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April 13, 2011

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

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to ask for your consideration to include the community of Parkfield to be in the Assembly, State Senate and Congressional districts that will be drawn for northeast San Luis Obispo County.

Parkfield is a small, rural ranching community located in the southeast corner of Monterey County, just north of the San Luis Obispo County line. The county line boundary is a man-made line created along a latitude in 1850 before most of the communities on the central coast were settled.

In the past 130+ years, Parkfield in Monterey County and the San Luis Obispo County communities of Paso Robles, Shandon and San Miguel have grown and been intermingled in every aspect of human culture. The common links and bonds of us that live in Parkfield are all related and intermingled to Paso Robles and north San Luis Obispo County area.

Off ranch employment is based in the Paso Robles area.

The media market is a Paso Robles radio station, a San Luis Obispo TV station, a San Luis Obispo daily paper, and weekly newspapers in Paso Robles.

The post office for the Parkfield area is based in San Miguel, a San Luis Obispo County community.

Our commerce is based in Paso Robles and north San Luis Obispo County. We purchase our groceries, clothing, parts, go to the movies, eat out, medical visits, hospital stays, belong to service and trade organizations and the list goes on and on, all in north San Luis Obispo County.

The Parkfield area is also in San Luis Obispo County school districts boundaries. The Shandon Joint Unified School District, Paso Robles High School, San Miguel School District and the Cuesta Community College

make up the school districts that Parkfield residents are in and pay taxes to. Cuesta Community College is based in San Luis Obispo and those lines cover San Luis Obispo county based school districts.

The school district lines in the Parkfield area are actually watershed boundaries, with the Cuesta Community College overlaying the other school districts.

The request to the Commission is to use the watershed/Cuesta Community College boundaries that are in the Parkfield area to be included in the legislative districts that will comprise north San Luis Obispo County.

It makes common sense to be represented in a district that has our closest common connections.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kester

