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Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Callide;Gregory;Keppel;Mirani;Rockhampton
Multiple Signatories: No

Submission:

My submission concerns the electorates of Central Queensland.

Mirani

Mirani should lose all its CQ territory (Livingstone Shire and Rockhampton LGA) and become a North Queensland seat. The rump of Mirani (parts of Isaac and Mackay LGAs) should be added to the portion of Isaac LGA from Burdekin, which is more-or-less one quota.

Rockhampton & Keppel

The Livingstone Shire parts of Mirani should go to Keppel, or at least the rural-residential districts north of Rockhampton (Glenlee, Glendale and Rockyview). And yes, Keppel is not under quota. But Keppel currently straddles both Livingstone Shire and Rockhampton LGA. Keppel's community of interest would be maximised if it includes all of Livingstone Shire, with top up from eastern parts of Rockhampton LGA as necessary to achieve quota. Rockhampton is substantially under the projected 2032 quota, but it can (and should) be enlarged within Rockhampton LGA, with emphasis on suburban voters from Keppel (say, the rest of Koongal, Frenchville and Mount Archer).

Callide

The Rockhampton LGA parts of Mirani should go to Callide - Westwood, Mount Morgan, Kabra, Ridgeland, Alton Downs, Bouldercombe, Midgee and Bajool. Callide should cede the remaining territory of Western Downs LGA to Warrego (including Chinchilla, Miles and Wandoan). The community of interest between Biloela and Chinchilla or Miles, is low. To fill the quota, Callide should expand west, acquiring the former Duaringa Shire and Woorabinda from Gregory.

Gregory

The "Large District Allowance" (LDA) was first applied to 5 electorates at the 1992 State election. The purpose was to enhance representation of remote areas. However, the area of Queensland is fixed and so is the areas that might be considered remote. Such remote areas are already within the four Large Districts. And remote does not simply mean rural. Eastern locales (like Dalby or Duaringa) are not remote.

The 2017 redistribution saw the 5 Large Districts reduce to 4 (Cook, Traeger, Gregory and Warrego). But the LDA for Cook is less than the quota's 10% tolerance, so its LDA is of marginal significance. The other Large Districts (Warrego, Gregory and Traeger) are much larger area than Cook, so their LDA is much more significant. After this redistribution, it is likely that only two electorates will have significant LDA.

Gregory is substantially under the projected 2032 quota. And it is likely to lose territory to Traeger (also under quota) such as Boulia and Winton Shires. So:

- Gregory should take Bulloo, Quilpie, Paroo and Murweh Shires from Warrego; and
- Gregory's quota could be topped up / fine-tuned by ceding the former Daringa Shire (or parts thereof) to Callide (as discussed above).