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**From:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 22 August 2023 1:14 PM  
**To:** 5  
**Subject:** 236 - Ob FW: Submission (NEWROC)  
**Attachments:** Proposed Boundaries Reform\_NEWROC.pdf

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 August 2023 12:37 PM  
**To:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Submission

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Hello, as attached

Kind regards,



Caroline Robinson  
**NEWROC Executive Officer**  
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[www.newroc.com.au](http://www.newroc.com.au)

*Regional collaboration to champion opportunities for our communities*





North Eastern Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils  
Dowerin | Koorda | Mt Marshall | Mukinbudin | Nungarin | Trayning | Wyalkatchem

20 August 2023

## **Proposed Boundaries for the 2025 State General Election**

The North Eastern Wheatbelt Regional Organisation of Councils includes the local governments of Dowerin, Wyalkatchem, Nungarin, Trayning, Mt Marshall, Mukinbudin and Koorda. The NEWROC is a voluntary organisation of seven Councils, who have been working together for over 25yrs. Our purpose is to support our communities to be successful.

The NEWROC as an organisation, inclusive of the member Councils do not support the Proposed Boundaries for the 2025 State General Election.

The Commissioners' proposal to reduce the number of non-metropolitan districts by one, will significantly reduce the political representation of our communities, so too access to representatives. The NEWROC generated \$542m GDP to the state's economy in the 21/22 financial year (7 local governments) and yet, our communities and the sub regions around us are seeing a reduction in representation. This reduction in representation is compounded by the 2021 change to the Legislative Council regions to create a whole of state electorate.

Even before the proposed reduction of non-metropolitan Legislative Assembly districts, there was a need for additional resourcing in the regions to improve the capacity of State representatives to service their electorate. This is particularly true for those electorates that cover a large geographical area. Any reduction in overall regional representation will only exacerbate this problem

We anticipate regions seeing less of our MP's and the ability to connect with them.

Further to this, we acknowledge the commissioner is required by law to take a whole-of-state approach that is driven by elector numbers. This approach does not take into account grouping communities and economies of interest or future growth.

**NEWROC objects to the proposed boundaries on the basis that the reduction of non-metropolitan districts will:**

- 1. Further diminish political representation for regional communities and industry;**
- 2. Increase pressure on regional Local Governments to provide a conduit to State Government; and**
- 3. Fail to recognise the contributions of our regional economies to the State's GDP and the unique engagement required in populations that are geographically dispersed.**

Kind regards

Caroline Robinson  
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