Dear Commissioners,

2007 Redistribution of Electoral Boundaries

I make the following comments on the submissions made by the Liberal Party and the Australian Labor Party.

Both submissions split the town of Kalgoorlie-Boulder within the town in a manner that is unnecessary. It is not a requirement of the legislation in any manner that there be similar or equal numbers of actual electors in electorates that have an additional allowance for area. These submissions however fail to take into account the requirements of sec.161 of the Electoral Act and emphasise current boundaries (or one particular small portion) at the expense of other requirements in the section, such as community of interest and local government boundaries.
The change has been made solely to keep the actual enrolment numbers close to each other in the Mining and Pastoral Region and this is an improper consideration.

The submissions by the ALP contain several suggestions that cross over major roads in the metropolitan area. Electorates in the Northern Metropolitan Region should not, where possible, cross the Mitchell Freeway or Wanneroo Road. In the Southern Metropolitan Region, the Kwinana Freeway should not be crossed. For example, the ALP’s suggestion for the electorate of Gwelup crosses the Mitchell Freeway and that for the electorate of Canning Vale crosses the Kwinana Freeway.

This rule will be hard to follow to meet the quota requirements, but it should be followed where possible.

The Liberal Party’s submission on the electorates within the north of the Northern Metropolitan Region does not reflect the major roads in the area and results in the electorates appearing artificial. For example, the boundaries of Hillarys are overly complicated.

Yours sincerely,

Michael J Proud

18 May 2007