MR. LYNN: If I can have your attention, please. We are going to, and again, I apologize for the cramped quarters. Obviously there is no way for us to know exactly how many people from this part of the state were going show up. However, given the condition of the map, we might have had a thought about a football stadium somewhere.

Before we actually call the meeting to order, let me just make a couple of preparatory remarks. First of all, again, we apologize for the cramped quarters. We will do everything we can to move the meeting along so that those of you who are here will have an opportunity not only to participate but to all be heard in any fashion you wish. We will stay here as long as it takes to get everybody, even if we're having breakfast together tomorrow. That's perfectly fine.

The second thing that I would ask you is we will begin our presentation which almost always begins with a power point presentation as to where we are in the process. This is a very short power point presentation, so we ask your indulgence for that. And as they are getting set up with the other sound system, we will just try to use this one for the time being so that we can get started.
So, with that said, let me officially call the meeting of the Independent Redistricting Commission to order, and let the record show that a quorum is present. Three members of the Commission, Mr. Hall, Mr. Elder, Chairman Lynn are all present. The consultants are represented. Legal counsel is here and staff.

The first order of business this evening is a brief presentation as to where we are now and where we need to get to go. And let me get out of the way so I'm not obstructing anybody's view.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Excuse me, sir, would you introduce your staff, please?

MR. LYNN: Excellent. My name is Steve Lynn. I'm the Chairman of the Independent Redistricting Commission. This is Dan Elder, a member of the Commission. Joshua Hall, a member of the Commission. There are three Commissioners here with you this evening. That constitutes a majority and a quorum.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Sir, where do you all live?

MR. LYNN: I would be happy to tell you. Mr. Elder resides in Tucson. Mr. Hall resides in St. Johns, Arizona, and I reside in Tucson as well. Okay?
It's been a long time since Tucson got a murmur out of
the crowd.

This is one of a second round of public
hearings being held by the Commission in many parts of
the state, and we would like to begin with this brief
power point.

The purpose of the hearings is to obtain
your opinions on the draft plans that we have
developed. We will be showing you samples of the
districts we've drawn and explaining why they were
drawn.

There are also wall maps that you can
examine back in the back. Obviously you can't see them
now because there are folks in front of them. There
also were citizen kits, and I know that we didn't have
enough for everyone that may have wanted them. But if
you will contact staff this evening, we will make sure
that we mail them to you so that you have those
available. And believe me, it's not too late to use
them.

Please remember the district maps that we
are showing you tonight, both legislative and
congressional districts, are drafts. I want to say
that very clearly.

I also want to say on the record that
there's a sense of the Commission that the legislative
map, portion of the map that deals with Cochise County,
believe me, is not done.

(Applause.)

MR. LYNN: No one on the Commission
believes that that portion --

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: You mean it's
going to get worse?

MR. LYNN: With your help, hopefully it
will get a lot better, believe me.

Nobody on the Commission believes that
that portion of the state is complete or correct and
that we have work to do and your job hopefully is to
help us do that work in a meaningful way. Paul, if you
would, please. So we welcome citizen comments on the
drafts that we have. Next slide, please.

Proposition 106 was passed by the voters
last year by a substantial majority to establish this
Commission and to provide a new kind of citizen
conducting redistricting that would follow very
explicit criteria for drawing lines.

Now, as you may know, the last several
times that lines have been drawn, they've been drawn in
a single room in Phoenix with very few people
participating. This kind of meeting was never
contemplated, nor would it ever have happened in a
prior redistricting process. Next slide.

There are several criteria, and here are
the rules. The first two, rules A and B, are federal
requirements. It's important to note that Arizona does
come under the Voting Rights Act, which requires fair
representation for minorities before the final
districts can go into effect. We will be submitting
them to the Department of Justice for preclearance.

Another crucially important federal
requirement now written into the law by Proposition 106
is that the districts must be as nearly equal in
population as practicable.

Rule C, D, and E establish other criteria
that we must follow. Compactness, contiguity, respect
for communities of interest, visible geographic
features, cities, towns, county boundaries, and
undivided census tracts. This is called balancing the
system while you're using it. It will take a moment.

The last of these new rules, rule F,
requires us to try to make competitive districts. That
is to say, once we've addressed all the other criteria,
we need to adjust the districts to be more competitive
so long as that involves no significant detriment to
the other goals that we're trying to achieve.
Proposition 106 required the Commission to begin by designing a grid. You all remember the grid. Some people liked it. Some people didn't. But that was understandable because that grid was pretty random in terms of its design and its construction of districts.

We decided that we would use townships, which are 6-mile squares as a building block, but combine those with whole census tracts to provide for equal population. Paul.

So these are the Grids. To help us adjust the grids, the Commission held 24 public hearings around the state. We invited citizens to complete input forms, to write us, to use our website, to communicate with us in a variety of ways.

Summaries of the vast amount of citizen input have made it clear the Arizonans have a firm belief in respecting communities of interest and respecting boundaries of cities, towns, counties, and local governments. It was clear that these should be our guiding principles. Next. And I think you're one behind me.

So we heard from an awful lot of people about these communities of interest, and there were three major communities identified throughout the
state. First, Native-Americans. Second, Hispanic communities of interest. And third was a clear distinction between urban and rural communities of interest.

Citizen input helped us also identify AURs or Arizona Units of Representation. These are the communities citizens identified as specifically important to their own regions or areas of the state. Next.

Now, we will be showing maps of the adjusted districts in a moment, but here it's worthwhile to emphasize the differences between these draft maps, even in the form that they are currently in and the existing districts that we have been living with for some time.

Our draft congressional districts split less than half the number of cities and towns split by the existing districts. Our legislative draft districts split no more than a third of the cities and towns that the existing districts split. And these are the numbers. Next slide.

Much the same is true of counties as well. Even though our draft plan has to draw lines for 8 congressional districts as opposed to the current 6, we split only one more county than the existing 6
districts. The draft legislative map splits 4 fewer counties than the existing districts. Next slide.

Perhaps most important, the draft plans respect communities of interest. The major communities that we mentioned earlier are well-respected in both the congressional and legislative drafts. The drafts also pay close attention to the communities of interest identified by the citizens through their Arizona Units of Representation. Next slide.

Now, Proposition 106 did not allow the Commission to consider competitiveness of districts earlier than this point in the process. Under Proposition 106, competition should be favored where there is no substantial detriment to the other goals that we listed before. The work on analyzing competitiveness is in its early stages and will be considered more fully during this phase of the process. We will be adjusting not only for the kinds of issues that you all are here tonight to represent, but we will also be adjusting districts for competitiveness as we can throughout the rest of the process.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: What's competitiveness?

MR. LYNN: We will define that as we go. We will define it later as in terms of the process.
Now, it's time to show you some of the draft plans beginning with Arizona's 8 congressional districts. And what I've said to people is we're not drawing 2 new districts. We're drawing 8 new districts. The fact that some of these districts look like the old districts has more to do with how we arrived at defining the 8 than trying to preserve anything that looks like it was an old district. But as you can see, these 8 districts represent a new way of looking at the state in terms of a congressional map.

Now, we've lettered the districts for the purposes of this process rather than numbering them. We've done that on purpose because it's very confusing for people to talk about old District 5 or old District 2 when there's a different number on these districts. These districts ultimately will be numbered, but they will only be numbered once they have been approved and they are finalized, not now, not at this stage of the process. It's another sure sign that these are works in progress and not finished maps.

So let's take a closer look at Maricopa County, Phoenix area and this is how that draft congressional map impacts on Phoenix area. And again, these are in your citizen kits. This is how that draft
congressional map impacts the Tucson area and radiates from both of those centers of population.

