



**Death Valley Tourist Center
and
Northern Mojave Visitor Center**

www.maturango.org

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Ridgecrest, CA 93555

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May 1, 2011

-05.01.11.H

To: California Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Maintaining the status quo by keeping Ridgecrest CA in the same district as Bakersfield CA

The purpose of this letter is to request that the Ridgecrest area remain a part of the same district that includes Bakersfield and the greater Bakersfield area when the new district boundaries have been set. Ridgecrest is closely aligned with Kern County agencies located in Bakersfield for the economic and social endeavors of the arts, culture and tourism and needs to continue this alignment for several reasons.

Arts and Culture: The arts are important economically and socially to the Ridgecrest area and promoting the arts depends on several Kern County agencies for funding and support. Examples of this are the working relationship that Ridgecrest has with the Arts Council of Kern and Kern Community Foundation for programs dealing with the arts and culture as well as tourism. It is crucial that Ridgecrest continues to have a close working relationship with these Kern County agencies to be effective. This is best accomplished by having Ridgecrest in the same district as these agencies.

Tourism: Tourism in Kern County is a \$1.5 billion per year industry. A major focus of tourism in the Ridgecrest area is participation in the Tour 178 project which promotes tourism along CA highway 178 from Bakersfield to Ridgecrest and beyond. Among the many tourism sites along this corridor are the Museums in Bakersfield, the Crystal Palace in Bakersfield, the Sequoia National Forest [and 100 giants] near Kernville, Red Rock Canyon, Fossil Falls, the Museums in Ridgecrest and the Trona Pinnacles east of Ridgecrest - to name a few. Ridgecrest works closely with the Kern County Board of Trade to promote tourism in all of Kern County and frequently receives grants from the board of trade to promote tourism. In addition Ridgecrest is aligned with the communities along the Eastern Sierra from Ridgecrest to Lee Vining as part of the Eastern Sierra Cultural Heritage Alliance [ESCHA] to promote tourism along the eastern Sierras.

Ridgecrest has virtually nothing in common with the Antelope Valley or San Bernardino on any aspect of the arts, culture or tourism. All of these activities are vital to the economic and cultural well being for the Ridgecrest area.

In addition to being the Executive Director & CEO of the Maturango Museum, I also serve as President of the Tourism Committee for the Ridgecrest area which is a working committee of the Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have on redistricting and its impact on the arts, culture and tourism in Ridgecrest.

Sincerely,

Harris M. Brokke
Executive Director & CEO



ANTELOPE VALLEY



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Redistricting AVBOT

Hearing: May 1, 2011, 2-5:00 pm

On behalf of the Antelope Valley Board of Trade I want to thank the California Citizens Redistricting Commission for the opportunity to speak for our Community of Interest.

Since 1957, the AV Board of Trade, then named the "Antelope Valley Progress Association" has been the legislative voice for the Antelope Valley. For 53 years we have represented our region at the local, State and National level with regard to common social and economic interests pertaining to our area.

Issues pertaining to the environment, transportation, water, air quality, air encroachment, energy, education, aerospace, healthcare that are specific to our High Desert region which includes the Antelope Valley, the Victor Valley and East Kern.

Keeping our region intact by transcending political and county boundaries, and instead looking at geographical boundaries, the San Gabriel Mountains, Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi Mountains, will allow us to receive fair and effective representation.

Keeping the criteria of redistricting in mind, the greater Antelope Valley consists of (see map) the most populous being Palmdale (152,622), and Lancaster (145,875), but to include communities from the SR-5 freeway on the East, which includes Quartz Hill (11,093), and Antelope Acres; to the 395 on the East including Lake Los Angeles (11,665), Edwards Air Force Base (5,532) and the Victor Valley; South as far as the Acton (2,514) Aqua Dulce, Littlerock (1,453) and north to include Rosamond (18,762), Mojave (3,395), Ridgecrest (28,726) and Cal City (15,014). These communities share the same weather, the same issues, the same environmental air and water basins and are economically linked through our local businesses. Our higher unemployment rate, lower cost of housing and similar household income throughout the High Desert is very different from the communities on the other side of the mountains.

Our population warrants two Assembly districts, one encompassing the northern Los Angeles County communities of Lancaster and Palmdale as well as the eastern Kern County Communities of Rosamond, Mojave, California City, Boron and Ridgecrest, and one Assembly District encompassing Inyo County and the northern San Bernardino

County communities of Victorville, Hesperia, Apple Valley, Barstow and Adelanto. These two districts should be nested for one unified High Desert Senate District.

