From:

**Subject:** Ob 133 - FW: Response to Suggestions - Boundaries

**Date:** Thursday, 17 August 2023 2:45:32 PM

From: Mark Ashton

**Sent:** Tuesday, 15 August 2023 4:03 PM

To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>

**Subject:** Response to Suggestions - Boundaries

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Dear Commissioner,

I wish to respond to electoral boundary suggestions published on your website.

Despite consistently suffering worse outcomes than their city cousins, regional West Australians will lose 18 dedicated regional representatives after the next election due to changes to a whole-of-state electorate in the Legislative Council.

It is of utmost importance that this loss of representation in the upper house is not compounded by reduced legislative assembly representation.

Having read the published suggestions, I support the resounding collective sentiment from many submissions that sixteen regional seats must be maintained.

The Labor Party's suggestion to abolish the North West Central electorate in favour of new metropolitan seats may benefit their political fortunes but it would be a devastating blow for regional communities that clearly need more representation now; not less.

Please consider how this redistribution will ensure democratic equity and The fate of regional West Australians is in your hands.

Sincerely,

Mark Ashton
Goomalling

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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.