

Subject: Imperial County is NOT part of the Coachella Valley

From: "Jeffrey Howard" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 07:59:52 -0700

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

The argument that Imperial County shares common concerns with the Coachella Valley is bogus, except for common concern over the Salton Sea. While there are rural/agricultural areas that are physically imposing, the number of Valley residents engaged in agriculture are relatively small. The identity of the Coachella Valley is far more related to its world wide recognition as a tourist destination and retirement mecca. Banning and Beaumont are similarly populated with retirees and logical political partners with the Coachella Valley.

Jeffrey M. Howard
Law Offices of Jeffrey M. Howard

[REDACTED]
Palm Desert, CA 92260

P [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Subject: Ladies and Gentlemen of the Redistricting Commission...


From: "Vincent Battaglia" [REDACTED] >

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 07:52:37 -0700

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

...attached is a second letter addressing Renova Energy Corp.'s continued opinion in regard to the decision that you will be making on gerrymandering our region. With unwavering support for your successful efforts.

Vincent J Battaglia, LEED AP®

 Description: Description: rva_sig

Mobile: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Visit our website: Please click [REDACTED]



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Redistricting Letter on Renova Letterhead 062611.pdf



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June 26, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 9581

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Commission,

First of all I would like to sincerely thank you for your continued hard work as the State gets a handle on redistricting. I would like to express to you that I am in full agreement with the first maps that were released on June 10th in regards to the Coachella Valley. I feel they truly represent strong communities of interest and as an alternative energy business owner residing in California's 45th Congressional District I implore the Committee to restrain from considering a redistricting of the region. My company; Renova Energy Corp. has persevered through the economic instability of the last half decade and has learned to adapt to the wide scope of "energy related" differences in the current District where we preside vs. the neighboring District.

From an "energy standpoint" our Valley is special in that we have two (2) utilities that share the Customer base and both could not be any more different with Southern California Edison's (SCE) focus on growing and improving regional Residential Customer relations and tapping local natural [REDACTED] local use. The second utility is the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) whose focus is on Agricultural and large scale deployment of its renewable resources out of the region to the benefit of other regions.

Currently our political representatives who set policy at the Federal level work very well at planning, preserving and bringing local advantage to the positive exploitation of our Valley's natural resources by supporting a more beneficial "SCE Mentality". Redistricting would open the doors to a less regionally favorable "IID Mentality". Those who want the redistricting apparently want the advantage to export the tremendous value pent up in our renewable resources to other regions.

The IID has consistently shown favor with exporting renewable energy benefits (electricity) to San Diego County and the state of Arizona as we have seen in their Sunrise Power Link, CalEnergy Geothermal and utility scale (solar farm) exploitation. This is within their right though we believe that the benefits of the energy created should stay where created to benefit out community first. Thus we are working closely with our current Representatives and SCE on a Coachella Valley Feed

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Palm Desert, CA 92260
[REDACTED]



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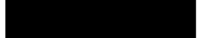
In Tariff pilot program that will be the game changer for integrating renewable energy and its subsequent benefits to the local community. And it is paramount that we have Federal assistance and proper, local political representation which live in the SCE territory and understand emerging distributed generation needs and prefer the local benefits over its export.

Though Renova applauds your efforts to encourage restructuring of districts in order to maintain a fair and equitable balance within our Democratic electoral process for the Constituent base we take issue with how this change would negatively affect deployment of our resources and related benefits as they pertain to local jobs, taxes, transmission capacity reserved for local use, future transmission upgrade costs and the related.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent Battaglia".

Vincent Battaglia
CEO
Renova Energy Corp.



Palm Desert, CA 92260



Subject: Letter to the Citizens Redistricting Commission

From: "Art Copleston" [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 13:48:32 -0700

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

The attached letter to the CRC was also faxed to (916) 651-5711. Thank you for all of your hard work, and thank you for your attention to my letter.

Sincerely,

Art Copleston



Palm Springs, CA 92264

Redistricting letter.doc

Arthur S. Copleston

June 26, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Ste 154A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Via email: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

RE: Proposed Redistricting Lines – 45th Congressional and 80th State Assembly Districts

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have been a permanent resident of the Coachella Valley since 1999. In the past dozen years, I have watched the tremendous population growth in this region. No segment of our diverse populace has grown more dramatically than the Latino segment, which reportedly now constitutes over 45% of the population of the 45th CD, as an example.