(Reference the blow up map from Space)

As you can see from the map, even from space it is quite clear that the High Desert is vastly different from the surrounding parts of California.



Vicki Medina
Vicki Medina
Executive Director

Antelope Valley Board of Trade

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#24



Labor, lifestyle, and Los Angeles all within your reach!

April 27, 2011

Dear Commissioners,

The Greater Antelope Valley Economic Alliance serves as a regional economic development corporation for the Antelope Valley. It was formed to promote our community to prospective employers and increase economic activity in the Antelope Valley. To do that, like you, we first had to determine the boundaries of our community of interest. As residents here, we know that the Los Angeles County/Kern County line is an arbitrary political line, and that we had to look beyond that.

Our organization is composed of Kern County entities including the cities of California City, Ridgecrest and Tehachapi, the Rosamond Community Services District, the East Kern Airport District and the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water District together with LA County entities such as, the cities of Palmdale and Lancaster, Antelope Valley College and the Palmdale School District, among others. Included with this letter is our 2011 Economic Roundtable Report. It includes a map of our community which stretches from the Tehachapi Mountains across East Kern to the base of the San Gabriel mountains south of Palmdale.

These entities came together because we know that our unique needs are not shared by the population centers of our counties. Our environmental resources, such as water and air, are in completely separate basins from the surrounding communities. Our industries, including green energy production, aerospace, defense and agriculture, among others, make us unique in southern California.

Additionally, issues related to our economy and cost of living separate us from neighboring areas to the north and south. Unemployment in the Antelope Valley is around 18% with a range of housing costs from \$40-\$85 per square foot in different areas of the Antelope Valley. In nearby Santa Clarita, for instance, unemployment is 8% and housing prices are nearly \$250 per square foot. There is also a significant difference of household incomes between the two areas.

One major concern is that any division of Palmdale and Lancaster into two separate districts would have the effect of separating a minority race, the Hispanic population.

The Antelope Valley-East Kern community is unique for so many reasons. That's why together we've formed community based organizations that are a reflection of our uniqueness. Whether its GAVEA, the Antelope Valley Board of Trade, the Greater Antelope Valley Association of Realtors, and many others, they've all self-selected their boundaries based on what makes sense for the people in our community. Just about everyone agrees that our community of interest is the Antelope Valley-East Kern area of the High Desert.

Our population makes us perfect for an Assembly district of our own. Likewise, in the other half of the High Desert in the Victor Valley, the desert portions of San Bernardino County and Inyo County deserve their own Assembly district to cover Victorville, Adelanto, Apple Valley and Hesperia. They've been

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661/945-2741 FAX 661/945-7711
www.aveconomy.org

divided up there for too long. We respectfully request you keep their community intact for an Assembly district as well and join us together for a united High Desert Senate seat.

This effort is co-sponsored by the Antelope Valley Board of Trade (AVBOT) and the Greater Antelope Valley Economic Alliance (GAVEA) and their many regional members.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact me.

Regards,



Mel Layne, President
Greater Antelope Valley Economic Alliance



www.aveconomy.org

www.windsolarcalifornia.com

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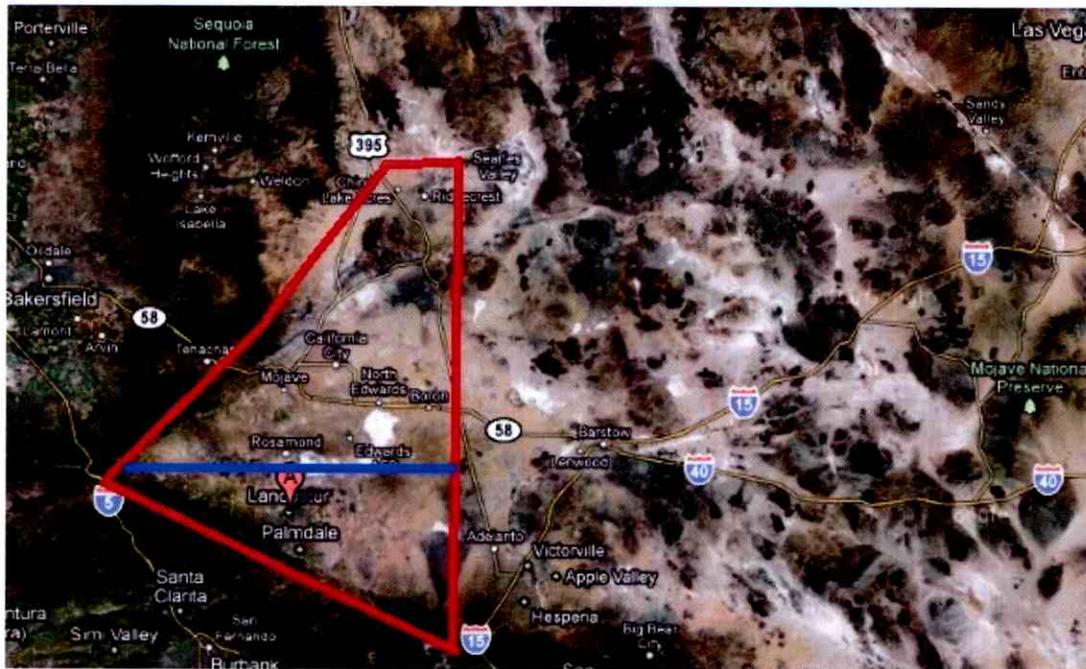
#24