Now, let's turn to your favorite subject for the evening, the legislative district map. There are 30 districts. The number has not changed. We are redistricting all 30 districts. And here's an outline of the map. All of the districts again are lettered, but they're lettered from north to south just for the purposes of getting through this portion of the process. Paul, next slide.

This is the legislative -- this was.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Your mic.

MR. LYNN: Back again? Testing 1, 2.

Okay. This is the way the legislative draft map impacts Phoenix. This map suggests the complexity of the task that we are facing because of the number of districts in the Phoenix area based on their 63 percent of the population. Significant number of districts have to be drawn in and around that area. Because of the requirement for nearly equal population, a change to one of those districts affects neighboring districts creating a ripple effect that goes throughout the state.

Here's the same picture for Tucson, how the current draft looks in the Tucson area. We've
already had one hearing in Tucson. Clearly this draft
is going to be changing based on the input from that
hearing.

Okay. Our hope is that you will take the
opportunity this evening to let us know your opinion,
whether favorable or negative, whether in general terms
or in detail. If you wish to testify, please fill out
a speaker slip. If you have not done so, staff will
make a speaker slip available to you, and we will
collect those periodically throughout the evening.

To assure that everyone has a chance, I
would like to ask that presentations for a first round
of speaking be held to about 3 minutes. Now, that is
not to cut anyone off, and if we get through the list
of people who wish to speak and you have spoken for 3
minutes and require additional time, we would be more
than happy to go back to you and give you that
opportunity. As I said before, we will be here as long
as you would want us to be.

We're also circulating a number of forms
tonight, and again, if you've not picked up a citizens
kit, please ask and we will be happy to give you one.
We will take your name and make sure you get one.

There are also forms on the process, and
you can fill those out tonight and give us your input
or you can choose to send that in at a later date. It doesn't matter which you do. They will all be taken into consideration, and the Commission will not be making final determinations on these maps until October. So you have the entire -- the rest of this month, which is only the rest of this week, and then the entire month of September to get input to us.

Now, we are pleased to hear from you in any way you wish to address us. Again, whether you choose the website or e-mail, regular mail or through one or more of these meetings.

Redistricting will determine the kind of representation we will have in the state for the rest of this decade. It is worthy of all of the effort, energy, and goodwill that we can give it. We appreciate your interest and your participation in Arizona's first citizen-conducted redistricting.

So that's our presentation. We would now like to hear from members of the public. There are several representatives of local government who are here this evening, and they have asked to begin the presentation, and I would like to again say this most sincerely and most clearly on the record.

First and foremost, you need to know that this Commission, all of us, understand that this
portion of the state's legislative map is not correct, is not complete, and will change. Please understand that we know that. You don't need to convince us of that tonight. We get it.

What is more important, however, is you need to help us understand how it should change. And so as presentations are made, one of the things we may do is simply ask by a show of hands or in some other way how many of you believe this is a better plan. How many of you support this way of doing it. So that we can get a sense of how you feel about the changes that need to be made.

Again, I will say it one more time so that there's no ambiguity. You don't need to convince us it needs to change. We understand that. We simply want to have your best thoughts as to how to make it better for the people in the southeastern corner of the state.

So with that, we will open the public hearing portion of the evening. And I would like to ask Commissioner Elder to conduct that portion of the public hearing. If you would, when you're called to speak, if you would come to the microphone in the center of the room so that everyone can hear your comments, and again, we don't have a firm stop watch but we would appreciate it if those who wish to speak
would keep their initial remarks to 3 minutes. We will then return to you.

We'll also as we go through the list ask any of you have had your point made earlier and simply wish to echo something that has already been said, you may do so without taking up the full 3 minutes of your time, but it's your choice. Either way we're here to listen.

MR. ELDER: Thank you, Chairman Lynn. I would like to add one more aspect to that. As you're going through the process of making presentations, if you're recommending changes in a particular manner or a particular area, if you see areas that we can use to compensate, in other words, you're saying, well, take this out, by virtue, if we have to take an area out, that means we also have to take an area in to get the equal population or get the demographics back. So if you could help us to see what those trades are, what the issues our in your community would be helpful.

The first speaker is Leslie Thompson.

MR. THOMPSON: Good evening and welcome to Cochise County. I am Les Thompson, Cochise County Board of Supervisor Chairman. And I would like to compliment the board on how to fill a room. Send out a map like you did and we guarantee it's going to be
We were so glad to see that you put the initiative measure up because it's very important to us that it's followed. The map that we received certainly didn't fit that criteria and now we understand why.

As Cochise County Supervisor, I have to tell you that the primary goal for me is today the same as it was the last time you were here, and that is keeping the entire of Cochise County in a single district.

(Applause.)

MR. THOMPSON: We are hopeful that that will be the outcome of it all.

The reason now that we have to go out is we're 120,000 population and we recognize that we've got to have another 50,000 or 55,000 population. Now, the direction that you go from there is suggestion. We have 3 or 4 maps that we have agreed to present to you tonight. Three of them are on the wall here.

The primary reason that we're looking toward this map in here as far as this supervisor is concerned is the fact that we are a very rural county. We are very heavily dependent on mining. We're dependent on ranching and agriculture. Our environmental issues are very close to the same as they...
are in Graham and Greenlee and eastern Pinal Counties.

We serve with these folks continuously.

Right now in Graham County, we are actually providing,
our health department is providing indigent health
coverage in Graham County right now.

Some of the other issues that we're
dealing with in like issues is, you know, water runoff.
We deal constantly with flooding issues from north of
us, and we're dealing with Graham and Greenlee County
continuously on these.

So with our comments that have been
presented, and when we seen the map, we draft a
resolution out, position to the map. We, therefore,
asked every city, and you will hear from a lot of the
city representatives here tonight, that they are in
opposition to the map and is requesting very strongly
that Cochise County be kept as a whole.

We also have letters from citizens groups
that I will present you, and also we have, you know, a
lot of fire districts that have sent us letters of
support. And you will be getting more of them.

So with that, I know I've gone over my 3
minutes, but again, as I started, please keep Cochise
County as a solid unit, and if we have time, I will
finish my comments at a later time.
Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. The next speaker is Paul Newman. He will be followed by Tom Hessler.

MR. NEWMAN: Good evening, everyone.

MR. LYNN: Mr. Newman?

MR. NEWMAN: Sure.

MR. LYNN: If we could for just a moment, and I apologize for this.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Mr. Newman be able to answer this.

MR. LYNN: All right. One of the things that we would like to ask is when you are there speaking, once you've made your comments, whatever those comments are, if you would remain at the podium to see if there are any comments or questions from the panel that we could ask to get more detailed information. It may be that you can answer a question that may have been directed at Mr. Thompson. If not, we will ask him to return.

But as you make your comments, if you would stay at the podium so that we could, if necessary, engage you in conversation.

MR. NEWMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Ladies and Gentlemen. Welcome, Mr. Elder, Mr. Hall, welcome to Sierra Vista.

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A lot of you recognize my face. I'm the Cochise County Supervisor from District 2. I used to be the state representative for three terms representing District 8 in the legislature from Nogales to Morenci.

So I'm familiar with the alliances that we have with Cochise and Graham and Greenlee Counties. And they are real. They are real community of interests. But when we had a work session this afternoon, the board had a work session to try to work around three -- five maps actually, we selected two scenarios to present to you. And one of them was the one that Mr. Thompson just presented to you, an alliance with Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee Counties. And that would be part of C, but there are reasons for doing that. I don't say that's not true at all because it is true.

