

YOUR REF

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11 May 2007

Mr Warwick Gately AM  
Electoral Commissioner  
Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners  
GPO Box F316  
PERTH WA 6841

Dear Mr Gately

#### **2007 Review of Electoral Boundaries**

I am writing to you on behalf of the Shire of Gnowangerup's full support of the concept presented by the National Party to include the Shire in the proposed electorate of Great Southern.

Council fully supports the submission submitted by the Hon. Terry Redman MLA.

The communities within the proposed electorate of Great Southern share many significant similarities. For example, the proposed Great Southern electorate includes Shires that:

- are part of the Great Southern Development Commission coverage area;
- are members of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Great Southern Zone;
- are members of the Great Southern Regional Road Group;
- are members of the Great Southern Area Consultative Committee;
- are linked to many government departments at Great Southern level, such as Health, Police, Education, Homeswest etc either based in Katanning or Albany

Further:

- The Shire of Gnowangerup shares common industries and land use with the proposed Great Southern electorate. The Shires of Kojonup, Boyup Brook, Broomehill, Tambellup, Jerramungup, Plantagenet, Denmark, Cranbrook, Manjimup and the western wards of the City of Albany are identified as high agricultural producing areas. The proposal put forward by the Liberal Party suggesting that electorate of Roe include all areas from Esperance and to take in Katanning, Plantagenet, Dumbleyung and all areas in between does not consider the common area of interest that is shared between the proposed Great Southern electorate as illustrated in this submission. Albany and Katanning are seen as service centres for accessing professional services for the Great Southern region, and children from the Gnowangerup Shire board in high schools in Albany and Katanning.
- All local media is centres in Albany, Katanning or Wagin and not Esperance. This increases the ease of a member to make relevant comments to their electorate.

Therefore, the Shire of Gnowangerup wishes to state categorically that the Shires of the proposed Great Southern electorate share intrinsic and historical links, and maintains the integrity of all Shire boundaries. Council strongly believes that the Esperance and Ravensthorpe areas belong more with a Goldfields Esperance seat, reflecting their Development Commissions, WALGA zone, and access to government areas and media. Therefore, the Shire of Gnowangerup request that it be included in the proposed electorate of Great Southern.

Yours faithfully



DEAN UNSWORTH  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**