



24/08 /2015

Dear Commissioners

**OBJECTION TO BOUNDARIES**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed electoral boundaries as released by you last month.

I wish to make a short submission in order to make some observations and recommendations.

I would like to preface my submission by objecting to the removal of a district from the Mining and Pastoral Region to create a new district in the southern metropolitan area, and the related impact on the Agricultural Region. Despite the submission from The Nationals articulating an argument and solution for incremental change, you have opted for a fundamental redrawing of electoral boundaries at this time.

I note that the proposed boundaries provide a Variation from ADE (VFADE) of +0.16% (Central Wheatbelt), -6.89% (Geraldton), +5.80% (Moore) and -5.79% (Roe). Having given consideration to historical voter growth and decline across the region, it is my view that the Commissioners have established boundaries that will only further need attention at the next review. For example, the district of Moore is expected to grow at a steady pace, particularly in the southern portion including the Local Government Authorities of Gingin, Chittering and Toodyay and also in coastal shires. Retaining the proposed boundaries of Moore with a VFADE of +5.80% makes little sense when you contrast it with the proposed district of Roe at -5.79% . I submit to the Commissioners that of the four districts of the Agricultural Region, the district of Moore is likely to have steady if not increased population growth given its proximity to the Perth metropolitan area and that those projections should be taken into consideration when finalising boundaries.

With consideration of the Commissioners overarching recommendations I submit the following for consideration in preparing the final boundaries:

**District of Moore**

I submit that the proposed district of Moore exclude the Shires of Koorda, Dowerin and Goomalling whilst retaining the transfer of the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu.

The revised VFADE for the district of Moore would be -0.249% leaving greater scope for expected elector growth in this district and minimising required changes at the next boundary review.

**District of Central Wheatbelt**

I submit that the proposed district of Central Wheatbelt retain the Shires of Koorda, Dowerin and Goomalling.

The Shires of Koorda, Dowerin and Goomalling are more closely aligned with the regional centre of Northam and more broadly the Central Wheatbelt. These Shires and their related communities have little connection in terms of transport or community to regional centres to the west. Whilst the districts of Moore and Central Wheatbelt share similar land use patterns, it is important to note that political representation in the district of Central Wheatbelt is established from the two major regional centres being Northam in the west and Merredin in the east. The current Member for Central Wheatbelt has electorate offices in both locations and electors would be best served by their retention in the district of Central Wheatbelt.

The revised VFADE for the district of Central Wheatbelt would be around -1.55%.

I thank you for consideration of this submission

Shane Love MLA