I wish to address two of the redistricting criteria with which your Commission has been so diligently working: Geographic Integrity/Contiguity, and Communities of Interest, as they apply to the 45th CD and the 80th AD.

Simply put; the Counties of Riverside and Imperial are one vast and continuous desert community from the Banning Pass area to Blythe, and south to the Mexican border. The populations of these two counties are closely aligned and share the following:

- Vast agricultural areas, producing similar crops and all supported with similar irrigation systems
- The Salton Sea; California's largest inland body of water. This priceless state asset has been in deep peril for many years; partly as a result of the current divisions in legislative responsibility.
- Solar/geothermal energy. Our Governor has declared that this area will soon be the world's leading producing of alternate energy. If we are to reach this goal, we simply must have strong legislative representation. Dividing this priceless state asset into multiple legislative districts serves only to harm the state of California.
- The Latino community, predominant in Imperial County and growing daily in large numbers in Riverside county, share common heritage, language, customs, education and livelihood. This is a vibrant piece of California's rich population mosaic, and it should not be divided.

Historically, Imperial county has been artificially connected with the San Diego metropolitan community by the most tenuous of threads; a narrow strip of land supporting Interstate Hwy 8, through desolate desert and across tortuous mountains. The agrarian, somewhat simplistic society of Imperial County has simply nothing, whatsoever, in common with the urban, upscale developments of the San Diego area.

A similar distortion in your proposed new boundaries exists when, in the interest of balancing population numbers, you attach to the 45th CD and the 80th AD the Inland Empire communities of Banning, Beaumont, San Jacinto, Hemet and Calimesa. Much as is the case with Imperial County being connected to San Diego by a tortuous route over a significant mountain range, these communities in the Inland Empire lie in the mountain pass, or on the other side of the Mt. San Jacinto range; one of the highest mountainous areas in the country. These Inland Empire communities, by virtue of their population origins, their communication links and their employment all face west, toward the vast Los Angeles metropolitan area. They are far more connected, in countless ways, to the Los Angeles basin than they are to our desolate, agrarian desert.

In summary, Imperial County and Riverside County are one community. It is imperative that our state political boundaries recognize our strong emotional, societal and economic bonds.

I understand the difficulty of your task at hand; however I implore you to consider the points I have made and then redress your proposed boundaries for the 45th CD and the 80th AD. By so doing, you will have well accomplished your mission and you will have set this desert region on an exciting path toward sound economic development and contentment for its citizens.

Yours sincerely,

/s/

Arthur S. Copleston

Subject: Redistricting Eastern Riverside County

From: Rosalyn Weissmann [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 12:42:37 -0700

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a resident of the Coachella Valley, Rancho Mirage specifically. I am very concerned that the draft of the Citizen's Redistricting Commission has designated the eastern portion, Imperial County, to be a part of the San Diego County district.

The Imperial County has much more in common with the eastern Coachella Valley. Both areas are have a plurality of Latino residents. Both economies and local jobs are based in agriculture, tourism and health care. Both areas are rural, they share the public utility district (IID) and are within the same Council of Governments planning agency for purposes of housing, transportation and air quality planning at both the federal and state levels (SCAG). San Diego County shares none of these jurisdictions and has nothing in common with Imperial County.

I strongly urge the Commission to reconsider its preliminary decision and to redraw the districts to include Imperial County with the Coachella Valley.

Thank you,

Rosalyn Weissmann

[REDACTED]

Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Subject: Redistricting Comments - Coachella Valley

From: Mark Weissmann [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 00:33:52 -0700

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

As a resident of the Coachella Valley and the City of Rancho Mirage, I feel that it's important for the Coachella Valley and Imperial County to share elected representatives since there are many similarities that currently exist in terms of:

1. agricultural interests
2. The Salton Sea
3. Population Demographics of both the Coachella Valley and Imperial Count and near future projected growth
4. The expansion opportunities for geo-thermal and alternative energy affecting the population and workforce in both the Coachella Valley and Imperial County.

It should be noted that the Coachella Valley is geographically separated from Western Riverside County and the Coachella Valley does not have the same demographics or commonality with Western Riverside County but does share similar demographics with the Imperial Valley.

