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A Normative Model for Local Government De-Amalgamation in Australia

Brian Dollery, Michael Kortt & Bligh Grant

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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

Brian Dollery is Professor of Economics and Director of the UNE Centre for Local Government. Michael Kortt is Senior Lecturer in the Southern Cross Business School at Southern Cross University. Bligh Grant is Research Lecturer in Local Government Studies and Deputy Director of the UNE Centre for Local Government.

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