However, I come from a perspective and the county board had a strong resolution against District W, which is the very bad district that goes from Cochise all the way to Fountain Hills. We need to do something different. And I was actually in a leadership training this last couple of days in The University of Arizona, and I happened to be in that training with some of the Santa Cruz supervisors. And
just they know that Cochise County is broken here, the legislative map is out of whack.

We also share a lot in common with Santa Cruz County. They have been our partners just like Graham and Greenlee has. We share a lot of common work issues, and that is what the two scenarios that I was going to present to you tonight, other ideas, and a lot of people support that, support that in the crowd, although, there is mixed feelings. Some people want one or the other.

But if I may present the two scenarios that are up on the board. I will go to scenario five first. In fact, this is the map that I -- scenario five is right there. It says attention southeastern Arizona legislative district scenario five. This is a border district. It shares a lot of communities of interest not only at Greenlee but with the common border problems at the ports in Douglas, in Naco, in Nogales, and some of the ports over in Sells area on the O'Odham reservation.

It is a district that shares a lot in common. I know. I mean, Nogales and Cochise County merely share common borders. We share the common problems of trying to get compensation from the federal and state government for immigration problems.
Ethnically we fit in. We're friends. The merchant communities would like to be in alliance. When I mentioned leadership training before because it was just an interesting indication of what the public thought. Eighty people from all over the state were picked for a select group to get trained at The U of A. When we showed them what District W looked like, they said, not one person in the room said that that moral or just. We had a whole philosophical rating on this. Four people for that matter.

And what this map would do, scenario five, it would make it moral and legal, and it would protect minority voting rights because that's what this map does. It would swallow Cochise County but for a portion of the fort, and I will explain that later. Not all of Santa Cruz County because Santa Cruz County supervisors and other people in the community have expressed a desire to be part of more northern flow with Pima County.

So this scenario five includes only the Nogales portions of Santa Cruz County. It goes over onto the O'Odham Nation all the way out. It's a beautiful district extending to the Chiricahuas to the Huachucas over to Baboquivari. And if you don't think that we're related, somebody should go out to

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Montezulas Point some time at the end of Coronado Pass because you just -- when you look out on the ridge, there area is Baboquivari. We are all here on the same place. We share the same border with the same problems, and it would be majority/minority district protecting people's rights.

If I may go to the other scenario. It's going to be impossible to see if this is too low. It's down here.

MR. ELDER: Mr. Newman, if you would go ahead and describe, you know, what it is so that A, it gets onto the record and as well as the people that can't see the map even raised up at least will have a better idea.

MR. NEWMAN: Just one last point about scenario five before I go onto scenario four. I did make mention that a couple places near Fort Huachuca may be on the other side of the forest fire in Green Valley and the Tucson district up there. The reason why that's there, that's conceptual. I know that there's a sort of opinion about this, but it's there -- I'm presenting it to the Commission conceptually that some people think that they would like to be some parts of Sierra Vista in that district.

I don't necessarily have that feeling but
it exists, and that's the reason why that notch goes in there. I did want to explain that to you.

Now, in terms of the other scenario, it's scenario four, as you can see. And it does do the goal that all of in this room want is to keep Cochise County intact. It takes all of Santa Cruz County, and the main proper area of the O'Odham reservation.

It does not take, as scenario five does, more areas of Tucson. Scenario five over there -- I'm sorry, I'm going over to the other map, takes in some portions of what would be the Yaqui Nation. But this map doesn't. If you get all the population of Santa Cruz County in line with Cochise County, we draw a very beautiful, more beautiful map, but it's only because the Santa Cruz County desire to remain separate one district in another place that I'm not necessarily supporting it. I think it's a good concept, and I think that we need to explore that tomorrow night in Nogales when you have it here.

But those are the two scenarios. And basically the reason why we have different maps is the board couldn't come to a consensus on what it thought, but we thought we would present the concepts to the community.

Thank you.
SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Supervisor Newman, you essentially did answer the question that we had had of the previous speaker about the configurations of these districts and the reasons for them. But we had a follow-up question, and that is: In preparing these three maps, did the county prepare the demographics that go with them?

MR. NEWMAN: Yes, we did, and I can present them to you right now.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Terrific.

MR. NEWMAN: Would you like me to give scenario two, scenario four, and scenario five? I can gave you --

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Sure. Do you have also printouts of that information?

MR. NEWMAN: I have printouts.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: We will take those, if that's fine.

MR. NEWMAN: You haven't seen the other scenarios. It's only two, four, and five I'm involved with.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Okay. Okay.

MR. NEWMAN: Thank you.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Mr. Newman, am I safe in assuming based upon the maps that you
presented that your desire is to maintain a completely rural nature?

MR. NEWMAN: Yes. And it would be more so in scenario four than in scenario five. But Santa Cruz County and Cochise County are neighbors, and beautiful neighbors. You put a line between the two places, they're of a different size and shape and lot if you go down the highway over there. And they're very beautiful special places. The San Miguel Valley meets in Fort Huachuca. There's no real separation that you've got there. If you look at it, it's five down, we are one meet, San Miguel Valley just comes into San Pedro Valley and then, you know, that's where we are. It's our source. And San Miguel Valley, you know, the map -- the head water is the Santa Cruz River. So we share two head waters in that beautiful district.

It would be a beautiful district to represent. But also I just want to mention the O'Odham, the tribal chairman of the nation are being approached. I don't know what they think yet. I've not talked to the chairman, but I did speak in terms of scenario five, I did speak with the Yaquis vice chairman when I was in Tucson, and basically we will proceed talking, and I think it might help if you saw it, I don't know. It could throw another can of worms
But what I am really asking is the line between Cochise and Santa Cruz and I think the O'Odham gives it a very unique ethnic mix, and that's a community of interest.

MR. ELDER: Thank you.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Supervisor Newman, I have --

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Excuse me, but I think Mr. Thompson wants to get some more time.

MR. ELDER: He will.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: I mean now right after Mr. Newman.

MR. NEWMAN: It's true, some people confuse me with my counterpart. He used to be a state legislator and I've been supervisor. We share common paths.

MR. ELDER: Ms. Leoni.

MS. LEONI: Thank you, Commissioner Elder. Supervisor Newman, could you just briefly explain one more time why you left some Fort Huachuca precincts in the southern portion with Pima?

MR. NEWMAN: Well, this has to do with the previous legislature and also what I heard were maybe some feelings in the community in Sierra Vista. It
worked well sometimes to have members of both major parties representing this area. I know there is a theory and it strikes me but it's there because of that. There is a theory that you get, you know, two bites of the apple if you have, you know, powerful people asking from both sides.

And that's the reason why Santa Cruz would perhaps prefer scenario five over four because they would have that powerful representation.

MS. LEONI: That's what I wanted to know.

Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Tom Hessler.

MR. HESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Commissioners, and your staff. I'm Tom Hessler, the mayor of Sierra Vista, and I welcome you to our fair city.

I'm going to keep this very short because other ways of reaching you that perhaps other people may not have. So I'm going to make it very, very short.

To give you some facts. The city council and I fully supports the Cochise County Board of Supervisors in resolution and opposition to the latest map, and I assume you have a copy of that.

We also passed a resolution that
corresponds to the county. I was going to read some
excerpts from it, but I will not. I will just provide
copies for the records.

I don't want to argue the way that
District 1 goes through the state outside of Cochise
County. I think the arguments obviously will be
addressed I'm sure by others. I only state that the
shape of that district is the shape of an any of town
we want to annex, we wouldn't be allowed to do it
because of the annexation laws.

I would like to concentrate just a couple
comments if I could on the desire to keep Sierra Vista
in its entirety, which includes Fort Huachuca, in the
same district as the rest of Cochise County.

