

19th March 2026

To the Queensland Redistribution Commission

Email: QRCSUBMISSIONS@ECQ.QLD.GOV.AU

Re: Objection to Proposed Changes to the Electoral District of Gregory – March 2026 Redistribution

On behalf of the Central Western Remote Area and Planning Development (RAPAD) Board I write to object to an aspect of the *Proposal for the Redistribution of the State's Electoral Districts March 2026* as it relates to the electorate of Gregory.

I understand the issues faced regarding electoral boundary adjustments overall and reasonable changes being made to Gregory to bring the electorate back within quota. However, I strongly object to the proposal to remove the southern portion of the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council area, including the town of Tambo, from Gregory and transfer it to Warrego. Tambo should remain in Gregory.

The proposed transfer would divide the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council area between two state electorates. This is unnecessary and would split a long-standing community of interest for the sake of a relatively small number of electors. As has already been publicly noted, this change appears to affect only around 261 voters. Splitting an established western Queensland community for such a small numerical adjustment does not reflect the realities of regional life and representation.

Tambo's connections are deeply aligned with the communities of central western Queensland that make up Gregory. Its social, economic and regional identity is tied to the broader central west, not simply to a numerical redistribution outcome. Keeping Tambo in Gregory would preserve important community relationships, shared service patterns, and regional cohesion across the Blackall-Tambo area.

Importantly, the proposal would create the undesirable outcome of placing Blackall and Tambo in different state electorates, despite being part of the same local government area. In regional and remote Queensland, local government boundaries are especially significant indicators of shared community interest, service delivery, advocacy, and representation. Splitting a council area should only occur where there is no practical alternative. In this case, there appears to be a practical alternative.

It has been suggested a small adjustment in another part of Warrego's boundary could achieve the necessary electoral balance without dividing a cohesive western Queensland community. That approach would better satisfy the principles of community of interest while still meeting enrolment requirements.

The Commission's report states the proposed changes are intended to rebalance elector numbers between the large districts, retain existing boundaries where practicable, and limit geographical expansion. Respectfully, transferring Tambo to Warrego does not best achieve those aims when measured against community of interest. While quota compliance is important, it should not come at the expense of dividing a small, connected regional community and splitting a local government area where other options may be available.

Gregory is a large and diverse electorate, and representation in western Queensland depends heavily on maintaining coherent regional groupings. Tambo has long been part of Gregory and should remain there. The proposed inclusion of parts of the Isaac local government area into Gregory already provides a pathway to rebalance enrolment. There is no compelling community-of-interest case for removing Tambo as well.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Commission reconsider this element of the proposal and retain the town of Tambo, and the southern portion of the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council area, within the electorate of Gregory.

Thank you for considering this objection.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Morgan Gronold', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Morgan Gronold
CEO

CC: Hon Sean Dillon, Assistant Minister for Primary Industry Development, Water and Western Queensland and Member for Gregory gregory@parliament.qld.gov.au