Antelope Valley Assembly District

May 1st, 2011

Presented to the Citizens Redistricting Commission



-  Proposed District
-  County Line

Antelope Valley Assembly District

The Antelope Valley is made up of the High Desert Communities in both northern Los Angeles County and eastern Kern County. These include the cities of Palmdale and Lancaster in Los Angeles County and the communities of Rosamond, Mojave, Boron, California City and Ridgecrest in Kern County

It represents roughly one half of the population of the High Desert regions of Los Angeles, Kern, San Bernardino and Inyo counties.

It is the desert floor as bounded by the Tehachapi Mountains on the northwest, the San Gabriel Mountains to the Southwest and the San Bernardino County line to the East.

Several aspects make our community unique. This area is in a geologically separate water basin, an environmentally distinct air basin and ecologically distinct high desert climate.



Redistricting Data: My Assembly District 36

Population

~~Total Population: 464,810~~ Original District
 -0.19% variance from ideal population 584,284
 Ideal Population
 465,674

Universe: Total Population
 Datasource: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census
 Data Year: 2010
 Data Level: Census Block

Total Population	464,810
Ideal	465,674
Variance	-0.19%
Original District	584,284

	My District 36
Citizen Voting Age Population	254,783

	District
Hispanic or Latino	41.02% 190,652
White alone	38.37% 178,357
Black or African American alone	13.41% 62,352
Asian	3.77% 17,520
Some Other Race	0.76% 3,514
Two or More Races	2.67% 12,415

Additional Information

Representation of current districts: Primarily 36th Assembly District, with portions of the 32nd and 34th

The unemployment rate is approximately 18% throughout the district, with a housing cost of \$50-\$80 per square foot. This differs greatly from Bakersfield and Central Valley communities, some with even higher unemployment as well as the Santa Clarita/Ventura County areas with unemployment around 8% and housing costs nearing \$250 per square foot.

Aerospace has historically been one of the booming businesses in the Antelope Valley. Edwards Air Force Base, USAF Plant 42, and the China Lake Naval Weapons facility and Virgin Galactic at Mojave Spaceport are major economic engines.

Recently, the Antelope Valley has become the green energy capital of North America. Wind and solar resources are better here than anywhere else in the country with dozens of wind and solar energy production facilities being developed throughout Kern and Los Angeles County.

Educationally, the entire High Desert, including northern Los Angeles, eastern Kern and northern San Bernardino counties have joined forces to promote a comprehensive four year university as the next California State University campus. The nearest CSU is over sixty miles from almost any point in the High Desert.

Several government agency boundaries already cross the Kern/Los Angeles County line in order to provide local services. These include the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency and the Antelope Valley Community College District.

Demographically, we have a fast growing Hispanic Community. Splitting us outside of the High Desert would dilute the influence of our Hispanic community.

Not everything from this list will be relevant to your community, but highlight anything that helps demonstrate what residents value and what gaps and barriers exist.

Conclusion

In every sense, the Antelope Valley is a community of interest that transcends artificial county lines. Environmentally, demographically, geologically, socially and economically we are distinct from areas outside of our mountain boundaries. This Assembly District protects the interests of our community and follows the guidelines set up in the California Constitution. Our population is such that there is no way to combine us with a geographically separate community in any direction and keep us intact in an Assembly District.

