

Mr Warwick Gately AM
Electoral Commissioner
GPO Box F316
PERTH WA 6841

Dear Mr Gately

Re: Western Australian Electoral Commission Boundary Redistribution 2011

The Nationals WA wish to submit the following comments in response to written submissions received.

1. The District of Albany to remain in the South West Region

Community of Interests:

Albany's communities of interest lie to the west with clear associations with Denmark, Walpole and Mount Barker. Albany together with the Shires of Plantagenet, Denmark and Manjimup share a common wine and timber industry and a common tourist destination package. All see themselves as very much a part of the 'South West'.

Physical Features:

The District of Albany is a clear extension of the South Coast that begins at Cape Leeuwin and incorporates parts of the Shires of Margaret River, Manjimup, Denmark and Albany .

Existing Boundaries:

If the District of Albany was to be included in the Agricultural Region, and to ensure there is large common boundary with the neighbouring District of Wagin (Agricultural), parts of the Shires of Plantagenet and Cranbrook would need to excised from the Seat of Blackwood-Stirling. This is unsatisfactory for the people within the Shires of Plantagenet and Cranbrook and contrary to the simplification aims of the redistribution.

2. The Shire of Collie to remain in the District of Collie-Preston (South West Region)

Moving the Shire of Collie from the District of Collie Preston presents too many flow on 'redistribution adjustments' with no clean, simplified approach to maintaining the elector numbers in the changed seat of 'Preston'. Moving the locality of Dalyellup to the District of Bunbury immediately addresses the VDAE in both the seat of Collie-Preston and Bunbury.

Community of Interests:

Collie is firmly considered part of the South West by the constituents of Collie and the remaining population of the South West. It is often referred to as the engine room of the South West. All its industries, recreational and sporting activities, educational boundaries and health boundaries are related to the South West.

Land Use Patterns:

The Shire of Collie is an industrial and mining centre with greater ties for these industries to the port of Bunbury and the worker catchment to the areas to the west of the town of Collie . There are very few bone fide farmers of the kind common to the Agricultural Region.

3. The Locality of Dalyellup into the District of Bunbury

This is a neat solution that addresses the voter numbers in both Collie-Preston and Bunbury with little need for further changes to surrounding districts.

Community of Interests:

Dalyellup is in close proximity to the City of Bunbury, and while in the Shire of Capel, almost all residents would look to Bunbury for its retail, services, sporting, recreational and employment activities. The locality of Dalyellup is in every way marketed as "southern supberb" of Bunbury in attracting people to live, work and invest in Dalyellup.

4. Maintaining the current Metropolitan Regions boundaries

The integrity of the current Northern and Eastern Metropolitan Regions boundaries should be maintained.

The integrity of the current Metropolitan Region boundaries should be maintained for reasons of voter recognition and alliance, along with communities of interest. For example, moving parts of the Eastern Metropolitan localities to the District of Central Wheatbelt would not be considered viable. Those voters living in those areas, clearly look to the metropolitan region for the delivery of their services for health, education, retail and other government services. There are no clear linkages to the locality of Central Wheatbelt for any of those residents and we would consider it difficult for those residents to gain clear representation from their Parliamentary representative when there is no connectivity between those issues in the outer Eastern Metropolitan region and the Central Wheatbelt.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on those written submissions received by the Electoral Commissioners.

Kind regards



Jacqui Boydell
State Director