

**Subject:** Redistricting of Indio, CA

**From:** "Gary D." <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** 7/24/2011 7:14 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

July 25, 2011

To: The Hon. Commissioners of the California Redistricting Committee

Dear Commissioners:

My wife and I are residents of the community of Sun City Shadow Hills in the City of Indio in eastern Riverside County. My neighbors and we, who live in our large master-planned development, are very involved in local and State politics and have been monitoring the work of the Commission very carefully. During the past several weeks we have become very concerned about the Commission's actions in attempting to split the cities of the Coachella Valley into two separate districts. The initial Assembly map produced by the Commission was correct in drawing all cities in the greater Coachella Valley into one district.

We are particularly concerned with the recent work of the Commission in which the cities of Indio, parts of Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs and Coachella would be drawn into a district with Imperial County. We respectfully submit that residents of the City of Indio, and specifically Sun City Shadow Hills, have nothing in common with the communities of Imperial County. Further, the characterization of the City of Indio as an agriculture town is completely inaccurate. Residents in my community moved to Sun City Shadow Hills to purchase upscale homes surrounded by golf courses and numerous other amenities. Indio is the largest city in the Coachella Valley, with a population well over 70,000, and as such is a vibrant and growing community. Our city needs to be drawn into one district with our neighboring cities with which we already partner on transportation projects and numerous other economic development issues.

We are further alarmed by recent news of the past week that one of your members appears to have a political conflict of interest, and that this Commissioner has been pushing the division of the Coachella Valley's Assembly map during the past several weeks behind the scenes. The work of the Commission is supposed to be non-partisan and not be drawn under political lines. It appears the latest generation of the Assembly map is drawn completely by political lines due to the undue influence of this one Commissioner - who has been asked to step-down from his position.

As residents of the City of Indio, and the community of Sun City Shadow Hills, we respectfully ask that the Commission return to its initial map for the Coachella Valley's Assembly district. That map properly incorporated all cities in the Coachella Valley into one district. This is the proper non-partisan decision to make.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our comments and your service to the citizens of the State of California.

Sincerely,

/s/

Gary A. and Sue D. Ditch

[REDACTED]

Indio, CA 92203