

From: **Julianna H. Clark** [REDACTED]
Date: Thu, Apr 14, 2011 at 4:39 PM
Subject: San Luis Obispo County Lines
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

I attended the April 13, 2011, public hearing on redistricting in San Luis Obispo, but prefer to submit my comments in writing.

Please keep San Luis Obispo County together, especially for our U.S. Congressional District. Residents of Southern San Luis Obispo County (south of Cuesta Grade) and Northern San Luis Obispo County have much in common:

- 1) The Salinas River, Santa Margarita Lake, and Nacimiento Lake are shared water resources for all of San Luis Obispo County;
- 2) Cal Poly State University and PG&E are the shared largest employer in the County with many like me commuting from Atascadero or Paso Robles to San Luis Obispo daily;
- 3) Small family vineyards in Edna Valley and Paso Robles have much in common, including marketing and labor collaborations;
- 4) Mothers for Peace, a local non-profit organization concerned with the dangers of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, has members from all over San Luis Obispo County;
- 5) While tourism dollars flow into the beach communities in the summertime, tourism dollars flow into San Luis Obispo's North County through the Mid-State Fair and Lake Nacimiento Recreation in the Summer and the North County Wine Country in Fall (The Mid-State Fair is a very large economic contributor to the County); and
- 6) San Luis Obispo North County residents depend on South County services for shopping, education, and health care and for employment.

At last night's hearing, I heard the residents of South San Luis Obispo County infer that they'd like to keep the County united, but that they really didn't need the San Luis Obispo North County. Please reconsider

the above-stated factors when deciding if San Luis Obispo County can be split up or not.

If you determine that San Luis Obispo County must be divided, please link the North County of San Luis Obispo with Monterey County and NOT with Kern County:

1) Northern San Luis Obispo County (north of Cuesta Grade) and Monterey County share history - both counties were populated by Salinian's and are on the Mission Trail;

2) Northern San Luis Obispo County and Monterey County share water - both counties utilize the Salinas River and Lake Nacimiento;

3) We share the Salinas Valley which begins in Santa Margarita and flows north to Monterey;

4) We have grapes and row crops and are part of California's Salad Bowl. BUT

1) Northern San Luis Obispo County and Kern County have very different economic bases - Kern County has oil and large scale industry and large scale farming operations that do not exist in Northern San Luis Obispo County;

2) Kern County has large scale farms that depend on the California Aqueduct for water;

3) We are NOT connected geographically with Kern County, people in Shandon and San Miguel do not shop or doctor in Bakersfield; People in Bakersfield do not shop or doctor in San Luis Obispo County. And though the residents of Bakersfield do vacation here, that is not enough of a unifying interest to link the communities.

4) In the current district

<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/findyourreps.xpd?state=CA&district=22> <<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/findyourreps.xpd?state=CA&district=22>> , note that Taft and Maricopa and Bakersfield are a long way away from Atascadero and Shandon and San Miguel. Still, I have lived in Atascadero for 21 years and my Congressman has always been from Bakersfield!

Please DO keep San Luis Obispo County together, North County residents work and shop and doctor in South County, South County residents depend on the North County for labor, for the Mid-State Fair and the wineries' tourist traffic. The residents of North County rarely go to Salinas and we don't go to Bakersfield unless we absolutely must.

Thank you for your consideration.

Julie Clark



21 year Resident of Atascadero, California