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A Normative Model for Local Government De-Amalgamation in Australia

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Abstract

Ongoing local community dissatisfaction in some newly amalgamated local government areas resulting from the 2007 Queensland forced amalgamation program has raised the prospect of de-merger in that state. One catalyst has been the Opposition's commitment to de-amalgamation should it acquire government. Apart from some descriptive discussion of actual de-amalgamation episodes, almost no prescriptive analysis exists on the optimal form any de-merger process may take. Using two documented cases of de-amalgamation in metropolitan and regional settings, this exploratory paper seeks to address this gap in the literature on local government by presenting a 'stylised' approach to de-amalgamation designed for Australian local government conditions built around five generic principles.

2007 年昆士兰实行了强制合并之后，一部分新合并地区的当地社区表现出不满，昆士兰停止合并的可能性随之增加。促成事态发展的原因之一，是在野党承诺一旦执掌执政，将停止合并。但目前除了对反合并运动的一些描述性文章，几乎没有任何规定性研究探讨反合并进程可能采取的最佳形式。本文基于城、乡两个反合并案例的记录，试图填补地方政府的文献空白，探索性地提出一种“风格化”路径。这一路径以五个通用原则为中心，专为澳大利亚地方政府的反合并而设计。

Keywords:

- Australian local government
- compulsory consolidation
- de-amalgamation
- local government reform

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Notes

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