Sincerely,
Mark Weissmann

[REDACTED]
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Jim Albrecht [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 21:01:34 +0000

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Jim Albrecht [REDACTED]

Subject: Redistricting

Message Body:

The recent preliminary Coachella Valley map keeps our area intact and should not be further modified. One political party is trying to add Imperial County for obvious reasons. Their membership person wrote a letter to the Desert Sun (without identifying herself), and a report this morning said the same party is trying to overturn the well thought out plan.

Politics are not to be a part of the redistricting process. That's why I and others voted for the new process.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Keep the Coachella Valley Map Intact!

From: Lilia Briceno [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 22:13:57 -0700

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

I read the local newspaper today (the desert sun), and it mentioned that Democrats were rallying support to change the first draft of maps you've proposed for the Coachella Valley.

I think this is just absurd. It seems that people are clearly out for a power grab by wanting Imperial County with the Coachella Valley. They want a safe democratic district, which means working people like me in the Coachella Valley will not be given equal or fair representation that is long overdue.

The first map you approved is a good map. It carries with it the will of the voters that created the law establishing the independent citizens commission to draw fair districts. More importantly, the first Coachella Valley map gives everyone the opportunity to participate in a district that is dedicated and focused on Coachella Valley issues. Imperial County's issues are very different from ours and should not be joined with the Coachella Valley.

Sincerely,

Lilia Briceno

Indio Resident

Subject: Redistricting

From: JoAnn Pepper [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 21:21:20 -0700

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

I am a resident of the city of Indio, in the Coachella Valley portion of eastern Riverside County. I have resided here for eight years. I am disappointed in the tentative maps released by the Commission on June 10th as they appear to perpetuate the cannibalization of Riverside County that has been the pattern under previous decades' redistricting through the Legislature.

Riverside County has a population of over 2 million people and is the fastest growing County in the State of California, yet the frame of reference or starting point for the drawing of legislative district boundaries seems to ignore this growth and significant size of the County and appears to start at the Pacific Coast, moving inland to accommodate districts based in populations in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties: once again treating the Inland Counties of Imperial and Riverside as afterthoughts.

Riverside County is diverse and has unique challenges that cannot be met if our Legislative representation is combined with coastal communities. Our population is lower income, suburban and rural, with large communities of retired people. The County is about 50% Latino with small populations of African-Americans and Asians.

A more just and effective starting point for delineating Riverside County districts is the eastern border of the State (the Colorado River) which is also the eastern border of Riverside County. A more in-depth analysis of the populations in the inland portion of California shows the community of interest shared by Imperial County and eastern Riverside County. The climate, the economies and the population demographics of eastern Riverside County (the eastern half of the Coachella Valley) and Imperial County are identical. In addition, these communities are contained within the political boundaries of the Imperial Irrigation District and are part of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) statutory planning area for transportation, housing and air quality. The boundary between Imperial and Riverside County is entirely man-made while the boundaries between Imperial and San Diego on the one-hand and the Coachella Valley and western Riverside County on the other hand are physical, natural mountain ranges that separate populations on either side, preventing economic, social and physical interaction. The boundary between Riverside and Imperial Counties also divides the Salton Sea—an environmental challenge contained in the State's largest inland body of water. The communities around the Sea need to work together to mitigate impending air quality disasters and splitting the legislative representation among six (6) different state and federal legislators will not facilitate the solution need to avoid catastrophe when the Sea begins to dry up in 2017.

The appropriate districts to meet the population targets required by law would create an Assembly District that includes all of Imperial County, the communities of the Palo Verde Valley at the border (Blythe, Palo Verde, Ripley) and the eastern Coachella Valley from Palm Desert east. These communities consist entirely of cities no larger than 80,000, with economies based on tourism, retirement and agriculture. They all accommodate "snow-bird" populations that spend the winters but are not full-time residents. This phenomenon supports hospitality, retail and health-care based local economies.

A second Assembly District would start at the political boundaries separating the city of Rancho Mirage from Palm Desert which is also the boundary between Palm Springs Unified School District and Desert Sands Unified School District, and move west to include the communities of Rancho Mirage, Cathedral City, Thousand Palms, Palm Springs and the Banning/Beaumont Pass area to the northwestern county line. While these communities share a number of characteristics with the eastern valley, their economies are not based on agriculture and emphasize conventions, tourism, retirement and health care to a greater extent. In past years, when the community newspaper was locally owned, one version—the Desert Sun—covered the western portion of the Coachella Valley and the Pass while the Indio Daily News covered the eastern portion of the valley. The valley was only unified by the media with the entry

of national media companies purchasing local outlets.

