Although located within Los Angeles County, the Antelope Valley has always been distinctly different than the majority of Los Angeles County located in the Los Angeles basin. Due to its geography, climate, and industrial make-up the Antelope Valley more closely resembles the high desert communities located in the Kern County and San Bernardino County portions of the Mojave Desert.

Because of the similarities with other High Desert communities, a group of concerned Antelope Valley citizens in 1991 formed a task force to investigate the possibilities of separating from the South Coast Air Quality Management District and creating an independent Antelope Valley AQMD. For decades the Antelope Valley's air quality was controlled by the SCAQMD offices located over 100 miles from the Antelope Valley; making daily business interactions extremely challenging for local industry. SCAQMD was familiar with and skilled at developing regulations for an urban area with large industrial sources and rarely able to distinguish the differences within the Antelope Valley industrial base. In 1997, state legislation created the Antelope Valley Air Pollution Control District. For the first time there were local officials and local staff familiar with Antelope Valley issues that citizens and businesses could turn for assistance. The new District has worked hard to simplify rules and eliminate regulations that simply did not apply to the desert region. The primary reason for

the establishment of the AVAQMD was that Antelope Valley's air quality issues had little in common with those in the Los Angeles basin

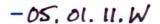
State law requires the California Air Resources Board to divide the state into air basins based on similar meteorological, geographic, and air pollution conditions. The Antelope Valley is located in the Mojave Desert Air Basin which includes the entire high desert regions of Kern and San Bernardino Counties.

The creation of the Antelope Valley AQMD was modeled after similar agencies in our high desert region because of their similar air quality issues, geography, meteorology, and industrial sources. The high desert areas in eastern Kern County such as Rosamond, Mojave, and Edwards AFB along with the San Bernardino communities of Victorville, Apple Valley, and Adelanto have a large concentration of aerospace industry, along with the same primary air quality concerns.

The AVAQMD comprises over 1,300 square miles from the Kern County line on the north, the San Gabriel and Tehachapi Mountains to the south and west and the San Bernardino County line to the east. The AVAQMD's mission is "to work in partnership with local communities to achieve and preserve a healthful environment through effective air quality programs while supporting strong economic growth throughout the high desert region".

To summarize, air quality and environmental issues are major factors in making the High Desert its own community of interest and more important than county boundaries. For many of the same reasons the AVAQMD was created, the high desert region's population warrants a unified AV/East Kern Assembly District combined with a Victor Valley/Mojave Desert Assembly District for a unified High Desert Senate district.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today.





**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB** 

OF SANTA CLARITA VALLEY

P.O. Box 220639, Santa Clarita, CA 91322-0639 (661) 254-2582 24909 Newhall Avenue, Santa Clarita, CA 91321 (661) 254-3278 Fax www.scvbgc.org

May 2011

To the Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission:

On behalf of the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley, we respectfully request and advocate that the Santa Clarita Valley remain under one congressional district, and be in the same district as the Antelope Valley, and other similar communities of North Los Angeles County.

As the SCV Boys & Girls Club, we strive to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. We provide a safe place to learn and grow with life-enhancing programs and character development experiences.

Since we know the commission is trying to keep communities of interest intact, we submit to you that the communities of the Santa Clarita Valley and Antelope Valley are communities of common interest. We both fight for stable and clean water supplies, and rely on various community services such as Economic Development, YMCA, and Boys & Girls Club. We share many civic and educational resources, and have similar economies.

We urge you to please consider our request.

Sincerely,

Governing Board of Directors Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley



### GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### **Executive Committee**

President
Alan Lyon
Stevens Lyon & Hagerty CPAs

Vice President, Board Development Brad Spahr\* Specialty Motors

Vice President, Finance/Treasurer Eddie Cole XProTex Sport Group Worldwide, LLC

Vice President, Operations Charles Gill Integrated Property Services Group, Inc.

Vice President, Gov Relations/Public Relations
Tom Dierckman\*

M6Advisors

Vice President, Board Accountability Elizabeth Hopp Bank of Santa Clarita

Vice President, Programs/Education Dr. Todd Fine Newhall School District

Vice President, Personnel Diane Fiero College of the Canyons

Secretary
Cynthia Kittle
Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA)

Directors Julie Benson

Robert Challinor Superintendent Wm. S. Hart School District

Richard Gould City of Santa Clarita

Carl Kanowsky
Kanowsky & Associates

Paul Becker Captain, Santa Clarita Sheriff's Department

Teddy Gordon-Martin

John Mahaffey\*

Steve Milovich

Gloria Mercado Fortine

Andrew Reynolds Northrop Grumman

Gary Saenger Saenger Associate

Tony Watson

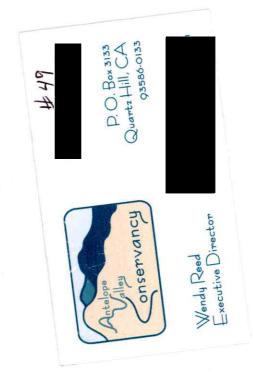
Kent Zerangue Altria Sales & Distribution

### Chief Professional Officer

Jim Ventress

\*Past Presidents





-05.01.11.5

# State of California Redistricting Commission

# Statement Regarding the Lakes Community

Provided by

**Bob Large** 

## President, the Lakes Town Council

The Lakes community is located approximately 45 miles north of Los Angeles and 18 miles west of Lancaster in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County. The specific boundary is defined in the Community Standards District (CSD) for Elizabeth Lake and Lake Hughes and approved by the County Board of Supervisors for Los Angeles County. (Please see attached map)

This community has a strong local identity that goes back to the late 1800's. Most of the population of about 2600 is clustered near the natural lakes of the same names as the communities and located in the San Andreas Rift Zone between Portal Ridge and the Angeles National Forest. An elected, non-partisan and volunteer Town Council identifies and communicates the interests of the community with outside political entities. The focal point for social activities is the Lakes Community Center in Lake Hughes, which was originally constructed in the 1930's. The Lakes Community has been frequently commended for its active participation in Town Council meetings and strong participation in community safety activities (e.g., Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Volunteers on Patrol (VOP) and, most recently, Neighborhood Watch). It would be devastating to these efforts if the community were to be split into different districts.

What most strongly unites this racially, ethnically and economically diverse community is the desire to retain its quality of life through preserving and protecting the rural character and environmental beauty of this residential, recreational and small business setting. This desire to protect the local rural character typically places the interests of the Lakes Community more in concert with other rural town councils than with that of the larger urban areas of the Antelope Valley. At the same time, the residents value and partake of the jobs and retail market in the AV. A significant portion of the Lakes workforce commutes to jobs in the Greater LA area.

Thank you for your consideration.

If there are any questions regarding this information and/or any further information is needed, please contact Bob Large at

[Note: This statement was prepared from personal involvement in Lakes Community activities for twenty years. The short lead time for responding did not allow time for fully vetting and coordinating the statement, so it should be taken as a personal assessment only, not a formal position of the Lakes Town Council]

