



Objection 29

Lisa Thornton

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To: [FedRedistribution - WA](#)
Subject: WA Redistribution Objection From Lisa Thornton
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Dear AEC,

Thank you for the opportunity to lodge my objection. I will be objecting to the proposed redistribution in Western Australia, I firmly believe it is based on misguided logic due to outdated data. Consequently, Western Australia should retain the Federal seat of Stirling.

The number of federal electoral divisions is decided by population and requirements set out in the *Australian Constitution*. The Australian Census is the primary source of data used to determine the Australian population. The last Census was taken in 2016, which could not be further away from its five-yearly cycle.

Due to recent world events much has changed in Western Australia, including a population shift. The pandemic has led to a population rise which has NOT been captured by the data on which this redistribution is based.

In addition, several WA indicators reflect a population increase, such as: decline in % rental vacancies, WA ABS labour force data, increase in housing demand, increase in infill development, increase in ex-pats and permanent residents returning, and a net increase in migration. Thus, the aforementioned indicators support a current and projected population increase.

Lastly, the way we calculate population must be responsive to significant events. It would be folly to redistribute, at this stage, only to have to redistribute again in the next election cycle. The justification for redistribution is based on outdated data and ignores current direct evidence to the contrary. Therefore, the logic for the boundary redistribution contains flaws and should be rejected.

Yours faithfully,

Lisa Thornton