Our High Desert neighbors to the East, in the Victor Valley/Mojave Desert communities of San Bernardino and Inyo Counties, are in the same position. For all of our commonalities with those communities, this Assembly District ought to be nested with them to form one all-encompassing High Desert Senate District.

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#30

5/1/2011

Presentation to the Redistricting Board:

Commissioners, I am here to present my support for a compact and contiguous California Assembly District that contains the whole Santa Clarita Valley.

I am a resident of a small community within the Santa Clarita Valley sphere of Influence. It is called Agua Dulce. My Assembly District is the 37th, headquartered in Camarillo. My neighbors walking distance away belong to the 38th District headquartered in Valencia. This area is also represented by two California Senate Districts but only one Congressional District. We need reform.

THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY IS THE

This area is the land north of the Sylmar Pass, the San Gabriel Mountains, West to the Los Angeles County Line, and East to the Sierra Pelona ridgeline, and north to the Kern County Line. While geography is vast, this area is home to some 260,000 residents and cannot be an Assembly District by itself.

BOTH CITY OF SANTA CLARITA and the UNINCORPORATED AREAS of L.A. County

But it should be kept as a whole piece inside any Assembly District or Senate District because of its shared interests, problems, population forecasting:

- History: Santa Clarita has always been one unit of a rancho, farming and ranching community, an extra urban housing development area, and now a home to the City of Santa Clarita where everyone either goes to school, to shopping, or to work.
- Natural Resources: The Santa Clarita River starts in the Sierra Pelona Range, and water flows into it from the entire area, starting in Acton, Canyon Country, Newhall, Saugus, Castaic, Val Verde and even from the Eastern side of Ventura County. We also share continuing and profitable mining interests from oil, natural gas, aggregate and precious metal mines.
- Future Problems: Water is provided either by pump at the home or business, or by water district from AV37 to the Castaic Water District. Political decisions regarding water in the future should be decided within our area or influence.

WORK/EDUCATION

Population: So many residents from these areas from Castaic to Acton to Green Valley, move down the transportation corridors to join fellow commuters from the main city and then into the LA metropolitan area. This is the area that will be impacted heavily when the housing market recovers and new housing is built north of Saugus and just west of Magic Mountain.

In closing I again request that the Assembly District should encompass all of Santa Clarita Valley area, and not broken up to provide population to very different and distant centers.

