

Region #6: ~~Central Valley~~ ^{Kern} ~~Central Valley~~ ^{Region}

Please post RECEIVED

MAY 23 2011

Per _____

Ridgecrest, California 93555

May 1, 2011

From: Barbara Auld, Region 6
To: Citizens' Redistricting Commission
FAX 916 651-5711

Bruce Auld's letter e-mail has been posted.

I have permission from Jill Board, President of Cerro Coso Community College, who cannot attend the Commission's May 1, 2011 meeting in Lancaster, to inform you that she and the college district chancellor concur that the information included in the attached e-mail to you from our son, Bruce Auld, former Sierra Sands Unified School District superintendent, relates in the same manner to Cerro Coso College Community, and that the college's and our area's rural needs would be better met by our present voting district than they would be met by a more metropolitan district. Current SSUSD superintendent Joanna Rummer also concurs with the information in Bruce Auld's e-mail to the Commission and is e-mailing you in that regard.

I, Barbara Auld (86) and my husband, Howard (85) are 66-year citizens of the Indian Wells Valley, home of the City of Ridgecrest, the town of Inyokern, and the Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake. Howard (retired China Lake engineer with 35 years service) came to China Lake in the Navy in 1944 and Barbara (retired technical editor with 20 years service) lived on the naval base 27 years and have lived in Ridgecrest almost 40 years. Our three children were born and schooled in the Ridgecrest/ China Lake community. They have all returned by choice to their home town to live, work, and raise their children in Ridgecrest, which adjoins the Navy Base on three sides.

Our son, the former superintendent of SSUSD, was also superintendent of Lamont school district, El Segundo school district, and deputy superintendent of the Palos Verdes school district, while still maintaining a home in Ridgecrest; his wife is a retired school teacher; his son is assistant principal of the local high school (Burroughs); his son's wife is a school teacher; his daughter teaches in Inyokern. Our older daughter taught at the local high school for 20 years; her son was dean of students at the local high school and is now associate superintendent of the El Dorado County School District, and his wife is a school counselor. That daughter's daughter is vice president of Cerro Coso College and her husband is principal of the local high school. Our younger daughter has been a technical illustrator for local defense contractors and has worked at China Lake; her husband owns a local automotive repair shop. Five of our great-grandchildren are in local schools and one in a local preschool. In light of our son Bruce's e-mail supporting our district status quo for our local school district's sake, you can see why we also support that status quo for our voting district as our regards schools. I was also heavily involved in the college drama program and in these hard economic times continue to support the college. Our four-generation family is replicated by many other four-generation families in our community. Many Base scientists and engineers and military personnel have retired to Ridgecrest. The Base Commander recently publicly said the Base is dependent on Ridgecrest and Ridgecrest is dependent on the Base. Three Naval Air Weapons Station Commanding Officers now live and work in this city.

My husband, Howard, served 10 years on the Ridgecrest Planning Commission and 8 1/2 years on the City Council. Together we spent years attending Air Pollution District meetings, worked with the Bakersfield Board of Trade, Kern Council of Governments, and other entities in western Kern County. Others in the community have had the same experiences. Our ties with Western Kern County are strong. Ridgecrest has received 30 Kern Council of Governments Awards of Merits, some in each of its award categories. We want our voting district to remain a part of Kern County. Thank you for your attention in this matter so vital to our Ridgecrest/China Lake community.

Barbara Auld

Region #6: Central Valley

Region
Kern

May 20, 2011

Redistricting Commission

Considering redistricting Ridgecrest

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I have lived in Ridgecrest 36 years and am so thankful we are in Kern County. Our Community depends upon the Naval Base and are pleased the Los Angeles didn't use our desert for a dumping ground of their waists that would affect the testing of aircrafts because of the birds that would be attracted to the dump and in danger the aircraft.

We are very grateful to the 2 wonderful Grants we recently received from the Arts Council of Kern. Both our Maturango Museum and Desert Community Orchestra received moneys to further their causes plus a matchin \$1000 fund from the Arts Council of Kern.

The Desert community orchestra has been under the direction of Robert Martinez of Bakersfield College for the last 15 years.

Many of our painting and design Artists have participated in Galleries in Bakersfield. We have a good working relationship with Bakersfield.

Kevin McCarthy is from Kern County and as a member of Congress has been involved with keeping the BRAC to keep our Naval Base. We are proud to have him represent us.

We want to stay in Kern County and NOT be put into another District

Sincerely,

Carol Wilcher

_____, Ridgecrest, CA 93555



**Kern Council
of Governments**

Region #6: Central
Valley Region
Kern

RECEIVED

MAY 23 2011

Per _____

May 19, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 322-0904

RE: Recommendation that Kern County Be Kept As Whole As Possible

Dear Commissioners,

Kern Council of Governments, as the affiliate data center for the census and the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Kern County, is made up of an elected representative from each of the eleven incorporated cities and two of the County Board of Supervisors. Our Council recommends that Kern County, which functions as a distinct community, be kept as whole as possible for the following reasons:

- The County population is roughly equal to the ideal population for a State Senate District
- The County is serviced by a single Superintendent of Schools
- The County is serviced by two Community College Districts
- The County is serviced by a single Water Agency
- The County comprises the Bakersfield-Delano Metropolitan Statistical Area identified in the 2010 Census
- The elected representatives from eleven incorporated cities and the County of Kern believe that the County operates as a close knit community with a common identity.

In addition the County can host two Assembly Districts and still keep the county whole. It is understood that the ideal population for the Congressional District may require a small portion of the county to be joined with an adjacent Congressional District.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the redistricting process.

Sincerely,

Steve P. Morgan

Steve Morgan, Chairman
Kern Council of Governments

SM/rb/lc

Region #6: Central Valley Region Kern

May 12, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814



Dear Committee Members:

Previously I sent you a lengthy letter dated May 4, 2011, to which I make reference. That letter included five options for a congressional districting plan for Kern County with adjacent counties necessarily affected by the plan. I indicated my preference for Option 5 while acknowledging the question was close enough to describe the other four options as well.

On further reflection I offer an Option 6, which is a variant on Option 5 but addresses some of the concerns I had for areas included in one of those proposed districts. I enclose a general map of this Option 6.

Option 6 would be identical to Option 5 as to one of those districts, the agricultural one primarily affecting northwest Kern County. It would include all of Tulare County, which would anchor it. In Kern County, it would include the Arvin-Lamont, the Shafter, the Buttonwillow, the Wasco-Lost Hills, the Delano-McFarland and (excluding CT 33.06) the West Kern county subdivisions, along with the southern rural part of CT 32.04 in the Greenfield county subdivision. In Fresno County it would include the Orange Cove, Reedley, Parlier and Kingsburg subdivisions of Fresno County. This district would be about 66% Latino, 25% non-Hispanic whites, and 9% other non-Hispanic racial and multi-racial groups, and would consist wholly of medium sized to small cities and rural areas. It would have a significant petroleum economic base in the south and three prisons but would be basically agricultural. It would have Tulare County as its core.

The other district would include all of Metro Bakersfield, CT 33.06 (the San Emigdio communities) of the West Side subdivision, and all the mountain and high desert county subdivisions (to wit, Kern Valley, Tehachapi, and East Kern). This part of the district would have a population of about 650,000. It would also retain the Searles subdivision of San Bernardino County.

The variation would be in replacing the Los Angeles County areas and the San Emigdio subdivision of Ventura County with Inyo County, the Newberry Springs – Baker and Needles subdivisions of San Bernardino County, and probably a portion of the Barstow subdivision of San Bernardino County, primarily consisting of exurban areas while leaving Barstow itself intact and excluded for another district.