(Applause.)

MR. HESSLER: I would like to give you
some comments that you might consider. One, Sierra
Vista has much more in common with Cochise County than
with its neighbors to the west, to include Tucson. The
county is a community of common interest.

Two, Sierra Vista, together with Fort
Huachuca, which is incorporated in the city, is the
social center, commercial of economic driver, and work
force center of Cochise County.

Three, Sierra Vista has a longstanding
informal relationship with all of the incorporated
towns of Cochise County as well as the county
government.

Four, Sierra Vista has an extended array
of various inter governmental agreements with many of
these same entities. We have little in common with
Tucson and no IDAs or other political ties with them
except common membership, of course, in the native
Arizona cities and towns.

As the districts are now proposed, all
Sierra Vista expansion through annexation will result
in these new areas in part of a different district.
This is very devicive to our new growth, and I know of
no other city that would be so isolated.

Huachuca City, although it's separately
incorporated, is an integral part of Sierra Vista
sphere of influence, which should be in the same
district. County enclaves that are run by Sierra Vista
are essentially part of Sierra Vista and should be in
the same district regardless of the final
redistricting.

Nine, elected officials throughout the
county and Sierra Vista wish to keep Sierra Vista in
full association with the rest of Cochise County.

And lastly, ten, the proposed district of
Cochise County obviously violates the concept of grid-like districts. I would like my comments and the city resolution be made part of the Commission today, and the bottom line is put Sierra Vista back into Cochise County where we belong.

Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Any questions. Mayor Dan Beshaw.

MR. BESHAW: I'm going to change the spelling of my name. There's no way you could know that. Thank you. I'm the mayor of Bisbee, Arizona, and I'm going to keep this real brief.

Cochise County has to be kept intact.

(Applause.)

Sierra Vista must stay in Cochise County. I agree with everything Mayor Hessler just got through saying. It should be part of our plan.

I heard Supervisor Newman discuss two alternatives for capturing the additional population that you folks need to take into account. One would extend to Nogales. The other would move northward.

Neither one of them would cause me to wake up in the middle of the night and to break out into sweat. I personally would -- we are a very rural county with much identification with Greenlee, and we
understand that.

At the same time, Bisbee is a border community. We have a host of problems that we share with Douglas and with Sierra Vista with undocumented aliens, and that is a community of interest of sort that's not on your criteria but represents a major challenge to us.

As Mayor Hessler said, a county is a community of interest, particularly in a rural part of the state. I've only lived in Bisbee for 5 years, but I've learned one thing in that short period of time. When you're all alone in a rural town in this state, you got to work very hard to be heard.

And I think that if you keep us intact and you spread it either one of these directions, then I lean toward the border direction. I think most of the people in my community would support that, but either one is far more preferable.

And I thank you for coming here tonight.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. Mr. Pat Call.

MR. CALL: Thank you. Appreciate the opportunity to speak here tonight. My name is Patrick Call. I'm supervisor from District 1 in Cochise County. That includes Sierra Vista, Hereford, and Palominos.
I'm here to speak specifically to the point that Sierra Vista must be part of Cochise County. The Sierra Vista area is the economic hub for 60,000 people in Cochise County. The Sierra Vista area is the single-most densely population portion of Cochise County, and the current scenario drives a wedge in the Sierra Vista community.

If the current scenario is allowed to stand, half the population of this community will most likely be represented by the Foothills area of Tucson and the other half will most likely be represented by Apache Junction, Maricopa County in its population.

These representatives will know little, and frankly, given the pressures from constituents in their more populated areas, will have little interest in the complexities of those rural economies, our unique water issues, and our agriculture. They will know little about other issues special to Cochise County, such as education, employment, and healthcare. They will have no feeling for a community and a county that has been occupied by federal border patrol agents attempting to deal with tens of thousands of illegal immigrants moving through our communities every month.

Severing Sierra Vista from Cochise County and associating the rest of Cochise County with Pinal
and Maricopa insures that this county and this
community will cease to exist from the standpoint of
political representation.

(Applause.)

MR. CALL: Sierra Vista community must
remain part of Cochise County. And I have to say that
in my opinion as a supervisor in the past year, this
map here --

(Applause.)

MR. CALL: -- is the one I would support.

Again, not just from the standpoint that Sierra Vista
needs to remain part of Cochise County. You've heard
the reasons so far. I'm sure you're going to hear many
more tonight. But we have a border issue problem here.
You may have heard about it.

That is, however, not our only issue. We
have many other issues. I've enumerated them here.
And to that point, this map here directs itself much
more than anything else.

We have our healthcare issues, our
agriculture issues, and many more, all put us with
Graham and Greenlee and not along the border.
Admittedly, the border issues are very important but
they are not our only issues. We are a large county.
We have many, many issues.
Thank you. If you have any questions, I will be glad to answer them.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. And for the public record, that was scenario number two that he was referring to.

The next speaker is Mayor Marlin Easterhouse, to be followed by George Nerhan of Huachuca City.

MR. EASTERHOUSE: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, staff, public, I'm Marlin Easterhouse, the mayor of the City of Willcox representing the 20,000 people living in and around Willcox, Arizona.

The city council recently passed a resolution opposing your proposed map.

(Applause.)

Mr. EASTERHOUSE: We too want Cochise County to remain in one unit. And whether it's with map four or with map two, however the scenario works out, as long as it includes all of Cochise County.

Thanks.

MR. ELDER: Mr. Nerhan.

MR. NERHAN: I'm George Nerhan, Mayor of Huachuca City. As a friendly little city 2 miles long, keep the speed down. Okay.

We got plans to grow a larger city than 2
miles, but Sierra Vista and Huachuca City got broken away before we had a chance to grow up to a bigger city.

So I do go along with the previous speakers, keep the county together. That includes Huachuca City also.

(Applause.)

MR. NERHAN: Now, we had a council meeting, and we came up with a resolution. I will present to you the resolution. So I won't take more time away from anybody, but I will go ahead and give the rest of the time to Mr. Les Thompson, if he needs it.

So I just thought any questions from you, I will be glad to answer. If you want the speed limit is 45 miles an hour.

MR. ELDER: Thank you very much. Harry Ames, and it says Mayor Pro Tem Douglas.

MR. AMES: Good evening, Mr. Chairman, board members.

You know, I have a whole mess of things I was going to bring up, but after listening to you that you're going to change this district and keep Cochise County together, I won't bring them up.

The one question that I have is, Steve, I
was in the League of City's office in Phoenix when you
gave your presentation. I was in Benson when he gave
his presentation. Everybody said a common interest.
What interest does Cochise County have with the four
tribal pieces of land that there's. I want to know why
you people even put out this map because it made all of
us mad.

(Applause.)

MR. AMES: I studied your map, what we
could get over the Internet, and you have 60 percent --
in this district that you people put out, we have 60
percent white, 30 percent Hispanic, and 6 percent
Indian. Well, I know there might be 5 or 10 Indians in
Cochise County that I don't know about, but when you
get down to the cuts and crux of Cochise County,
Douglas is the perfect example, we have 82 percent
Hispanic people there in Douglas. They cannot be
ignored. And yet this thing that you drew up there,
you will just disenfranchise everybody that would run
for an office from Douglas. They wouldn't stand a
chance.

You know, you've got a bunch of wonderful
people in Apache Junction, but I will make you a bet
it's grown so fast that half of them don't even know
there is a Cochise County.
MR. AMES: I've got an awful lot more to say, but I'm not going to because the air is so bad in here I have to leave. But I thank you guys. I would never have taken your job for $100,000.

MR. ELDER: Thank you very much.

