



# Northern Territory Electoral Commission

*EVERY vote counts!*

31-07-2019

## Proposal for RAAF Base Tindal voters to change electorates

The Redistribution Committee has undertaken a second proposed redistribution of the Northern Territory into divisions for the Legislative Assembly, NT Electoral Commissioner, Mr Iain Loganathan said today.

"There were 15 objections/comments received to the first proposed redistribution, the main changes to the second proposal are in the divisions of Arnhem and Katherine," Mr Iain Loganathan said.

"Katherine is currently about 500-600 electors over its enrolment quota and Arnhem is about the same number down."

Following a suggestion from the Katherine Town Council, the committee proposes to move electors from the RAAF Base Tindal and the entire rural suburb of Venn into the division of Arnhem.

The first redistribution proposed Arnhem gain electors from some of the rural areas of Cossack, some properties along Florina Road and the communities of Binjari and Rockhole from the Katherine electorate.

This second proposal sees 536 electors from the first proposed redistribution moving out of Arnhem back into Katherine, and the electors from Tindal and Venn moving into Arnhem from Katherine.

This is a movement of about 21 per cent of the enrolled electors from the total enrolment of the first proposal for Arnhem (5,322 electors).

In total boundary changes have been made to five divisions in the second proposed redistribution when compared to the first proposal.

"The boundaries of three other electorates have also been adjusted due to revised enrolment data collected from the May Federal election," Mr Loganathan said.

Fong Lim, Karama and Nelson have had relatively minor changes made to their boundaries.

Nelson's changes from the first proposal will see it maintain its boundaries from the 2016 NT election.

Fong Lim is now proposed to also gain Coonawarra and a portion of Berrimah directly to the east of Coonawarra.

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### Media contact:

#### Mark Wilton

Manager, Public awareness | NT Electoral Commission

Phone: 08 8999 7635 | Email: [ntec@nt.gov.au](mailto:ntec@nt.gov.au)

These are mostly industrial areas, but include permanent residents in the Hidden Valley Holiday Park.

The first redistribution report proposed no changes for Karama.

The second proposed redistribution moves a portion of Berrimah into Karama to boost its enrolment numbers.

This proposal for Karama was suggested by both the Country Liberal Party and Territory Labor in their initial submissions.

The redistribution committee has maintained the proposal to change the name of Nhulunbuy to Mulka. The first name change proposal for the division of Stuart has been adjusted.

Initially spelt *Gwoya* under the first redistribution (after Walpiri-Anmatyerre elder Gwoya Tjungarrayi), the committee received three submissions concerning this proposal.

No objections were received as to the use of the name, however changes to the spelling of the name were requested.

The committee sought further advice as to the correct spelling and pronunciation from the Central Land Council, which provided confirmation that *Gwoja* was the correct spelling.

Reference was made to a video clip provided by PAW Media with their objection supporting the suggested pronunciation (which is '[Gwah – jah](#)').

In compliance with Section 144 of the *Electoral Act 2004*, the committee's report is available, along with maps showing the names and boundaries of the second proposed divisions on the [redistribution website](#).

Objections to the second proposed redistribution close on 14 August 2019.