

492 OB

From: [redacted]

From: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox
Sent: Friday, 25 August 2023 2:42 PM
To:
Subject: 492 OB
Attachments: Objection to Proposed Electoral Boundaries.docx

From: themulvihills@bigpond.com.au <themulvihills@bigpond.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 21 August 2023 9:48 AM
To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Objection to Proposed Boundaries

[External Email] This email was sent from outside the organisation. Be cautious, particularly with links and attachments.
All SPAM emails must be reported using the instructions on the intranet.

Good Morning

Please find attached my objection to the Proposed Electoral Boundaries.

Yours sincerely

Beverley-Anne Mulvihill
MOUNT BARKER WA 6324

W.A.E.C. RECORDS	
FILE No.	05T 0152
DATE:	21 AUG 2023
ACTION BY:	_____

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.

WAEC Distribution Committee

By email: boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au

To the Electoral Commissioners,

It is very disappointing that the overwhelming desire of regional residents and LGA's to retain the current number of regional seats has been so comprehensively disregarded in the setting of the proposed boundaries. Given the impending loss of 18 dedicated regional representatives due to changes in the Legislative Council, it would seem incumbent on the Committee to minimise any further detriment to regional voters.

While the Commissioners obviously act completely independently of the political process, it's clear the proposal to abolish another regional seat, should it proceed, will act as an enabler to WA Labor's ongoing mission to ensure that while regional voters may still have a vote they will not have a voice.

As a life-long resident of the Shire of Plantagenet I also object strongly to the proposed absorption of the major portion of our Shire into the electorate of Albany. As Warren-Blackwood is not outside permissible enrolment limits or even on the list of electorates close to the margins, it is entirely possible for Plantagenet to be retained within it. Even with other additions it would still be within permitted limits. Given Albany's projected population growth, its enrolment levels will likely move to ADE naturally and speedily without an intervention that may be expedient but does not take account of Plantagenet's best interests.

The Albany electorate is focused around the City of Albany with its population of 40,000. In contrast, the Plantagenet Shire's much smaller population makes it a close match for the neighbouring, similarly sized Warren-Blackwood LGAs of Denmark, Manjimup, Bridgetown-Greenbushes etc. These LGAs also share land use and identical challenges with Plantagenet in terms of medical, educational, aged care, transport and other services.

Prior to the 2019 distribution, the Shire of Plantagenet had become a casualty of the redistribution process, moved from electorate to electorate over successive elections. Plantagenet residents had hoped for a reprieve from this but instead they are now faced with their Shire being split between two electorates, neither of which is the best matched and current electorate of Warren-Blackwood. Such continual upheaval hinders the ability for Shire residents, representatives and organisations to cement relationships with their elected member and I urge the Commissioners to accord Plantagenet the stability and continuity of remaining within the Warren-Blackwood electorate.

Beverley-Anne Mulvihill
MOUNT BARKER WA 6324

21 August, 2023