Respectfully Yours,

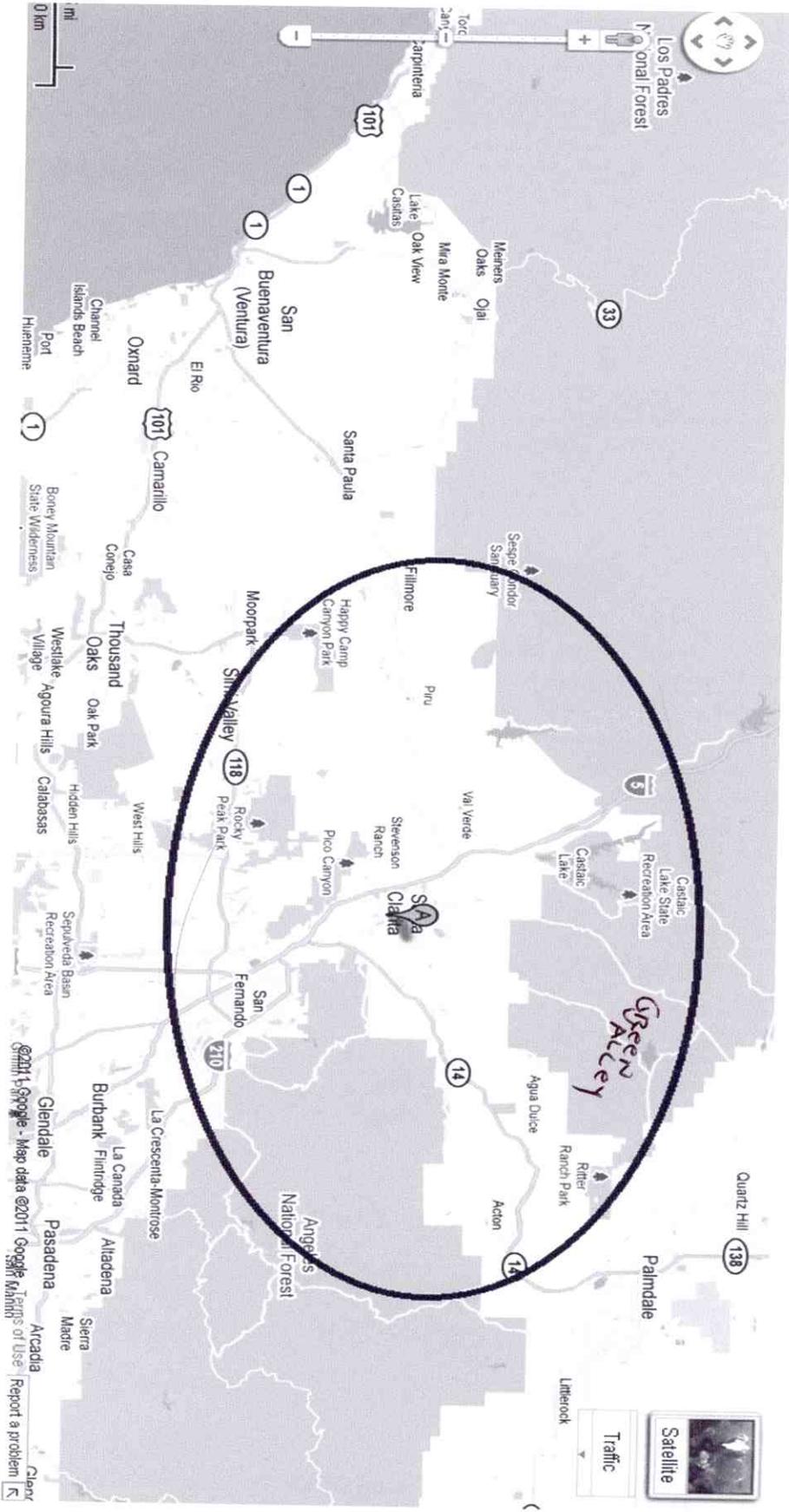
Carlo Basail, resident



Proposed Assembly District:

THIS IS Good

All of SCV (Agua Dulce to Castaic)
Eastern Ventura County (Piru, Fillmore, Porter Ranch, Simi Valley)



Green Alley

Caro Basai
5/1/2011

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5/5

-05.01.11.K

#32

May 1st, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
State of California

Re: Support for keeping the High Desert Communities in one district

Dear Commissioners,

In the eight years I've served on the Palmdale City Council, and in my prior 12 years as a Planning Commissioner, I have worked very closely with the League of California Cities to protect the interests of our region. In order to do that, the League has divided the state into several divisions based on communities of interest and similarity of resources and challenges. The Antelope Valley/East Kern region along with the Victor Valley High Desert is the Desert/Mountain Division of the League of California Cities.

The Desert/Mountain communities include Palmdale, Lancaster, Rosamond, Mojave, Victorville, Hesperia, Apple Valley, Adelanto as well as several of the San Bernardino Mountain communities including Arrowhead and Big Bear Lake.

We work together so well in this organization because of our shared interests and challenges. Throughout the High Desert, unemployment is a far larger challenge than it is in surrounding communities like the Inland Empire and San Fernando Valley.

Throughout the High Desert, we have water and resource challenges that exist nowhere else in the state due to our separate water and air basins.

Additionally, we are quickly becoming the Green Energy Capital of the whole country. In eastern Kern, northern Los Angeles and northern San Bernardino counties, we have the best wind and solar resources in North America.

In order to foster and build on these new technologies we must share a legislative district or risk these vital policy needs being subjugated under the interests of the far off population centers of these counties.

The populations of Palmdale, Lancaster, Rosamond, Mojave, Ridgecrest and Tehachapi are nearly perfect for an Assembly District. Likewise, the population in the High Desert communities of Apple Valley, Adelanto, Victorville, Hesperia, and Barstow in San Bernardino and Inyo counties is nearly perfect for another Assembly District. Together, these districts would give the High Desert united and fair representation.

Our regional Board of Trade supports a similar concept, for these same logical, geographic demographic and economic reasons. I would strongly urge the commission to adopt this concept.

