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Controversy over AWI board elections

UPDATE: THE Australian Wool Innovation board elections seem to be already embroiled in controversy.

After submitting 103 signatures, required as part of his nomination to stand for a position on the board, Petali Merino stud principal and Australian Woolgrowers Association director, Martin Oppenheimer was informed by AWI on Sunday that only nine of the signatures were valid.

Mr Oppenheimer took to Twitter to vent his frustration, saying that "even my own nomination was rejected".

He said he understood the reason the signatures were rejected was because they had to be from AWI shareholders, not just levy payers.

But Mr Oppenheimer said although he is a shareholder, his own nomination was rejected.

"I'm not saying there has been political interference but the process of nominating has problems."

After resolving the issues of identifying whose signatures were valid, Mr Oppenheimer said by Monday he had 63 valid nominations.

And to ensure he has the required signatures Mr Oppenheimer said he had collected another 51 nominations in South Australia yesterday.

"It is frustrating from a potential candidate perspective that I don't have many days before closure to get more nominations in."

"It looks like I will have to get 250 signatures to get 100 valid ones."

Although Mr Oppenheimer said it was "a painful process" he hoped to have enough signatures by tomorrow.

http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/article/2013/09/18/583592_wool.html