MR. LYNN: But you can buy it for a lot less today.

MR. ELDER: For a fine lottery ticket.

Casey Jones, Mayor Pro Tem of Sierra Vista.

MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, thank you for visiting our community and thank you for listening to us and our concerns for the integrity of our county and the integrity of the process which you were chosen to bring integrity to.

That's the reason given 106 was to take this process out of the hands of those scoundrel politicians, who, however, would be accountable to the people, and put it in the hands of non scoundrel, appointed, non accountable commissioners.

As the Mayor has said, Sierra Vista is a part of Cochise County and Cochise County is a part of Sierra Vista. For anybody to even consider separating that bond shows a total disregard for the sensibility of those who live here and those who try to govern here.
1 and bring a good life to our citizens.
2 I think that the map, the scenario two map
3 there is ideal.
4 (Applause.)
5 MR. Jones: Think about it for a moment.
6 What that presents is a micro cog of our state as a
7 whole. We have Sierra Vista which is a bit more
8 metropolitan. There are some scattered metropolitan
9 and urban areas in our state.
10 We have a large representation from the
11 agricultural community in our Cochise County and Graham
12 and Greenlee, and agriculture plays a huge role in the
13 state's economy as a whole.
14 We have mining interests up in the Graham
15 and Greenlee County areas, and nobody needs to remind
16 anybody in this state the importance of mining to our
17 present day economy and to the glorious history of our
18 state.
19 And we have tourism which nobody will
20 dispute is important to our state as well. We have
21 Karchner Caverns, which is said to rival the Grand
22 Canyon potentially in the number of visitors that it
23 will bring to our state. So when you look at what is
24 represented on map two there, you see an absolute
25 miniature duplicate of our state, how better to allow
us to be represented in our state legislature.

Your map that you brought out is an insult. How can anybody have any possibility, any reasonable thought than an individual in Portal, Arizona would have any possibility of being represented in his state legislature by somebody from his area when he's coupled with Apache Junction. It was a pure cave to political actions which you were supposed to be above that caused the incising, theexcising of Sierra Vista.

You said you want to correct that. We will watch you, and we will insure that you do. We're not quite sure yet how we can hold you accountable for your actions as we could an elected body if we would but exercise that power.

I thank you.

MR. ELDER: I have a quick question. You were speaking of the mining interests. Going up to San Pedro Valley, how far up would you go because you have Mammoth, you have Hayden.

MR. JONES: Sir, I'm not that familiar with the exact, but I think the little in the corner there, is that Mammoth?

MR. ELDER: I think Mammoth. I didn't know whether the other mines up there, Hayden, Kearney,
or the Christmas mines.

MR. JONES: Well, from the map we don't need to go any further than that right there. Isn't that Mammoth?

MR. ELDER: That's correct.

MR. JONES: That's far enough for me if that makes the numbers work.

MR. ELDER: So it's not an issue of the mine contiguousness. It's an issue of numbers.

MR. JONES: Well, you were the ones that brought the numbers in when you took Sierra Vista out of the county. You needed those numbers to make your districts in Tucson work. Yes, it's a matter of numbers.

MR. ELDER: Okay. Thank you. Jim Ehl. I apologize if I don't have that correct. Thank you.

MR. EHL: Thank you, sir. Thank you for being here. Let me grab this out.

Proposition 106, you to start said you're going to change some things, which we hope, of course, and but I would like to address how we got to where we are right now.

In Proposition 106 it starts out by talking about Gerrymandering. And then it gets down here and Proposition 106 says, "Shall be Independent
Redistricting Commission." Well, not being altogether sure, I got a dictionary, and it says, "Independent, free from the influence, control, or determination of another or other specific interests." And it's got more there, but I think that covers it.

Now, as an independent district, what it has to say down here that, "Those who are committed to applying the provisions of this section in an honest, independent, and impartial fashion upholding the public confidence and the integrity of the redistricting process."

I submit, sir, that to this point I think that's been violated, that part of it. My personal opinion is if you would have followed this, I don't think we would have seen this Cochise strip we're seeing now. I think it's an insult to the Commission to have published that to start with, and if it's not the end of it, why publish it to come out here and cause all this uproar and all this rallying we've got going.

Well, I'm very small of what you're doing, but I do read the papers, and like World War II, you know, you don't believe anything you read and half of what you see. But in reading the papers, I don't see the independent district being all that independent.
From what I see in the paper, I think you're being handled when you start off first of all by blocking off people on one side and let them sit fat there, and then on the other side where the people, the powers to be in Tucson should know we won't fight districts. Well, how are you going to get that district. So you're just kind of Gerrymandering out Cochise to give the powers in Tucson to find what they wanted, how does that represent you to the public. What does the public see right now. So I'm submitting, sir, that by putting out something like that to start with, you've eroded a lot of confidence in the public and violated the principles set forth in 106.

And there's the rest of 106 I could go over, but I won't. But I'm submitting, sir, you ask how. And the answer to that question is very easy. How, the first thing you do is you go back to the public and admit what you have done is a violation of the public confidence and start over with some of this mess.

Thank you, sir.

MR. ELDER: The next speaker is Phyllis Pricket, Prichat.

MS. PRICKET: You had it right the first time. It's Pricket. I'm redundant at this point, but
my comments will perhaps reinforce some things that
have been said thus far.

My name is Phyllis Pricket, and I'm co-

president of the Legal Women Voters of Cochise County.

I'm speaking for our members who worked to pass

Proposition 106, sorry case, which set up the

Independent Redistricting Commission.

We wish to express our disappointment and
dissatisfaction with the result of your deliberations
on the legislative districts for Cochise County. We
call your attention to the preamble of Proposition 106,
which states, "An initiative measure proposing an
amendment to the Constitution of Arizona, amending
Article 4, Part 2, Section 1, Constitution of Arizona
relating to ending the practice of Gerrymandering and
improving voter and candidate participation in
elections by creating an independent commission of
balanced appointments to oversee the mapping of fair
and competitive congressional and legislative
districts."

And I would also like to call your
attention to the statement that it is in your own
booklet which came out early, which states, "We are
determined to make this a fair process and to achieve
districts that honestly represent the needs of the
people of the Arizona."

We respectfully request that you go back
to the drawing board and assign a district which does
represent the needs of the people Cochise County. And
I would like to ask league members who are here just to
stand up to show that you can have rocks thrown at you
because we've got --

MR. ELDER: Thank you. We appreciate your
comments. Jim Cogan, I believe. I can't read the last
-- Cuckoo.

MR. CUCKOO: Well, first I would like to
say that I, too, disagree with the map, and I don't
remember voting for something like that. I thought it
was going to be entirely different.

When we voted for the Commission, we were
promised certain things, and that hasn't happened.
Now, the first item on District 8 on the congressional
is absolutely bulletproof district. Kolby is going to
be in there as long as Carl Hayden was if he wants to.

Number two, we'll move onto the map for
Cochise County in our local legislative races. I feel
that you, the Commission, invited Cochise County to
dinner and served us leftovers. I really do. Now, I
don't want to take you completely at task. I know you
have a hard job. The Commission's job is like a
shotgun wedding, there's still going to be a little resentment when it's over.

Southern Arizona, and we would all, I think, like to keep it together. We have border issues, water issues, minority issues. We want to keep representation in southern Arizona.

Ninety percent with any of those two maps on the outside, ninety percent of all Arizona border crossings are going to be in the same district, and I think that's important because we have tremendous problems.