Steve Hofbauer
Councilmember
City of Palmdale



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**Redistricting
AVBOT
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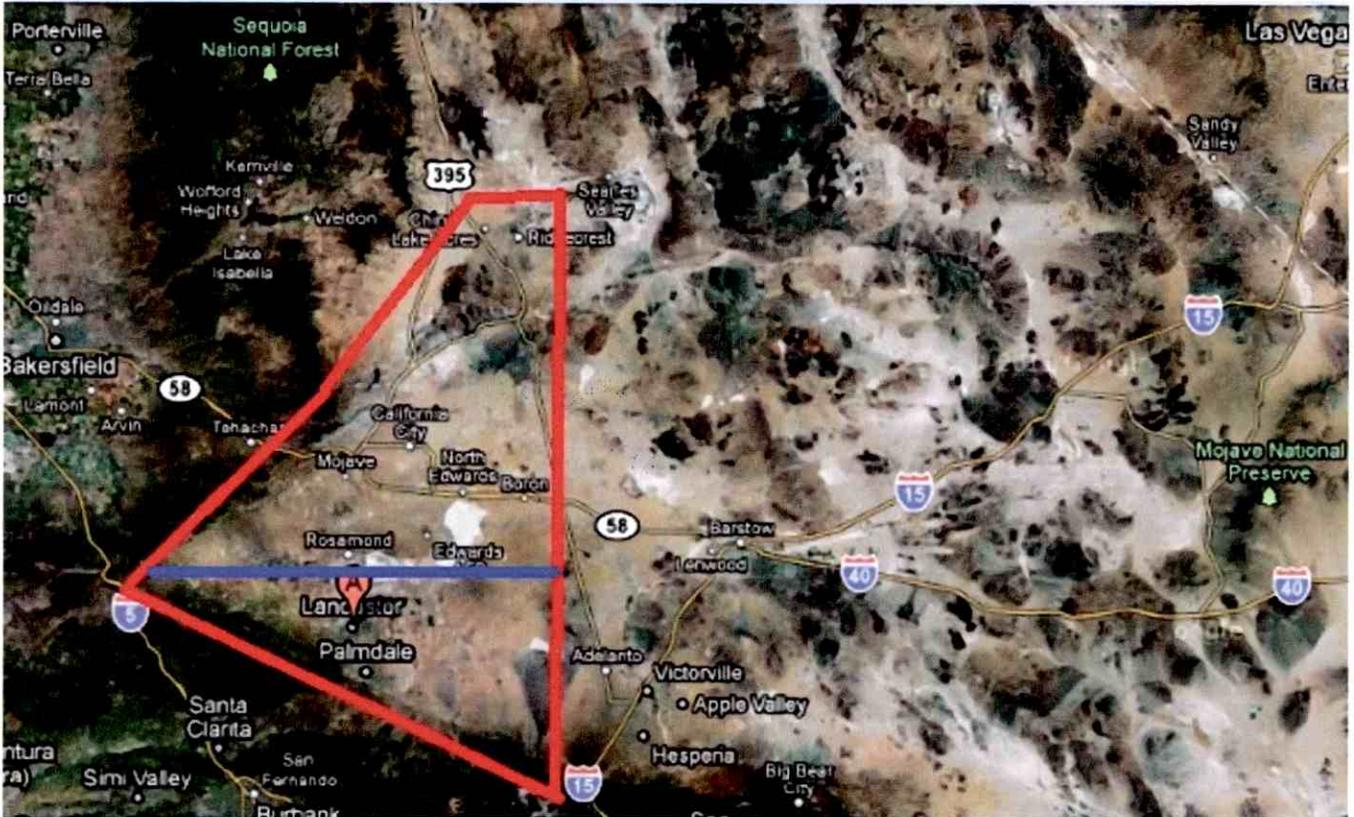
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Vicki Medina
Vicki Medina
Executive Director
Antelope Valley Board of Trade



- Proposed District
- County Line

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Citizens Redistricting Commission. good afternoon

My name is John Fergione. I was an Experimental Test Pilot for the Lockheed Martin Corporation and conducted test missions in the F-16 at Edwards AFB for 26 years. Later on in my career, I was fortunate to have test flown the F-22 many times.

I agree with the position offered earlier by Vicki Medina, The Executive Director for The Antelope Valley Board of Trade and offer the following in support:

Edwards AFB sits at the convergence of three counties, Los Angeles, Kern and San Bernardino. It is the US Air Force's center of excellence for Research, Development and Test and Evaluation of aerospace systems for the United States and its allies. It is probably the largest flight test center in the world.

The 2010 Economic Impact Report for Edwards AFB, which was finalized in September, 2010 (I will leave a copy of this with you) shows the population of Edwards AFB at just under 11,000, which includes military and civilian personnel.

