

346 Ob

es

From: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox
Sent: Friday, 25 August 2023 11:08 AM
To: s
Subject: 346 Ob FW: Redistribution of Electoral Boundaries
Attachments: Electoral Changes.doc

From: John Love [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 17 August 2023 12:07 PM
To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>; mooreelectorate@mp.wa.gov.au; shane.love@mp.wa.gov.au
Subject: Redistribution of Electoral 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.

Dear Redistribution Commissioners

Please refer to my attached objection.

Sincerely

John P Love

W.A.E.C. RECORDS	
FILE No.	<u>DST 0152</u>
DATE:	<u>17 AUG 2023</u>
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.

Dear Redistribution Commissioners,

I object to the electoral boundaries you have proposed for the Legislative Assembly.

Creating a monolith single electorate of such geographical immensity almost guarantees the sitting member's inability to provide assiduous representation.

The increased paucity of parliamentary representation of regional areas of Western Australia could well be the presage of disincentive to sully opportunities for future investment in extremely important wealth creating industries.

Notable, the area comprising the proposed new combined electoral district contributes very significantly to this state's wealth. To continue to function, industries in the mining, fishing and agricultural sectors depend on reliable locally sourced labour supplies.

Deliberating on investment options and as part of the conduct of due diligence, current and potential participants in the expanding of existing and/or creation of new projects will no doubt give serious consideration to the availability of locally sourced labour.

Regional areas struggle to maintain population numbers resulting in a decrease in regional labour pools. This is further exacerbated by the decrease in numbers of "back-packers" travelling to Western Australia, already resulting in critical labour shortages.

As regional populations dwindle, service industries including medical, educational and financial also decline creating an ever increasing disincentive for people to dwell in our regions.

Unlike manufacturing sectors, fishing and agriculture in particular cannot rely on advancements in technology to displace labour inputs. Nor can these industries economically adopt the town destroying, family destructive practice of Fly In Fly Out employed in the mining sector.

Simply put - No labour, - No productivity – No Investment!

Furthermore, the decision to replace a regional electorate with another metropolitan one also dismisses thoughtfully crafted proposals that present a clear case for preserving the current level of regional representation in compliance with the Electoral Act.

Regional electorates, which already cover larger areas, demand regional MLAs navigate greater distances; represent more diverse communities and judiciously distribute their funding allocations across more expansive areas. The merging of regional seats risks voter exclusion due to the increase in already sizable constituencies. Additionally, it will further centralise power in metropolitan areas and ineluctably efface regional interests.

The proposed boundaries disregard the need to preserve the unity of our communities and dismisses public advocacy for the continued existence of the current 16 regional seats.

This move signals the continuation of a process that has stripped regional voters of 18 crucial upper house representatives. Indeed, since the 1987 redistribution, 12 lower house seats have been stripped from regional WA.

The considerations raised herein necessitate a rethink of these boundary alterations to secure fair representation for all Western Australians.

As is clear in the data released by the Commission, there is no justification for the creation of a new electorate within the metropolitan area as the metropolitan area is already well within acceptable limits of representation.

The proposed electoral boundary changes demonstrate the extent of maladroitness exhibited by the current government and their enmity for regional areas in Western Australia.

I stand with thousands of regional West Australians expressing their disappointment at this redistribution. Therefore, I urge you to re-evaluate your proposal to ensure the preservation of the 16 existing regional electorates.

Sincerely

John Patrick Love

[REDACTED]
Beresford, WA 6530

[REDACTED]