The other thing we have with this other district is if you go out and try to campaign, you have to use newspapers, radio, and T.V. Well, our southern district, one of those two, or even the third one, we can resale with what's available here. If we have to start buying out of the Phoenix market, the rates in Phoenix for radio time, T.V. time, or newspaper time are 500 percent higher than the rate in Cochise County. We cannot afford to campaign up north to tell you the truth. It's just an unworkable situation.

The one other thing I want to say, and it really disturbs me, and I know you guys already know this, I had no idea that rational or mostly rational people got crazy when the new moon of redistricting
shines on the dark recesses of our political souls.

MR. ELDER: Dan Anderson.

MR. ANDERSON: Do we have a pointer?

Thank you. Commission, I'm grateful that I'm allowed to talk to you tonight. The last time I talked to you was in Tucson, the 17th immediately after you did what you did. Why everyone is upset.

After that, after my tirade at that point, which probably should not be mentioned here, you asked me to please come back and come up with solutions and not the standard of criticism. And I've done that. I'm not going to say a word about criticism. Other people have done that.

The only thing I would do is offer the solution. Map two is mine.

(Applause.)

MR. ANDERSON: I would like to explain it because that's what I owe you. You asked me, you tasked me, and as a good dutiful soldier, I will do that.

First off, I wanted to make it very simple, compact, contiguous, meet the provisions of Proposition 106 as absolutely closely as possible to make your job easier because I know it is very, very difficult.
To that end, I designed two of the four boundaries to be pretty doggone simple. One is the border of Mexico. The other one is the border with the next state. So that's two out of four, and that ain't bad.

The next thing I did was to go over and make the third boundary pretty simple, and that is the boundary with Pima and Santa Cruz. And needless to say, in concert with everyone else here, I returned Sierra Vista to its rightful location in Cochise County.

The difficult portion that we have to discuss is everything to the north of that for several reasons. Number one is because it infringes upon what you call the EACO, eastern Arizona counties and their power and all that goes with it.

So what I did or what we did in concert is to design that boundary to fit along those lines that would pass judicial review. To wit, right there that little boundary that jigs up and down all the way over to Greenlee County follows the southern boundary of the San Carlos Indian Reservation, and it does that for a purpose. We know that the Indian nation's rights must be respected. They have a community of interest. And as such, we do not infringe upon them for one iota.
On the far right edge of that point where it comes into Greenlee, we come into a county that like Santa Cruz and Cochise, Greenlee is three, are the only counties in the state of Arizona that do not have an Indian reservation.

So at that point we selected a line that generally follows the southern boundary of the Apache National Forest. On your GIS maps, that's the San Francisco River because that's how it's identified. And I remember when you first talked to us, you mentioned that things had to happen that way. We have done that.

Having done that, we have this little area over here, which I call the Pinal insert. I had no intention of having it read any different. But here's how that came about. We know that we have 117,000 people in Cochise County. That's far short of 171,021 that you require for your legislative district. So we went out and got a requisite number of people that could be taken from Graham and Greenlee and still fit within the judicial constraints, and we came up with about 14,000 people short. And that is why this area here, I say approximately, is there.

Now, I know that your computers are magnificent, what you can do. You just have to go to
the website and go through them, but you can go forward
and you can select until you get the requisite number
of people and that's okay.

Now, that takes care of us. You should
have some questions of me, and they are what happens to
those folks from whom we took for those people. I have
those answers.

MR. ELDER: I will ask that question. Go
right ahead.

MR. ANDERSON: Very good. Thank you.

First of all, right here we took away from
the district next to us old LD9, it's known as BB on
yours, 38,000 people. Well, it just so happens that
right down in here is Santa Cruz County. And you know
how many people are in Santa Cruz County and Nogales?
38,000 just about. It's within a couple hundred. When
you run your numbers, you will find it's that's close.
Nogales -- Santa Cruz is about 38 and change. Nogales
is 21. Works out about together.

So that solves the removal of the people
from LD9 or BB. The question is: Well, if you took
away Santa Cruz and Nogales from the one next to it,
what is it, T or whatever it is.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: It's been
relettered.
MR. ANDERSON: Well, it has all those
different numbers. It's the one right here. Okay.
They've got to go get those people now. It just
happens that you provided them. They're up here in the
Gila River Reservation and Bopp Chin and up toward the
places where you have ascribed to us now whiskey, W,
those places are open now to give to the places right
there.

What I'm doing is I'm constructing a
package here which you do not have to infringe upon
anybody other than us. In what you put together, you
don't have to wander off anyplace else. It's an in-
house construct that does not require a big mess.

The next thing is you've this we took away
parts of Graham and Greenlee. Well, they want that
number of people back. Well, it just happens that on
your map that you constructed for us, you've got the
McDowell Indian Reservation, and you've got the Salt
River Indian Reservation, and you've got all kinds of
land up there just to the north of Apache Junction.

And furthermore, in the case of the Indian
reservations, why don't they go to the EACO area. They
match with Indian reservations that are already there,
and in terms of Gila and Hachien, they match very well
with Indian reservations that are down there. So
there's a communities of interest for the Native-Americans. They're not all alone being represented perhaps by someone from Douglas or Fort Huachuca where in 1877 they got real famous for doing unkind deeds to Native-Americans. So we want to protect our Native-American friends.

I think I've covered most of it. I'm open to questions. So the point was an in-house construct meets certain things. It avoids Gerrymandering. And, oh, by the way, that's a picture example, textbook example of Gerrymandering if there ever was one. And so is that over there. It's an unnatural construct. This is not. It's contiguous, compact, all together, meets all requirements, and it meets the requirements of community of interest.

So, in short, option two is the one to go with. It solves all your problems. It solves ours. And we just wanted to be of service. I thank you for the opportunity.

MR. ELDER: Thank you, Mr. Anderson. We do appreciate those constructing comments.


Thank you.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Cunningham, sir, is a proud but incapable of being properly pronounced name,
so I will forgive you.

My name is Ed Cunningham, and I live out at Nash Canyon south of Sierra Vista. Nash Canyon is becoming well known for the high number of border patrol vehicles who are permanent neighbors.

First, I would like to compliment you also on your courage at coming down here and facing us personally with this monstrous proposal. I spent 20 years as a Naval officer. I can assure you, I would not have had the courage to do so. I would have either been too afraid or too embarrassed or both. You have my sincere appreciation.

When you first came to Cochise County and showed us the first cut, the pure Prop 106 in action, I honestly was impressed. The picture showed a compact, contiguous legislative district which maintained the integrity of the county. There were cities and identifiable communities of interest without Gerrymandering or political payoff or incumbent protection, and I have been through the previous redistricting in this area and lived through the results of that, which is Cochise County in two legislative districts, largely put together to protect the incumbents.

We were, of course, warned that the ideal
legislative district might need some minor changes in
order to satisfy the requirements of the Department of
Justice. We were not prepared, however, for the
possibility that Cochise County might be mugged,
ravished, dismembered, and consigned to physical and
political limbo.

(Applause.)

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Your proposed plan is
contrary to both the letter and the spirit of Prop 106.
It cuts the heart out of Cochise County to satisfy the
hunger of Tucson from a fifth legislative district.

(Applause.)

MR. CUNNINGHAM: And the Gerrymandering is
a pointless and boundless legislative district that
meanders for over 200 miles across Arizona to alleviate
the fears of some eastern counties that are afraid you
might do to them what it is you're proposing to do to
us.

(Applause.)

MR. CUNNINGHAM: It outlines a voiceless,
powerless legislative district without integrity,
coherence, or political purpose other than to create a
political garbage can to maintain leftovers of
southeastern Arizona below 171,000.

It raises the idea of taxation without
representation to heights that have not been seen on this continent since the American Revolution.

(Appplause.)