If these two Assembly Districts are then nested in a single Senate district, the result is a cohesive district with economic, geographic, demographic and social communities of interest. All of the incorporated cities are small (under 100,000) and no single city will dominate. The challenges of job growth, the needs of a Latino plurality community and economies of tourism, agriculture and the infrastructure needs of a fast growing inland region will be well-represented by a single State Senator, resident in the district.

The criteria established to support the Assembly and Senate districts apply as well to the local Congressional district. Combining the population of Imperial (pop. 174,000) with Riverside County justifies three full Congressional districts to represent these two like counties. This allocation is justified by the population size and profile.

I urge you to end the days where Riverside and Imperial Counties are used in the redistricting process to fill-out urban districts centered in San Diego, Orange or Los Angeles Counties. Given the needs, the size of the population of Riverside County and the additional anticipated growth in this region of the State, I ask you to use this region as a primary frame of reference and not an afterthought, subordinate to the needs of coastal California.

Thank you for considering my thoughts,
JoAnn Pepper

Subject: Re-districting Input

From: Ofelia Valdez-Yeager [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 22:59:25 -0700 (PDT)

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

I respectfully request that the Commission reconsider the original Congressional map proposal submitted by residents of the city of Riverside. The three major arguments that were presented are : 1. The March Joint Powers Authority which is made up of Perris, MorenoValley and Riverside which together with Riverside County are seeking to develop the unused area around March Airforce Base into a business and industrial complex which is proposed to bring 38,000 new jobs to our area, 2. Perris, Moreno Valley and Riverside have much more in common than they have with Norco and Eastvale. 3. Riverside, Moreno Valley and Perris share medical facilities,shopping centers, community parks and entertainment venues. Moreno Valley and Perris also share school districts.

Our Congressional map is precise and meets the population guidelines according to the redistricting rules and more importantly our maps demonstrate, and we feel, that our residents will have a better opportunity to elect representative of our choice.

Sincerely,

Ofelia Valdez-Yeager

[REDACTED]
Riverside, CA 92506

Subject: Redistricting-Coachella Valley

From: "Brian Harnik" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 12:28:35 -0700

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

Dear Commissioners:

I am a resident of Palm Desert and have been residing in the Coachella Valley since 1988. I recognize that the re-districting process is often politicized, as there is much at stake for the political parties. I support the initial re-districting maps your commission has presented because it removes the political pressures, and focuses on the common good for the communities. The Coachella Valley is a distinct community and the redistricting as presented reflects its distinction. Please approve it as presented.

Sincerely,

Brian S. Harnik

[REDACTED]
Palm Desert, California 92260

[REDACTED]

Subject: Redistricting in Riverside County

From: "CHARLES DYSON" [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 16:24:28 -0700

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

Gentlemen;

We ask that you not split the Coachella Valley into two districts. The cities of this valley have everything in common with each other and nothing in common with Imperial County. This seems to be a political ploy only and has nothing to do with practicality. The people of this area need to be kept together for the good of the entire valley.

Thank you,

**Charles & Jo Anne Dyson
Indio, CA**

Subject: FW: Redistricting

From: "Denny Davis" [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 16:32:00 -0700

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

I am writing to express my pleasure that we are happy with the preliminary maps for the redistricting of the Coachella Valley that includes Indio. We live in the very west end of Indio (Heritage Palms) and would hate to see our District divided and the east end of the valley become separated.

It seems that at some of the public meetings people like us don't tend to attend as we are happy with what we have read about this subject. Again, we wish to express our favor of the preliminary maps that were drawn up.

Dennis and Nancy Davis

[REDACTED]
Indio, CA 92201-8909

Subject: Connecting Imperial County to the Coachella Valley

From: "Inez Cardozo" [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 08:17:29 -0700

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

CC: [REDACTED], "Amalia Deaztlan" [REDACTED]

To the Redistricting Commission:

It is deeply wrong, even unethical, to separate Imperial County from the Coachella Valley as they truly are one culturally. It is unfair to discourage Latinos from being able to work together to solve the problems in the area which suffers so deeply from poverty and unemployment. The reason given for connecting Imperial County to the San Diego area is a weak one, based on fear of people from Mexico crossing the border into California. It represents the prejudice against people whose ancestors were in this area long before any Anglos ever set foot on North American. Those same fears are now operating against allowing people of the same culture to be together. If the decision is made to separate Coachella Valley from Imperial County, it will be because powerful Anglos fear what is inevitable--the eventual power shift in California from Anglo control to that of Latinos. I urge the Commission to honor Justice in making their final decision.

