

Comments received for
ISO 639-3 Change Request
2019-061

Outcome: Rejected
Effective date: January 23, 2020



SIL International ISO 639-3 Registration Authority

7500 W. Camp Wisdom Rd., Dallas, TX 75236
PHONE: (972) 708-7400 FAX: (972) 708-7380 (GMT-6)
E-MAIL: iso639-3@sil.org INTERNET: <http://www.iso639-3.sil.org>

Registration Authority decision on Change Request no. 2019-061: to split the code element [czh] for Huizhou Chinese and create the codes [hcy] Yanzhou Hui Chinese, [hcj] Jingzhan Hui Chinese, [hcx] Xiuyi Hui Chinese, [hcs] Jishe Hui Chinese and [hcq] Qide Hui Chinese.

The request to split the code element [czh] for Huizhou Chinese and create the codes [hcy] Yanzhou Hui Chinese, [hcj] Jingzhan Hui Chinese, [hcx] Xiuyi Hui Chinese, [hcs] Jishe Hui Chinese and [hcq] Qide Hui Chinese is rejected. The request to elevate the major dialects of Hinzhou Chineses to the level of languages is based on a published source which states that these varieties are “in the main mutually unintelligible,” but which nevertheless identifies them as “dialect subgroups.” The consensus of scholarly opinion (as reflected in Glottolog) appears to be to treat them as the dialects of a language. *An Encyclopedia of the 140 languages of China* (W. Shearer and H.Sun) treats Huizhou Chinese as a dialect of the Chinese Language Complex and the varieties in question as subdialects. The Registrar has thus chosen to follow the preponderance of scholarship in leaving the varieties of Huizhou Chinese as dialects.