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Put yourselves, if you will, in the position of someone running for state senator or representative from your proposed legislative district. Would you run on border issues? Would you run on economic issues? Would you run on I-10 corridor issues involving highways, railroads, pipelines, tourism and all the other things? Would you run on mining issues? Would you run on ranching or farming issues? Would you run on civic issues involving schools, police, and fire protection, shared city and county growth and development matters? And if so, would you run on those which involve suburban Sierra Vista or would you run on those that involve Apache Junction? Would you run on property taxation issues when Cochise, Pima, Maricopa, and Pinal Counties are all involved? Would you run on Native-American issues of concern to the four forgotten reservations in Pinal County that you somehow think belong with us or without us as the case may be?

What is even one single community of interest in this monument of political strangers.

People who live and work together? Not at all. People
who do business together? Not at all. People who
educate their children together? Not at all. People
whose taxes support programs and projects of general
concern? Not at all. People who even share a facial
coloration, linguistic preference, or political
philosophy? Not at all.

Your proposed legislative district in fact recognizes only one identifiable community of interest which has been mentioned before, and that is illegal aliens. Because they would be able to burrow under or through the border between Douglas and Naco and proceed all the way to Phoenix without leaving our legislative district.

(Applause.)

MR. CUNNINGHAM: And that is some important accomplishment taking place.

Your proposed legislative district, however, has created one new and growing community of interest, and that is the citizens of Cochise County going outraged by your blatant attempt to sacrifice Cochise County on the alter, on political aspirations and concerns of our neighbors.

This is particularly trying in view of your obvious ability to satisfy all the concerns of the rural counties in legal and ethical ways as you
previously so well demonstrated when you were here before.

So certainly you must remedy this gross violation or patent disregard of our legal, political, and economic rights by recognizing and establishing Cochise County as a political entity. And then you must make up the numerical shortfall through this legislative district from our immediate neighbors either to the north or to the west or some combination of the two.

And you're well able to do that, gentlemen. I know you are. I have to say that I'm encouraged by the words of both city and county officials that indicate that we're willing to give you the firm assurance that Cochise County and Sierra Vista will jointly pursue every legal avenue to require that an appropriate judge, if necessary, gavel both legality and sense into your Independent Redistricting Commission and its work.

Thank you. Since I really don't represent anybody, I'm not sure that I can answer your questions, but I can certainly --

MR. LYNN: No, but if your comments are written, Mr. Cunningham, we will take them.

MR. CUNNINGHAM: Good. I was going to
suggest that.

MR. LYNN: Thank you.

MR. ELDER: The next speaker is Trudy Berry.

MS. BERRY: Welcome to Cochise County. I am Trudy Berry. I'm the Cochise County School Superintendent, and I was recently elected. Of course, I did get campaign in the county which is all cohesive, and so what you're talking about tonight really doesn't affect where I campaign, but it does affect me and it does affect all these people from Cochise County.

And actually I do live 10 miles south of Sierra Vista. I work in Bisbee. I have a P.O. box in Sierra Vista. I have property in Sierra Vista. But there are a lot of things that happen in our county that are tied to Sierra Vista, and I hate to see you even think that we don't all belong together.

In fact, well, I've got a lot of notes. I was going to talk about the nonpartisan committee we were supposed to end up with, the nonbiased, you know, representing all of the state. I'm not going to talk about that.

And I was also going to talk about, you know, when I voted on Prop 106 how I expected a geographically compact and contiguous area to be
represented by, I'm not going to talk about that. 

Or the Gerrymandering. You mentioned 
Gerrymandering at your first meeting, and then you went 
into the history of the word, but I don't think that 
we're even talking about political parties here when 
you show us your map. It's more like talking about 
political influence of Tucson over our county and why 
did we lose our representation so that they could gain 
their representation. I don't understand that at all. 

I do think our county belongs in one 
piece, and I do support the map two in the center. 
When I was running for elections, I know that we are 
very equaled in our representation by both parties in 
our county and we have the elections director here. Is 
he still here? Tom? Tom Schilling was here, but I 
know he can tell you we're pretty much equally 
Democratic and Republican in our county. So that would 
not be a problem when it comes to deciding anything 
about where to split. 

When I do training, I do countywide 
training for all of the teachers in our county. I have 
representation from Douglas and Benson and Bisbee, 
Willcox, Bowie, San Simon, everywhere around the county 
just like we have here. This is a great example of the 
cohesiveness of our county, the fact that we have
people from Douglas and people from Willcox. This shows you that we are united and that we do feel very, very close-knit.

Back to the training for my teachers. I have given several different trainings where we've pulled in speakers from out of our area, such as Phoenix, from the big city we brought down. And we had people from Graham County attend. Several things that I have done in education have involved Graham County.

In fact, when I worked at Cochise College, I wrote grants. And some of the services provided, some of the classes provided I was trained covered Cochise County and they came back with requests to cover Graham County.

Also, I have a sister-in-law that works for the county, and I know they just made a presentation that they submitted to the state also requesting to cover Cochise County and Graham County. She has offices in Bisbee, Benson, and Safford, which encompasses that bottom part of Graham. They're not really Greenlee, but.

I just feel that -- I feel that this has to stay as one cohesive unit. I don't know what you're going to tell Graham and Greenlee, but I hope that you will consider what we're saying tonight. And I didn't
hear -- somebody said, oh, they already agreed that
we're going to be a cohesive one piece in our county.
I haven't heard you say that yet, so I just want to
reiterate that that's important.

Thanks.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. After this next
speaker, we're going to take about a 15-minute break to
let our public stenographer have a chance to recover
with his hands and fingers. Ruth Cowan.

MS. COWAN: Chairman Lynn, Commissioners,
and staff. I also would like to commend you for the
courage of coming to Cochise County, and what you see
in this room tonight is a very cohesive, united group
of individuals who are very, very concerned that we
will lose any type of representation or opportunity to
be represented in our fair state.

I am against any plan that even remotely
looks or takes the form of Gerrymandering. I say this
because the keystone element of Proposition 106 states
that it all about ending the practice of
Gerrymandering.

I know and I realize that you folks have
been loudly and rightly criticized, and I know you have
heard those comments. I certainly would hope you have
heard those comments. But I also want to make sure
that we don't consider the next iteration has any
Gerrymandering in it. And the first line of
Proposition 106 reads, "Proposition 106 Official Title,
an initiative measure proposing an amendment to the
Constitution of Arizona amending Article 4, Part 2,
Section 1, Constitution of Arizona, relating to ending
the practice of Gerrymandering."

Please let there be none or hopefully you
will be taken to court for those actions. The draft
district boundaries that have been hoisted upon us
violate the very first line of that proposition and
that is your charter.

The proposed map is Gerrymandering in two
different ways. The first in regards to the extreme
expansive map boundaries that extend from Douglas and by
a more surreptitious route to areas in and around
Phoenix, and the second in an attempt to Gerrymander
the Sierra Vista community out of Cochise County.

The Sierra Vista/Fort Huachuca community
is one of two main economic engines in Cochise County.
To sever our main municipality from our county is
Gerrymandering in its most base form, and I only ask
that you comply with Proposition 106 and return all of
Sierra Vista community to Cochise County.

And I would like to address the maps.

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ARIZONA COURT REPORTING
Maps four and five, we do not have the same community of interest. Maps four and five are areas which transport produce. Map number two of Cochise County, Graham, and Greenlee, we produce the product.

Thank you very much.

MR. ELDER: Thank you.

