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Electoral District: Pine Rivers
Related Submissions: S-110

Submission:

I strongly oppose the LNP suggestion to completely redefine the borders of Pine Rivers in a way that would make Pine Rivers an LNP safe seat. The current border of Pine Rivers leads to close competition between candidates, creating a higher quality of contest between possible contests and makes sense regarding its name, "Pine Rivers". The Pine Rivers community exists in between Strathpine (South Pine Rivers) and Lawnton (North Pine Rivers) to remove these communities from the Pine Rivers electorate to add Mt Mee and Ocean view makes little to no sense, especially if you a) intend to keep calling it Pine Rivers b) want to maintain political competition between the parties and c) future proof the electorate along development. Lawnton, Bray Park and Strathpine are areas of heavy development alongside the development of the new University and Moreton Bay council's plan for further development in this area, seeing apartment towers pop up in Lawnton and Bray Park, these areas will continue to densify and Kurwongbah will be grossly over populated before the next redistribution. Meanwhile, the suggested areas in the Pine Rivers electorate are all rural/mountain communities which are not likely to see major development and in fact, these communities will be under populated by the 2032 redistribution.

The northern end of the suggested electorate were not even historically part of the Pine Rivers Shire Council and are 30km from the nearest "Pine River".

If anything, I think Pine Rivers should include everything south of the North Pine River to include the whole of Lawnton and Joyner. This natural border doesn't just remove confusion but also makes sense given the namesake of Pine Rivers, up to Dayboro and down the D'Aguillar range to Samford. Very similar to it's current configuration.

Oceanview, Mt Mee and Delaney Creek should be incorporated into whatever electorate is created to cover the development of Caboolture West, as these communities will likely shop and run errands in this area.

More importantly, it balances the district's to produce more political challenge for parties. As it currently stands, Pine Rivers and Kurwongbah are both marginal seats that lean Labor, Pine Rivers having come down to less than 1% marginal, but based on voting data, this redistribution creates a very safe Labor seat in Kurwongbah and a very safe LNP seat in Pine Rivers. Doing so removes the power of electors votes to choose a representative in a competitive election. The goal of the ECQ should be limiting, where possible, seats that discourage competitive campaigning to win elections. To carve up electorates to produce safe seats for either party is specifically undemocratic.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my proposal.