Inez Cardozo-Freeman, Ph.D.
[REDACTED]

Subject: Citizen Comments on Proposed Perris Congressional District (PRS)

From: Mary Ames [REDACTED]

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 13:21:51 -0700

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Dear Commissioners:

I am pleased to be able to submit the attached comments for your consideration prior to your extended deadline of June 28, 2011.
Thank you for this opportunity.

Mary Ames

CA,CitRedistrictCom,Perris (PRS) Congressional District (2011062517022976).pdf

— Part 1.3 —

Part 1.3

Revisions, Perris (PRS) Congressional District

By Mary Ames, Temecula resident

June 25, 2011

My objective in providing the following map and data is to demonstrate that the Citizens Redistricting Commission's draft boundaries for the new Perris Congressional District, known as PRS, can and should be redrawn to include the entire City of Temecula.

Such a change is essential because, under the draft plan, the southern portion of Temecula (approximately three-fourths of the City's population) would be included in a Congressional district composed mostly of residents of Northern San Diego County who do not share Temecula's interests. The people of Temecula, therefore, would be underrepresented in the U.S. Congress. This is not permissible.

The residents of Temecula form a natural community of interest with the cities and towns to the north on the I-15 corridor, especially Murrieta and Corona whose population density and growth patterns are similar. In addition, we share strong ties and mutual interests with the following neighbors: a) the Pechanga Indians, part of whose reservation and whose well-known casino is within the southern portion of Temecula, b) the wine country just northeast of the city, c) nearby communities, hospitals, and commercial centers along the I-215 corridor, and d) communities along route 79 North (Winchester Road) extending at least to the French Valley Airport.

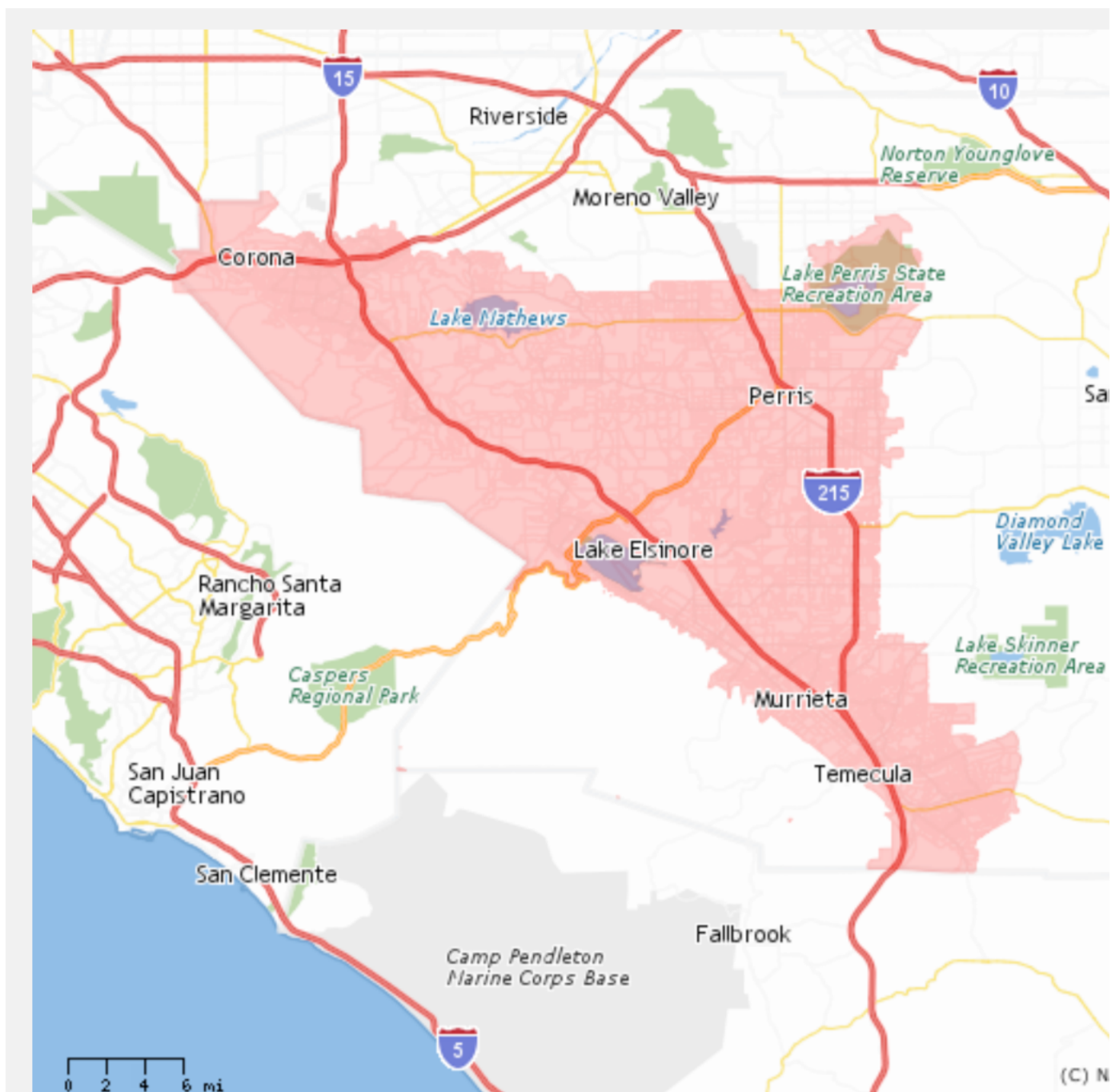
The map and data provided here are not intended to be the best drawing of the Perris Congressional District. They are provided only to demonstrate that such a district can be drawn without causing significant variances in ideal population numbers and without unreasonable effects on the contiguity or interests of surrounding districts. To compensate the draft Northeast San Diego County Congressional district (NESAND) for its loss of Temecula residents, I have assumed that two rural/mountainous areas currently assigned to the Perris district would be reassigned to NESAND. If, however, the Commission prefers to make the boundaries of NESAND more compact, the boundaries of one or more additional districts could be redrawn to achieve the desired effects. These districts include Coachella (COACH) to the east, Imperial Country/San Diego (IMSAND) to the southeast, and South Orange County (SOUTHOC) to the west of the new Perris district.

