

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: (Ob27)FW: Objection to change of boundaries; Mid West
Date: Friday, 28 July 2023 12:17:33 PM

Objection 27 (Ob27)

From: gwlmndring@bigpond.com [REDACTED] com>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 July 2023 5:57 PM
To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Objection to change of boundaries; Mid West

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To Whom It May Concern,

The plan to continue to reduce the regional centres capacity for representation in our government will continue the process of disenfranchising the people who look after our land and resources.

It is a process that has over the years, diminished the capacity of the rural areas to maintain the very important regional centres.

Population is not the only consideration in this process. It is logical to maintain the regional centres population through supporting the resources that fund these centres.

In order to achieve this we need regional representation, issues of the rural towns cannot be fully appreciated by a single representative and cannot be expected to be when the area is so vast and is fraught with many social and economic issues.

Reducing the capacity will lead to less and less people living in our regional areas and this will further the lack of economic viability of maintaining services. Some services such as schools must be supported as they are essential services regardless. If population becomes unsustainable in each town and the population must travel further for services this puts families and children at risk, excessive bus run distances, no doctors, no extra support services. This process is creating an underclass in the part of the state that produces the bulk of the state's income.

It is a consideration that people in the regions have a right to be represented regardless. It is impossible for all issues to be presented if one individual is trying to cover a hundred small towns.

This process is blatant discrimination, the regional and indigenous people that live outside the centres have less than standard service access and availability, not only for their health but all services.

I would urge the electoral commission to re-evaluate the process of diminishing the representation of regional areas.

As a member of a local council I have had many people outraged, disappointed, feeling completely undervalued by this states processes and as the disintegration continues, so does their capacity to continue to live a comparable life that everyone in the centres take for granted.

Yours Faithfully

Gary Dring

Acknowledgement of Country: The Western Australian Electoral Commission acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which our electoral activities take place. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.