



WA Electoral Commission
GPO Box F316
PERTH WA 6841

24 August 2015

To whom it may concern

INDIVIDUAL SUBMISSION – OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRIBUTION

Having already provided a submission on behalf of my employer, I now write as an individual to express my utter disappointment with your recommendation to abolish the seat of Eyre, and to divide the Shire of Esperance between two electorates.

Firstly, as someone who has chosen to live and work in regional Western Australia, I'm very concerned with any minimising of regional representation in parliament, let alone the abolishment of the electorate I live in. Those living in regional WA already suffer from a decreased delivery in services and core infrastructure than our metropolitan counterparts, and the loss of a regional representative in Parliament will result in a lesser focus on essential services, including education, health and transport.

Having studied all the submissions presented as part of the initial review, I strongly support the suggestions put forward by the Nationals WA and the Liberal Party of WA. Their recommendations satisfied the Average District Enrolment requirements, while maintaining the current number of regional seats and only making minor changes to boundary alignments. I firmly believe that this would be an appropriate course of action for the next election, allowing time over the next five years to make the required legislative changes to increase the number of Members of Parliament, which I believe is required to accurately reflect and, equally represent, our growing state-wide population.

The Eyre electorate is characterised by our diverse economic base – agriculture and pastoral grazing, tourism, fishing, small business and mining and exploration. These industries share much stronger links and interests to the rest of the Goldfields region, than to the other communities in the proposed Roe electorate.

Our Government services are either based in Esperance itself, or serviced from Kalgoorlie, including the Departments of Health, Main Roads, Tourism, Community Development, Transport, Sport and Recreation and Centrelink. Our community has extensive, obvious, established ties with the Goldfields region. The recommendation to move us into the electorate of Roe actively goes against the first point of Section 161, the Electoral Act 1907, which the Commissioners are required to consider when determining regions and districts, "Community of Interest".

The decision to divide the Shire of Esperance between two electorates shows little regard for the people living in the areas of Howick, Beaumont and wider-Condingup. People living in these areas absolutely consider themselves as part of the Esperance community, sharing the same interests as the rest of the Shire, voting in the Shire of Esperance local government elections and using Esperance as their central hub. In your final determination please keep the Shire of Esperance whole, within one electorate.

I strongly urge you to reconsider, and implement minor changes to the electoral boundaries in this review as recommended by the Nationals WA and the Liberal Party of WA. While I appreciate that it is not within your powers to increase the number of electorates within the State, I encourage you

to recommend necessary changes to the State Government to be implemented prior to the 2021 election. Discussion needs to be had regarding increasing the number of electorates in WA, which will ensure that our increasing population across the State is equally represented, without needing to disadvantage regional WA.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Tori Castledine', written in a light grey or blue ink.

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