It is clear, from an examination of the boundaries of the proposed California Senate and Assembly Districts, that the Commission knows and appreciates the solidarity of Temecula, its ties with similar communities in the Temecula Valley to the north, and its dissimilarities from rural, northeastern San Diego County. I am confident that the Commission will find a brilliant way to include the entire City of Temecula in the new Perris Congressional district.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this concept.

Conceptual Map (6/25/11) Perris Congressional District (PRS)

The large, shaded, triangular area on the map below depicts a Perris (PRS) Congressional District that would add (to the Commission's draft district) the entire population of the City of Temecula and would remove an equivalent number of people who live in the rural/mountainous areas southwest and east of the redrawn district. This map is not intended to be exact or ideal. It is intended only to demonstrate that such a redistribution can be easily accomplished within the Commission's guidelines in order to better meet its mandate.



Data Comparing Redrawn Perris Congressional District (PRS) with Commission's Original District

Total Population	705,849
Ideal	702,905
Variance	0.42%
Original District	702,906

Citizen Voting Age Population

26.23% Hispanic or Latino

6.84% Asian

1.26% American Indian/Alaska Native

6.55% Black or African American

0.35% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Alone

58.39% White Alone

0.38% Two or More Races

Universe: Citizen Population 18 Years of Age or Older
 Datasource: Statewide Database at the University of
 California Berkeley
 Data Year: 2010
 Data Level: Census Block

	Redrawn District (PRS)	Original District
Hispanic or Latino Citizen Voting Age Population	26.23% 98,560	26.70% 98,714
Asian	6.84% 25,724	6.70% 24,761
American Indian/Alaska Native	1.26% 4,724	1.26% 4,655
Black or African American	6.55% 24,607	6.47% 23,909
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino, Citizen Voting Age Population	0.35% 1,331	0.32% 1,200
White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino, Citizen Voting Age Population	58.39% 219,434	58.17% 215,018
Citizen Voting Age Population Belonging to the Remainder of Two or More Races, Not Hispanic or Latino	0.38% 1,440	0.38% 1,397

