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The Commissioners
Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners
Level 11, 111 St George's Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Sirs

As the Member for Roe I was elected to Parliament in Feb 2005.

The electorate today involves a region of 87,000 square kilometres from Condingup in the South East, Salmon Gums in the North East, to Kulin in the North West and Bremer Bay in the South West and over 30 centres in-between. As it stands today is the largest Agricultural seat in the state.

In my representation of this region and being a resident of Esperance a constant theme from the constituents in the far west of the electorate expresses that the "poles" have nothing in common. It is continually brought to my attention that the people of Kulin having no community interest with Esperance and have no occasion to do any business with a centre five hours by road to the south east. Many constituents have never even visited Esperance. There appears to be a geographical east-west dislocation in the electorate as it is, and this would be worsened in further extensions on the east-west axis. Whether this extension bears to the southwest or indeed to the northwest the dislocation is exacerbated further.

On review of the submissions proposing a south north axis emanating from Esperance through Norseman to the Goldfields does have merit.

As a long-term resident of the region I am mindful of the associations with the Goldfields. Many people in Norseman and Coolgardie and smaller regions in-between have some association with Esperance. There are many interests in common and these have been well documented in The Nationals and Shire of Esperance's submissions.

The Shire of Esperance is in support of a change to Mining and Pastoral and whilst the Shire of Ravensthorpe has not made a submission it has been represented to me that they are also in support.

In my deliberations with the Liberal WA advisers they proposed that Esperance and Ravensthorpe would be excluded from the Mining and Pastoral Region on the basis that the Electoral Act did not permit this, the distinction being the difference between Agricultural and Pastoral land use. Closer examination and advice indicates that this may not be the case. This is on the basis that the Commissioners are to make a determination of Districts into Regions such that Region as a whole created could be described as having land use that is primarily Mining and Pastoral.

Of course there are several other matters for consideration and I will not detail those here. Suffice it to say in my view the other criteria are met.

I contend from historical, social and industry considerations there is a good argument for Esperance and Ravensthorpe to be re-configured in a new District, which would include the South East, part of the Goldfields and Station country on the Nullarbor.

I thank the Commissioners for their efforts in achieving an electoral configuration that delivers fair and appropriate representation for my region and indeed all WA.

Yours sincerely



DR GRAHAM JACOBS MLA
MEMBER FOR ROE