, Tamborine Mountain, Kooralbyn, Beechmont, Kalbar, Aratula, Canungra, Rathdowney, Harrisville and Peak Crossing. These communities have diverse geographical locations and distinct histories.

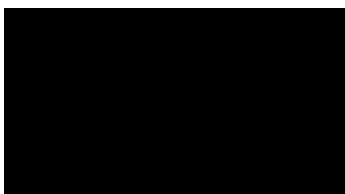
### Wyaralong

Council's proposal that the electorate be named "Wyaralong" is based on consideration of a range of factors.

- The name "Beaudesert" represents only one of the population centres within the electorate and would not necessarily resonate with the wider community.
- While the electorate spans a widespread and diverse range of discrete communities, each having its own distinct history, they share a common agricultural and pastoral heritage.
- A name that is intrinsically linked to that heritage but not to a specific population centre would have broader appeal and relevance.
- Wyaralong is centrally located within the electorate and is the site of significant strategic infrastructure, the Wyaralong Dam, which delivers improved water security and flood mitigation as part of the South East Queensland regional water network.
- As well as contributing to water security and flood mitigation, the Wyaralong Dam has become a popular recreational destination. The name "Wyaralong" is widely recognised because the dam precinct regularly hosts mountain biking, rowing and canoeing events that attract participants from throughout South East Queensland.
- As well as its modern-day importance to the wider South East Queensland community, Wyaralong's historical significance is apparent from the below:
  - Wyaralong Station was established in the early twentieth century, and by the 1920s it was associated with the prominent pioneering Philp family.
  - Community facilities such as the Wyaralong Provisional and State Schools were situated on Wyaralong Station land from 1924 to 1965.
  - During the Second World War the area briefly gained strategic significance when a bombing and gunnery range was established on Wyaralong Station in 1940 for air-training purposes.
- Naming the electorate "Wyaralong" would refer to the electorate's past and future contributions to the wider South East Queensland community.

I trust that you will give Council's representations your favourable consideration.

Yours faithfully



David Keenan  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**