



The Federal Redistribution 2008  
Western Australia



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**Public Comment on Objection Number 1**

**Mr Ron Yuryevich RFD, AM**

**Mayor**

**City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder**

**2 pages**



# City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder


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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

22 August 2008

 1/9/08  
Mr Colin Nagle  
State Manager  
Australian Electoral Commission, WA  
GPO Box 9867  
**Perth WA 6848**

Dear Mr Nagle,

**Re: Proposal for Federal Electoral Redistribution of Western Australia**

I write in regards to the proposal for the 2008 federal electoral redistribution of Western Australia; specifically relating to the naming of the redrawn Kalgoorlie and O'Connor electorates.

It is understood that proposals have been put forward to the Australian Electoral Commission requesting that the proposed redrawn electorate of Kalgoorlie be renamed O'Connor, thus allowing the redrawn electorate of O'Connor to be renamed Court, in honour of the late Sir Charles Court.

As Mayor of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder I am strongly opposed to this proposal on the grounds of the strong history and connection associating the electorate name of Kalgoorlie with the region it represents.

Kalgoorlie was first proclaimed as a federal electorate and the people of this area first elected their representative to the Australian parliament in 1901. Since that time the federal electorate of Kalgoorlie has had a long and proud history, including being recognized as the largest electorate in the world.

Kalgoorlie is recognized world-wide as being synonymous with Western Australia's mining industry history and the current activities operating in this region. The name is unique and is not replicated elsewhere.

Importantly, Kalgoorlie is currently the only federal electorate in Western Australia that bears a name recognising a connection to Western Australia's Indigenous culture; as you may be aware the name Kalgoorlie is widely accepted to have derived from the Aboriginal name 'Kulgooluh' for a local edible silky pear.

I note and support points 181 and 183 of the Redistribution Committee's Report "The 2008 Proposed Redistribution of Western Australia into Electoral Divisions", in which the



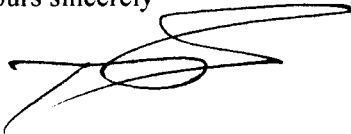
Committee recommends retaining the names of Kalgoorlie for the reconfigured southern division of the electorate and O'Connor for the reconfigured northern division.

I also note from the AEC's 'Guidelines for the Naming of Commonwealth Electoral Divisions' that:-

- Every effort should be made to retain the names of original Federation divisions.
- Aboriginal names should be used where appropriate and as far as possible existing divisions with aboriginal names should be retained.

I urge your consideration of these points whilst evaluating proposals for the Kalgoorlie federal electorate to be renamed. Please feel free to contact me to discuss further on 9021-9633.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R S Yuryevich', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

**R S YURYEVIKH, RFD, AM**  
Mayor