



**Parliament of Western Australia
Legislative Assembly**

**Terry Redman MLA
Member for Stirling**



OUR REF; BM 26/Sub-34

30 July 2007

Mr Justin Harbord
Secretary to the Electoral Distribution Commissioners
GPO Box F316
PERTH WA 6841

Dear Mr Harbord

Please find enclosed my comments on boundaries proposed under the 2007 Electoral Distribution.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide further comment on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Terry Redman MLA
MEMBER FOR STIRLING

Encl

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NAME OF PROPOSED ELECTORATE OF BLACKWOOD-STIRLING

Whilst not generating the same level of public interest as the geographical composition of the proposed electorates, the naming of each new electorate is of course of significant importance.

I submit that the name of Blackwood-Stirling for the proposed electorate comprised of the current electorates of Warren-Blackwood and Stirling, is an entirely apt one and should be retained.

The Blackwood-Stirling name proposed by the Electoral Distribution Commissioners, maintains historical and geographical links with the current electorates yet does not imply an incumbency that would advantage or disadvantage either of the current sitting-members.

It is difficult to conceive of another name that would be as even-handed or represent the proposed electorate as a whole, as fittingly. Therefore I believe it would be most appropriate for Blackwood-Stirling to be retained as the final name for this seat.

BOUNDARY OF PROPOSED ELECTORATE OF BLACKWOOD-STIRLING

There are two potential changes to the proposed boundaries for the Blackwood-Stirling electorate, which I submit, may merit consideration.

Firstly, I am aware that the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River may lodge an objection to its division between two proposed electorates, those of Blackwood-Stirling and Vasse. If so, I would support that Shire's request that Augusta-Margaret River as a whole be included within one electorate. Therefore, I submit that consideration be given to incorporating its southern section, including Augusta, into the proposed Vasse electorate. I contend that this would be appropriate from a governmental, historical, community of interest and land use perspective, although it would have a corollary effect on other boundaries in regard to satisfying the district enrolment quotient.

My second concern is that projected population growth within the revised boundaries of the Electorate of Albany, indicates that a further adjustment may be necessary in the near future, in order to prevent the district enrolment quota being exceeded. One of the options for addressing this now, may be to incorporate the western sector of the former Albany Shire into the proposed Blackwood-Stirling Electorate. I appreciate that in reaching their conclusions, the Commissioners have taken the logical approach of utilising City of Albany local government boundaries. However, if those areas in the west of the Albany local government zone, that were previously included in the Stirling Electorate, were now to be incorporated into Blackwood-Stirling, then this would allow for a more even distribution of elector numbers between the two electorates. It would also provide some compensation in elector numbers to Blackwood-Stirling, should the Commissioners see fit to incorporate Augusta into Vasse.