

**From:** [Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Ob 82 - FW: Response to Suggestions - Boundaries  
**Date:** Wednesday, 16 August 2023 10:23:10 AM

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**From:** Jennifer Smith <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, 12 August 2023 10:07 AM  
**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.

**Potential integration of a regional town such as Mount Barker into the Albany electorate raises questions due to the anticipated population surge in Albany city. The introduction of Mount Barker into an already densely populated district like Albany may not serve the best interests of its regional community. The concern lies in the potential marginalisation of Mount Barker's voice amidst the louder chorus of the larger regional centre of Albany.**

**Keeping Mount Barker and the Shire of Plantagenet within the Warren Blackwood electorate could better preserve its influence, as this would allow it to remain aligned with communities of similar size and shared agricultural industries. Such an arrangement stands to foster stronger collaboration and more effective representation of shared interests.**

**The dividing of Shire of Plantagenet between Roe and Albany electorates. The Shire of Plantagenet should be maintained as a whole within Warren Blackwood, as it is now.**

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Smith

Sent from my iPad

*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.*