

380 Ob

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FILE No.	DST 0152
DATE:	17 AUG 2023
ACTION BY:	

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, 18 August 2023 9:02 AM
To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Boundary Change

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Susan E McDougal

Katanning WA 6317
Ph: [REDACTED]
Mobile [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]

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.

M.J. & S.E. McDougall

Katanning 6317.

Telephone: (08)

Fac.s: (08)

Email: [REDACTED]

18th August 2023

Dear Redistribution Commissioners,

I am most concerned with the proposed change in boundaries for the Legislative Assembly. Being in the country, I already feel the number of politicians with knowledge of the effect and consequences following decisions made on rural and remote Western Australians is terribly underrepresented.

Get out and listen to your rural and remote citizens before we are burying our young farmers, importing our food and fibre and have dead towns all over the state. Family farms with knowledge, compassion and connection to their land and stock are the essence of Australia's reputation as a clean and clever producer of exports. This move, replacing another regional electorate with people from metro who increasingly have no idea what happens over the Darling Range – and don't care – is a dagger in the country's heart.

The export dollar is made in the country. Look after it by letting it be represented in the decisions made by Government.

Our member already travels too far to meet all needs of his electorate. He needs to hear all areas, not a centralised opinion in a large city not experiencing the same problems as remote.

I realise this proposed change is not in my Electorate but I am very aware of concerns of friends in the area, and it is setting a precedent. The thought of putting Mount Barker into Albany region is very concerning. They belong with like minded businesses and industry areas such as Warren and Plantagenet.

I stand with thousands of regional West Australians expressing their disappointment at this redistribution, viewing it as a regrettable lost chance. I urge you to reevaluate your proposal, ensuring the preservation of the sixteen regional seats.

I am critically aware of the ignorance of educated metropolitan living people on the effects of legislation passed on our rural and remote businesses and people. The last thing we need is less representation in Parliament.

Please reconsider and leave our rural boundaries in tact

Susan E McDougall.