This is broken down into approximately 2,000 active duty and reserve military, and just under 9,000 civilians.

The majority of these civilians, and some of the military, live in the Lancaster and Palmdale areas within Los Angeles County. Some live in the other communities surrounding Edwards AFB. These include Tehachapi, Rosamond, Mojave and California City in Kern County and Victorville and Barstow in San Bernardino County. Other smaller population centers surrounding Edwards contain families that work at Edwards AFB as well.

Some of the people who live in these communities also work at the China Lake Naval Weapons center and the Mojave Airport and Spaceport.

The Antelope Valley, which is known in California as Aerospace Valley, has distinct geographic boundaries on the south, west and northwest. You saw this when you drove here. As you crested the hill from Acton heading north, you drove past Lamont Odett Vista Point. When you did, you were looking upon Aerospace Valley, with Palmdale just north of you and Lancaster, Edwards AFB, Mojave airport, the China Lake Naval Weapons Center and the communities which make up Aerospace Valley further to the north of that.

We are a diverse Valley in terms of demographics. From manufacturing to farming, from shopping centers to huge wide-open areas. But one commonality in every community in the Antelope Valley is Aerospace. Every community can take some credit in furthering the efficiency and safety of aerospace vehicles and their systems. It just makes sense to delineate the political boundaries of the Aerospace Valley in accordance with the geographic boundaries of our region. The position offered by The Antelope Valley Board of Trade does this in accordance with the rules and guidelines which have been given to you. I ask that you finalize their proposal when you conclude your business.

I thank you for your time, and allowing me to be heard.

John A. Fergione
F-16/F-22 Experimental Test Pilot (Retired)
Captain, US Naval Reserve (Retired)
Director and Past-President, the Antelope Valley Board of Trade

THE PURPOSE AND ASSUMPTIONS OF THE 2010 ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS (EIA)

The Acquisition Cost Division, within the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards AFB, prepares an annual Economic Impact Analysis (EIA) to determine the total economic impact Edwards Air Force Base has on its surrounding communities.

This statement is compiled from data collected in fiscal year (FY) 2010 (October 2009 – September 2010).

This analysis presents the most current information about Air Force Flight Test Center organizations, force structure, capital assets, and other aspects of the base. It aids Air Force planners in the allocation of resources and serves as a guide for community leaders, legislators, and installation visitors to better articulate the fiscal impact of Edwards AFB on the Antelope Valley.

Edwards identifies its primary area of economic influence as a 75-mile radius surrounding the base, and is comprised of those communities that house the majority of Edward's employees.

Edwards AFB sits at the convergence of three counties – Los Angeles, Kern and San Bernardino – and most base workers live in Lancaster and Palmdale within L.A. County; Rosamond, Edwards AFB, California City and Tehachapi in Kern County; and Victorville in San Bernardino County. Other population centers affected by this EIA include North Edwards, Boron, Mojave, Quartz Hill, Acton, Little Rock, and Santa Clarita.

While driving distances to Edwards AFB are farther for commuters than many other government installations, the areas from which they commute generally do not include the larger cities of Los Angeles, Kern and San Bernardino counties, including Los Angeles and L.A. suburbs, Bakersfield, and the greater San Bernardino areas.

FY 2010 EIA SUMMARY:

- Economic impact on the local area estimated at \$1.5B
- Annual payroll approx \$626.1M
- Expenditures totaled approx \$284.3M
- Added jobs to the area approx 12,716
- Added jobs value to area approx \$629.4M per year

For further information on this EIA contact the Acquisition Cost Division, AFFTC/FMC, at (661) 277-8929 or (661) 277-9009

THE AIR FORCE FLIGHT TEST CENTER (AFFTC)

Ad Inexplorata — Toward the Unexplored

The Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., is the Air Force Materiel Command's center of excellence for research, development, test and evaluation of aerospace systems for the United States and its allies. It also operates the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School and supports non-military government agencies. The combat, training and combat support capabilities of most Air Force weapons systems are first proven at Edwards, which links to each of the Air Force's institutional air and space core competencies: Developing Airmen, Technology-to-Warfighting, and Integrating Operations. These in turn make the Air Force's six distinctive capabilities possible - Air and Space Superiority, Global Attack, Rapid Global Mobility, Precision Engagement, Information Superiority, and Agile Combat Support.