Ethnicity / Race

40.41% Hispanic or Latino

43.44% White alone

5.48% Black or African American alone

7.41% Asian

0.56% Some Other Race

2.69% Two or More Races

Universe: Total Population

Datasource: U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census

Data Year: 2010

Data Level: Census Block

Original District = Blue line

	Redrawn District (PRS)	Original District
Hispanic or Latino	40.41% 285,224	41.17% 289,411
White alone	43.44% 306,588	43.13% 303,156
Black or African American alone	5.48% 38,704	5.42% 38,083
Asian	7.41% 52,336	7.10% 49,884
Some Other Race	0.56% 3,987	0.56% 3,969
Two or More Races	2.69% 19,010	2.62% 18,403

Conclusion

I believe the Commission is obliged to take action to prevent the dilution of the voting power of the citizens of Temecula who have suffered for too long already by being part of a predominantly Northern San Diego County Congressional District. Commission action along the lines of the foregoing proposal will ensure the best representation possible for all population groups involved. I look forward to seeing how the Commission resolves this matter.

Thank you for all your good work.

Subject: Concern about redistricting

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 02:25:02 -0400 (EDT)

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a past candidate for Congress in the 45th District of California and the 36th State Senate District. As such, I traveled extensively across these Districts and feel uniquely qualified to offer an opinion on the several districts proposed for Riverside County.

I have little criticism of the Congressional District proposed for the Murrieta area.

As far as the Assembly District that includes Murrieta and Temecula, it seems the characteristic "U" shape of the district is inherently faulted. There is a huge swath of vacant land between Murrieta/Temecula/Lake Elsinore and Corona/Riverside to the north, effectively dividing the population of this proposed district as it now stands. The communities of Menifee and Perris are more aptly suited to being combined with Murrieta, Temecula and Lake Elsinore, as all located together in the Southwest corner of the county. There is much traffic among commuters across the areas, and school districts are tightly intermingled. In fact, the newly proposed Congressional District for this area more accurately reflects the realities of this area. My proposal for this area would be to include Menifee/Perris with Murrieta/Temecula, and move those extreme northern parts of the proposed district with the other two Assembly Districts to the north.

The proposed Senate District for Murrieta/Temecula is completely inappropriate. The district largely mirrors the old 45th Congressional District, and I am completely qualified to comment on this proposed district's faults.

First, the District is bisected by one of the most substantial mountain ranges in Southern California. This barrier is more than physical, it divides the region psychologically.

Second, the two populated regions of the district, Southwest and the Desert, are separated by 75 road-miles. There is very little direct communication between these two areas.

Third, Eastern Riverside County has to be placed somewhere. The composition of the population, geographic integration, and other similarities suggests that both Imperial County and the Eastern Riverside County areas should share a common Senate District, whereas the Southwest Region has much more in common with the proposed Assembly Districts to the north, and is physically much closer. In fact, to drive between the two populated areas of this proposed district, a person would have to drive through two other proposed Senate Districts. This does not make any sense.

I hope my comments are sufficiently clear, explicative, concise and convincing.

Sincerely,

Paul Clay

Subject: Coachella Valley Draft Map

From: Chuck Brady [REDACTED] >

Date: Sun, 26 Jun 2011 12:33:58 -0700

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

The way it has been presented looks quite logical. The Democrats here in the valley want to begin gerrymandering it by including the Imperial Valley. Leave it the way the draft is!

Chuck & Diane Brady
Desert Hot Springs

Subject: (R)egistered: Coachella Valley re-districting
From: "Carole Krechman" <[REDACTED]>
Date: 26 Jun 2011 12:26:51 -0700
To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>



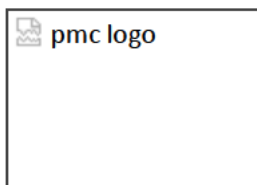
This is a Registered E-mail[®] message from **Carole Krechman**.

Dear Commission,


I have been the fund raiser for many elections here in the Coachella Valley since I moved here 7 years ago. Long before I moved here to live I had an Ice Skating rink business called the Ice Capapes Chalets in the Palm Desert mall. What would make the most sense for new boundaries for our Congressional district is to put the eastern Coachella Valley and Imperial County together and join the CA 45th. For more than 20 years, Imperial and the Coachella Valley and Palo Verde Valley have been in the same Senate and Assembly district—Congress should follow the same pattern in my opinion which would help address issues at the Salton Sea, among other important challenges we face in California's southern desert region. The like and kind minds of these areas belong together.

