



Correspondence to:

**President
Canning Division
Liberal Party of WA
pfitzy@bigpond.com**

Secretary
Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners
Level 11, 111 St Georges's Terrace
GPO Box F316
PERTH WA 6000

boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au

PROPOSED NAME CHANGE FOR SEAT OF MURRAY

I refer to the recent announcement of Western Australia's Proposed Electoral Boundaries.

The proposed changes for the seat of Murray in the South West Region District will see only part of the Murray shire included and the complete areas of the Shire's of Waroona and Harvey. As indicated in the announcement a more appropriate name for the district is suggested to relate to the broader areas of the Shires of Harvey and Waroona.

The feedback to date has welcomed a name change to more reflect the overall area. The existing name of Murray does not do this.

Feedback within the electorate suggests that the new name should reflect a name to recognise someone who has served the area more than a name that signifies a part of the area.

The name suggested is McNeill.

This is in recognition of a resident of the district who is still very much part of the district the Hon. Neil McNeill, who upon retirement in 1983 had been MLC Member for the Lower West Province. In his 20 years of Public life, Neil had served on the Drakesbrook Road Board (now Waroona Shire) 1960-61, Federal Member for Canning from 1961 to 1963, Member for Lower West Province in the State Parliament from 1965 and from 1974 to 1977 was Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council and Minister for Justice. Cabinet duties increased in 1975 when the post of Chief Secretary was added to his portfolio.

Born in Yarloop in the Shire of Harvey later years he established farming interest. He studied agriculture at the University of Western Australia and served during the World War 2 with the Royal Australian navy as a sub Lieutenant in general service.


Farming has always been a strong part of Neil's life, which would account for his having been a Junior Farmer Senior Extension Officer with the Agriculture Department for four years and member of the State AI Policy Committee. He also carried on his farming activities and in 1951 won a Nuffield Foundation scholarship to the United Kingdom- one the first two Australian farmers to be awarded this honour.

The Public service as outlined above by the Hon. Neil McNeill not only within the areas of Harvey, Waroona and Pinjarra but later in life as a Federal and State Politician was well received by all elements of the Political system in Western Australia in particular during his time as Minister for Justice.

If the Commissioners do agree to accept this proposal I am sure it will be well received by electors in line with the proposed boundaries.

If I can be of further assistance I can be contacted on 0418880999

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Fitzpatrick', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Paul Fitzpatrick
President
Canning Division
Liberal Party of Western Australia

8th July 2007