



Office of the ELECTORAL DISTRIBUTION COMMISSIONERS

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SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED ON ELECTORAL DISTRIBUTION

The WA Electoral Distribution Commissioners have received 20 submissions regarding the realignment of electoral boundaries, currently being undertaken in preparation for the next State General Election. Three of these have been made by major political parties, ten by local government authorities and the remainder by individuals.

The six-month process of reviewing and revising electoral boundaries, which began early in February, provides several opportunities for interested groups and individuals to make input to the process.

The submission of written suggestions, which is the first step in the process, closed on March 7, and all submissions received have been posted on the Commission's website: www.boundarieswa.com. Interested parties have two weeks in which to submit written comments on the submissions, and these must be received by 5pm on March 21.

WA Electoral Commissioner, Ms Lyn Auld, said submissions and subsequent comments would be considered by the Commissioners in preparing their draft proposals, which would be made public on May 2.

"At that stage, interested parties will again have the opportunity to lodge objections to the Commissioners," said Ms Auld.

An electoral distribution is the process of adjusting electoral boundaries in line with local population changes, to ensure that electorates do not have disproportionately large or small elector numbers. The *Electoral Distribution Act 1947* stipulates that a distribution should be carried out one year after every second State General Election – that is, approximately every eight years. The last distribution took place in 1994.

The distribution process, which will be completed in August 2003, is being carried out by the WA Electoral Distribution Commissioners, who are:

The Chief Justice (Chairman)	–	The Hon. David K. Malcolm AC, CIT. WA
The Electoral Commissioner	–	Ms Lyn Auld
The Government Statistician	–	Mr Colin Nagle

Information on the distribution process, including a detailed information booklet, can be obtained from the Electoral Distribution website: www.boundarieswa.com.

March 9, 2003