

From: **joe judge** [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Mar 18, 2011 at 2:08 AM
Subject: Doug Johnson, technical consultant
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Citizens Redistricting Commission
Mar, 17th, 2011,

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing today regarding Doug Johnson's application for technical consultant to the first-ever Citizens Redistricting Commission. Mr. Johnson may be using his experience drawing the lines in other places to gain credibility for his bid. Since Mr. Johnson drew lines for the Santa Clara Valley Water District in 2009, I wanted to relay my experience with Mr. Johnson.

The Santa Clara Valley Water District is a non-partisan entity. A year and half ago(2009) we expanded the Board from 5 elected directors to 7. This required a formal redistricting process using the data available from 2000. The lines that Mr. Johnson drew were considered by many in the community as being self-serving for some Directors and for potential candidates. The lines did not follow geographic boundaries and there was a community uproar as a result;with good government groups in the lead. Palo Alto in the northern most part of the county was combined with Gilroy,in the southern most part of the county. The San Jose Mercury News splashed " gerrymander" in it's headlines and editorialized about the need to go back immediately and rescind this travesty. Due to this public outrage,the Board was forced to formally rescind the lines and(working with Mr. Johnson again)establish and vote on new lines. I wanted to send a link to one of the many newspapers that reported on this matter. It is a good chronology of events without the rhetoric that was common. http://www.paloaltoonline.com/news/show_story.php?id=16855. I just wanted to be sure that the Commission was aware of this history as they review Mr.Johnson's bid to to become the technical consultant to to this Commission.

Thank you

Joe Judge, Director
District 2, Santa Clara Valley Water District