

478 OB

**From:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 August 2023 2:33 PM  
**To:** Dawn Jones  
**Subject:** 478 OB

<b>W.A.E.C. RECORDS</b>	
FILE No.	DST 0152
DATE:	21 AUG 2023
ACTION BY:	

**From:** Deborah Coulthard  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 August 2023 7:16 AM  
**To:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>  
**Subject:** SUBMISSION RE PROPOSED CHANGES TO WA 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 WA Electoral Commission Staff,

About 5 years ago I decided to retire to the country, bought myself a little unit in Kalbarri, WA and moved away from Perth where I had been based since 1993.

Kalbarri is a beautiful place to live, and a perfect area for healthy retirees to downsize and enjoy the benefits of rural, seaside living.

We used to be in the same electoral area as Geraldton (160km south from here) and be represented by well-respected and long serving member Shane Love.

A couple of years ago (for some reason completely incomprehensible to us), the Government moved the electoral boundaries and chucked us in with a HUGE area of mining and pastoral country that stretches FAR inland and to the North. Our current Member is Merome Beard, who is also awesome.

A couple of weeks ago I met with Merome Beard to discuss a completely inappropriate heavy industrial project that is currently being proposed on the coastal cliffs just north of Kalbarri. We had a great meeting, and she was explaining how IMPOSSIBLE it is for her to service her current electorate because the size, amount of long distance travel, combined with sitting schedules in Parliament prevent her from effectively doing her job.

We had a similar conversation with our Federal MP, Melissa Price last week.

And now the Government is proposing to take ANOTHER parliamentary seat from the regions.

This is totally ridiculous!! Most of the wealth of WA (and ALL of Australia) is generated **in the regions** and we deserve to be effectively represented in Government.

We are already beginning to see the results of handing decisions completely to city-based people with the ridiculous strategies to cover our prime food growing areas and fishing grounds with "green energy" infrastructure. There needs to be a balance, and people who understand food production, fishing, rock lobster fishing, forestry etc from a hands-on practical level need to be involved in developing the policies that affect us.

iManage 187856

Doc - 004037

Please scrap the proposed changes and leave the electoral boundaries the way they are.

Kind Regards,

Deborah Coulthard

6536

*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.*