



12 May 2015

Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners  
Electoral Boundaries WA  
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Dear Commissioners

**2015 WA Electoral Boundary Review**

The Bunbury Wellington Economic Alliance (BWEA)

BWEA is a strategic partnership between the six local governments of the City of Bunbury, Shires of Capel, Collie, Donnybrook-Balingup, Dardanup and Harvey, the South West Development Commission and significant local companies operating in the resources sector, timber processing, construction, engineering, water services and supply, telecommunications, consulting, higher education and training, accounting and finance sectors.

BWEA comprises community and business leadership, and has been advocating for sustainable economic development in our region for approximately 15 years.

WA Electoral Boundary Review Comment

We recognise the importance of this review in maintaining the integrity of our electoral system. In our review of the submissions lodged, we note that some of them relate to the Bunbury Wellington area which lies within the South West Region.



BWEA Local Government & Premium Partners

Worsley Alumina

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These submissions include proposals for boundary adjustments to address the fact that the number of enrolled electors in the Wagin Electoral District falls outside of permitted tolerance levels as measured by the variation from average district enrolment or VFADE. The boundary adjustments discussed include incorporating the Shire of Collie into the Wagin Electoral District, within the Agricultural Region.

The Shire of Collie is a foundation member of BWEA, which brings together the aforementioned local governments (LGA's) with business and industry in a unique partnership. Collie boasts industries of regional, state and national significance such as coal mining, power generation and alumina refining. Employees and service companies depending on these major industries are located primarily within the Bunbury Wellington sub-region.

Road and rail linkages connect Collie-based industries with Bunbury port facilities and mineral processing plants in the South West and other regions. The importance of this connectivity is reflected in the more than \$50 million which is being invested in upgrading the Coalfields Highway between Collie and the coastal plain.

The essential *community of interest* engagement of Collie within the Bunbury Wellington area and broader South West Region is also demonstrated in the significant financial contribution of the Collie Shire to regional sporting, cultural and health facilities. Students from Collie commute on a daily basis to attend secondary and tertiary educational institutions in Greater Bunbury. Collie also has a long and proud history of sporting teams competing at the highest level in South West sporting leagues and associations.

We contend that the Shire of Collie should remain within the South West Region, and not be incorporated into the Wagin Electoral District.

Yours sincerely



Matt Granger  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bunbury Wellington Economic Alliance



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