AFFTC conducts and supports research, development, test and evaluation of aerospace systems from concept to combat, to support the AF Vision of Global Vigilance, Reach and Power. Through this mission the Center supports the Air Force's overall mission, defending the United States and protecting its interests through aerospace power.

Virtually all Air Force Weapon systems have been tested and evaluated here and, through this effort, the Center helps ensure that air warriors of today and tomorrow have proven, battle-ready weapon systems when flying into harm's way. To support testing, AFFTC operates the Edwards Flight Test Range, which comprises more than 20,000 square miles of airspace, including three supersonic corridors and four aircraft spin areas.

In addition to flight test capabilities, Edwards also has an impressive array of ground test facilities. The Avionics, Test and Integration Complex (ATIC), which includes the massive Benefield Anechoic Facility (BAF), allows for complete testing of a fully integrated avionics suite in a simulated flight environment, including electronic threats and complete computer software verification.

Major AFFTC organizations include the 412th Test Wing and 95th Air Base Wing. In short, Team Edwards expertise in flight test creates synergy when combined with unique technical capabilities from its many partner units to support and accomplish Center and Air Force missions.

AFFTC partners located on Edwards AFB include:

- Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) Propulsion Directorate
- Air Force Plant 42 Production Flight Installation
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Dryden Flight Research Center
- Marine Aircraft Group 46, Detachment Bravo Command
- Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, Detachment 5
- Studies and Analysis Squadron, Detachment 1 (Air Education and Training Command)

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AF Flight Test Center Economic Impact Analysis Fiscal Year 2010



www.edwards.af.mil

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**Edwards Air Force Base
ECONOMIC IMPACT: \$1.54 BILLION**

Military Personnel

Active Duty 1854
 Air Reserve/National Guard 67
 Non-Extended Active Duty 117
 ANG/Reserves

TOTAL MILITARY

2,038

Civilian Personnel

Appropriated Funds 4344
 Non-Appropriated Fund 242
 Base Exchange 163
 Contract Civilians 3853
 Private Business 168

TOTAL CIVILIAN

8,770

TOTAL ASSIGNED PERSONNEL

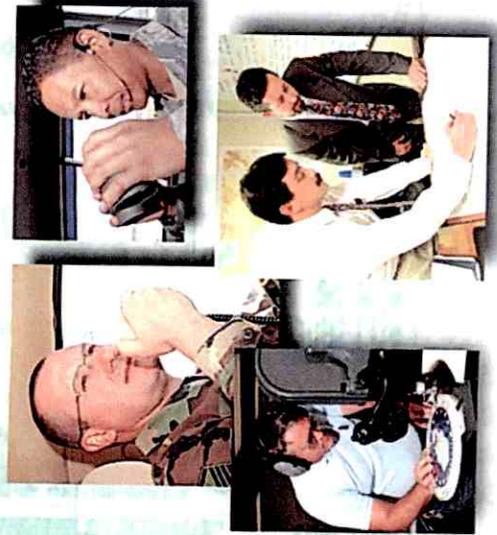
10,808

Military Family Members

2,256

**TOTAL PERSONNEL including
DEPENDENTS**

13,064



Military Pay

Active Duty \$118,958,962
 Air Reserve/National Guard \$4,713,986
 Non-Extended Active Duty \$8,231,886
 ANG/Reserves

TOTAL MILITARY PAY

\$131,904,834

Civilian Pay

Appropriated Funds \$477,461,566
 Non-Appropriated Fund 5,655,000
 Base Exchange 3,626,788
 Private Business 7,467,341
TOTAL CIVILIAN PAY

TOTAL PAYROLL:

\$626,115,529

Job

Estimated Indirect Jobs Created
 in the Local Area \$12,716
 Average Annual Pay
 (Local Community) \$49,500
 Estimated Annual Dollar Value
 of Indirect Jobs Created \$629,442,000



Contract Expenditures

Local Contracts \$19,110,733
 Construction/Other \$22,345,996
 Operations & Maintenance \$218,569,909
 Service Contracts \$5,216
 Commissary \$6,404,715
 Health/Tricare \$9,035,911
 Education/Impact Aid \$1,299,800
 TDY--Local Area
 Government Purchase Card \$7,558,941

TOTAL EXPENDITURES:

\$284,331,221

Economic Impact

Total Payroll \$626,115,528
 Total Contract Expenditures \$284,331,221
 Estimated Total Value
 of Jobs Created \$629,442,000

Total Economic Impact FY2010
\$1,539,888,749

