

Subject: Redistricting - Salinas and San Joaquin Valleys**Date:** Saturday, May 21, 2011 8:25 AM**From:** Ed Mitchell <[REDACTED]>**To:** <[REDACTED]>**Conversation:** Redistricting - Salinas and San Joaquin Valleys

Submitter: Mr. Ed Mitchell
Co-founder Prunedale Neighbors Group
[REDACTED]
Salinas CA 93907

I am Ed Mitchell speaking in behalf of the Prunedale Neighbors Group. PNG was formed because of land use and water overdraft issues in north Monterey County. We are submitting our view on the community of interest differences between the Salinas and San Joaquin valleys separated by the Coastal Mountain Range. These differences cause us to recommend that that State Senate and Assembly districts not cross the crest of the Coastal Range but parallel the north-to-south length of the valleys.

The two valleys have distinctly different community interests stemming from the bodies of water in each geographic area, sources of sustainable water, the different economic industries impacted by those water sources, as well as the government and private stakeholders seeking control and access of water rights in the different regions.

San Joaquin water comes from Sierra Mountain snow pack, the state canal system, and local ground sources. Recent political discord and court battles attest to the involvement of federal judges hearing arguments around northern water flowing to agricultural uses in the inland valley versus environmental and fishing industry preservationists versus Southern California water users.

Salinas Valley has neither physical connection nor legal involvement in the decades long economic water battles just described. We have our own distinct set of circumstances and resulting economic water issues. Primarily we survive on local potable water sources. Thus we constantly struggle with sustainable local water issues including decades of over drafting. The region west of the Coastal Range also borders the Pacific Ocean, the Marine Sanctuary, has shoreline slews, are fighting saltwater intrusion into our water basins, and working on desalination solutions. Thus the two regions have hugely different community interests. Please redistrict so Senate and Assembly districts do not cross the Coastal Range.

Plus, the coastal community of interest stretching from Pacifica to Paso Robles appears to have sufficient population to meet population density requirements.

Thank you.

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