Thank you for your consideration,
Carole

Carole Sumner Krechman
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Dear Chairman Yao and members of the redistricting commission:

My name is Kathleen DeRosa. I am the Mayor of Cathedral City, chair of the Palm Springs Convention and Visitors Authority, immediate past chair of the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership (CVEP), a board member of the Riverside County Division of the League of California Cities and a member of the executive committee of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG).

I had the distinct honor and pleasure of addressing you during the public hearing held in Palm Springs some time ago. I am writing to thank you for hearing my plea to keep the Coachella Valley from the Banning Pass to the Arizona border intact. Keeping these communities of interest intact will have significant positive impact on the economic future of our valley. As I stated during the hearing there is no commonality between the Coachella Valley Association of Governments and the Imperial County Council of Governments. When Imperial County chose to look at an economic development strategy, they chose to team up with San Diego and the San Diego Economic Development organization and not the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership. One of the significant drivers of the economy here is the Coachella Valley is tourism, hence it is critical to keep our community intact.

Several Coachella Valley and the Banning Pass cities of Banning and Beaumont are in the final stage of finalizing an emergency communication system (ERICA) that will link public safety in this entire area. The Palo Verde Valley, Blythe, is also a significant partner in CVAG.

Please allow me to reaffirm that the first draft of the new map is indeed fair and equitable to all involved and will serve the citizens of the area best.

Thank you for your time and thank you for who you are and your service on this very important commission.

Respectfully,

Kathleen DeRosa

Mayor, Cathedral City

Kathleen DeRosa
Mayor, Cathedral City
Where Life is Good

June 26, 2011

To: **The California Citizens Redistricting Commission**
From: Ira L. Robinson

I am a resident of Temecula, a recently retired attorney and a former elected official (in Alexandria, VA, 1970-1973). I have lived in California since 1973. I am also a recently elected delegate from the 66th Assembly District to the California Democratic Party and its 2011 and 2012 state conventions. I submitted my initial suggestions for redistricting on May 22, 2011.

In connection with the Commission's first draft of proposed Congressional district maps, I would suggest the below changes to the Perris, Northeast San Diego, and possibly the Imperial - San Diego, districts.

My proposals for change are intended to get all of the City of Temecula and the Pechanga Indian Reservation (including the casino, golf course and other land) into the Perris Congressional district. In that connection, it should be noted that if the Perris district remains as contemplated by the first draft, the complete dominance of San Diego County in the district will effectively render Temecula disenfranchised and without any chance for effective representation in the Congress.

I believe the goal of getting Temecula and probably Pechanga into the Perris district can be accomplished by relying on the following language regarding "EQUAL POPULATION", which appears on the Commission's website under "ReDrawCA.Org"/"redistricting basics":

"ACCORDING TO THE CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION, THE CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC) MUST DRAW MAPS THAT FOLLOW THESE CRITERIA IN THIS ORDER OF PRIORITY:

"1. EQUAL POPULATION (FOLLOWING THE "ONE PERSON, ON VOTE" PRINCIPLE)."

*"One person one vote is one of the key tenets of redistricting. Ensuring that all districts have equal or very close to equal population ensures that every person's voting power is equal. An example of unequal voting power would be if District A and District B each elect one representative, but District A has 50,000 people in it while District B has 100,000 people in it, you could say that the people in District A have twice the voting power of the people in District B. Making districts have the same population **(plus or minus 10%)** works against this level of disparity." (Emphasis added)*

Given the permitted variance of up to 10%, it should be possible to include all of Temecula and the Pechanga area in the Perris district by increasing the population of that district by

not more than 10% over the ideal population of 702,905, and reassigning portions of the district which lie immediately South of the Temecula city limits and East of the enlarged district to the Northeast San Diego district. While these actions would result in a more populous Perris district and a somewhat less populous Northeast San Diego district, it is not at all likely that either district would complain – primarily because of the almost complete absence of any serious community of interest considerations between the districts.

As an alternative approach, it appears that the area which lies immediately South of the Temecula city limits and East of the enlarged Perris district could be assigned to the Imperial - San Diego district, with portions of that district being shifted to the Northeast San Diego district.

In any event, I believe that following the above approach would likely result in districts of permissibly disparate sizes while protecting Temecula's right to effective representation and leaving Temecula in an electoral community with which it has much in common.

Thanks for your consideration.

Ira L. Robinson
Temecula, CA

