

From: [REDACTED]  
Date: Tue, Apr 19, 2011 at 7:38 PM  
Subject: Don't put Paso Robles in with Bakersfield  
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

I live in Paso Robles and drive to San Luis Obispo several times a week, but I never go to Bakersfield. It would take me a good two hours or more to get to Bakersfield, and I would have no reason to go and no interest in it. I feel we have nothing in common with Bakersfield and shouldn't be in the same district. Highway 101 is a big organizer. Hwy. 41/46 East is not, at least in its Western reaches.

Bakersfield is dominated by super-big, super-rich farm corporations. I am a farmer, but we have only 80 acres and sell our produce at farmers markets. There are some big old family cattle ranches here, but it's not the same thing. They were pioneers. The farms in Bakersfield are corporate. They get all the taxpayer-subsidized water, and won't let anybody else in. The worst enemy of the small farmer is the large farmer. They support agricultural policies that are bad for us and oppose policies that are good for us.

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