MS. COWAN: Yes, ma'am.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: I'm asking this question because you focused your comments on the subject of Gerrymandering. And the question I have is there are parts of the state where the Commission was encouraged to separate a community, and because of the comments that you made, I wanted to ask your opinion, if you have one, with respect to the Commission's treatment of the Hopi Nation in that in the congressional map, the Hopi Nation has been pulled out at their request. They do not wish to be, in their words, smothered by the Navajo Nation. They're much smaller and surrounded by the Navajo. In the legislative map, the Commission has included them with the Navajo, and of course that's an issue that doesn't directly impact you but is germane to the point that you made with respect to a funny-shaped district.

So, the question I have is: Is your opinion on that issue one that would hold true in this
particular area of the state as well when the Hopi had requested to be taken out or does that matter to you one way or the other?

MS. COWAN: And I'm not sure that I can really address that, but what I can tell you that the area that we are in right now is by design. The number one drug and illegal alien traffic area in the United States. That is by design. And as far as the Hopi reservation, I'm sorry that I cannot address that. But I do feel that that is one thing that we all have in common in this room, and it is creating havoc. I'm sorry I did not answer your question.

MR. LYNN: Not so much specifically for you, Ms. Cowan, but I don't want to lose anyone who might leave us during the break in terms of understanding the options that are available and the options that have been presented tonight. Would you help me by a show of hands just in general terms, and I see that maps four and five really are sort two looks at the same kind of solution. I don't necessarily ask you to make a distinction between those two, but I would ask you to look at maps two versus four and five, and if you could give me a show of hands, just those in the room, who among you would prefer four or five as a solution?
Okay. Thank you. And those of you who
would prefer something that looks like number two as a
solution.

(Cheering from the audience.)

MR. LYNN: I want that on the record for
us to see because if we lose people during the break, I
want to be sure you have at least that opportunity to
make that clear.

Thank you. We will return in about 15
minutes.

(Recess.)

MR. ELDER: Okay. Our first speaker for
the second part is Lou Tucker.

MR. TUCKER: My name is Lou Tucker. I'm a
citizen of the United States first, of Arizona second,
of Cochise County third, and of Hereford, Arizona,
which is an excerpt of Sierra Vista, fourth.

And for the sake of these remarks, it
doesn't much matter whether I or any other speaker is a
Republican or a Democrat. I think we’re here as a
uniform reactions and concerns.

My prepared remarks have been passed up
simply because they were better put by preceding
speakers. But as I listened to the proceeding this
evening, I want to bring a number of things to your
attention that should be important to you as you make your determination of our political fate.

The first is that you had members, friends of people for the west agreeing with other people in the room who are also friends who contribute to Ron Silver. That should tell you something. That's a pretty wide range of political toleration in agreement about the need to keep Cochise County and Sierra Vista together, and I hope that you note that that partisanship has been transcended to remarks.

Another thing that I would like you to note is that there's been very little discussion here tonight about Democrats. There's been a lot of discussion about communities of interest, and the communities of interest that have been mentioned are, first of all, water.

You know if you're from Tucson, several of you are, what water means. And so we have to stay together, together with the fort, together with the city, together with the entire county in dealing with a precious resource that we have in the San Pedro River Valley. Okay. That community of interest is critical politically and economically.

It may by critical politically as well in how our legislators deal with the federal government
who is a very powerful player in this matter of water here in Cochise County.

Another community of interest that we have is the delivery of social services. I had the privilege to serve on the board of the Catholic Community Services here in the county. It's the largest single social service provider in the county. And I can tell you that we're not for the integration of interest, administration, formal and informal agreements between Sierra Vista, the county, the Department of Social Security, and the cities of Bisbee, Willcox, and Benson, we would be incapable of effective delivery of a very valuable social services that we do deliver through Catholic Community Services and other providers who are just as good as we are making out as big. Okay. So you need to think about that very, very carefully because our legislators play some hand. We get to do that here in the county.

Finally, I wanted to remind you if I might that not only the fate of our county here is at stake but that the -- in some sense the integrity and credibility of the use of commissions like yours and their future in this state depends very much on the kind of wisdom and the kind of judgment that you display in making your decisions.

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ARIZONA COURT REPORTING
And you've already heard more than enough about Gerrymandering. I voted more like Tuesday morning. I thought it was crude to have a sucker born every minute because you need to recover that, not just for yourselves but for your successors in other commissions that the state in its wisdom or stupidity chooses to employ to really solve problems that are troublesome and deep and cross the party lines.

So thanks very much.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. Alexander Sandy Cunzer.

MR. CUNZER: Good evening, members of the Commission, general public. My name is Sandy Cunzer, C-U-N-Z-E-R for the recorder.

As I look at the proposed state redistricting map in the newspaper, the vehicle impact of the eastward bulge to engulf Sierra Vista called forth what I believe is the most succinct and appropriate response to this Commission proposal for legislative districts for Cochise County.

I invite those in the audience who may remember from personal experience or were later taught the response of greater General Anthony McCullen to the German request for surrender at Bastoni, December 1944 to join me in saying "Nuts." No, it wasn't General
Patton. It was General McCullen.

My community of interest is primarily rural, deals with water, and runs along either the border of Mexico or New Mexico. I could tolerate map four, but I would prefer map two.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

MR. ELDER: Jim Horton.

MR. HORTON: My name is Jim Horton. I live in Sierra Vista.

And I came up thinking to say that somebody needed to say that the Emperor doesn't have on any clothes, and after listening to everyone I decided maybe I don't have on any clothes. I don't know.

But my community of interest, and I would suggest that this evening or early in the morning, whenever we finish, if you have time, if you stop in one of -- Wal-Mart's open all night. A grocery store here and there are open all night. And ask the people that you run into in Sierra Vista that probably have an average age of 30 years less than what's in this room, what their community of interest is, and I don't believe very many of them can name you one town in Greenlee County or even know where it is. I don't believe very many of you can make very many of them, if you said where's Graham County, would have a clue where
it is. I suspect if you were in Willcox or San Simon or somewhere over there, they very likely would.

But Sierra Vista and the people that live up here, we're a technologically sophisticated city. And our community of interest does not lie in Graham or Greenlee County. Where do you go for sports. Do you go to Graham or Greenlee? We don't even go to Willcox for it.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Go to Cochise College, Apache.

MR. CUNZER: Well, maybe. Or we go to Tucson. Where do you go shopping? You go to Tucson. Oh, none of you have been there. Excuse me, that's my error. That highway I see loaded up there with cars going north and then west is just a mirage.

Where do we go? Where is our orientation? I would bet that if you make that little stop at one of the restaurants or one of the stores here and you even ask about county fairs, how many people have been to the county fair in Graham or Greenlee or Cochise for that matter or even know where it is. Well, the politicians know where it is. But of the folks here, you'll find more that have been to the fair in Sonoita, the Santa Cruz County Fair. Go over for the races. At least people in this community.
So I would -- during the break we were talking about how can I be so wrong. How can I be the only person in the room that thinks our community of interest lies someplace besides Graham and Greenlee County. I got the Yellow Pages out. Grab our telephone book before you leave town and go to the Yellow Pages and open them up and they're maybe an inch thick for Cochise County. And see how many entries you find under mining in Cochise County. About two inches space out of the whole Yellow Pages. Find timber and logging in Cochise County. No entries in the Yellow Pages. Cattle companies, zero, zilch, zip. But look at it for tech. Look at those Yellow Pages and decide where our community of interest is.

There's a feeling. It's power is what it's all about. We're saying, "My God, I don't want Tucson to dominate us. Instead, let's dominate Greenlee and Graham." That's easiest. Let's focus on those folks. We could dominate them.

I hope -- I don't believe that the politicians that we've had in the past were so narrow minded that they just focused on one particular area in their counties.

That's all I have to say. Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Dave Stoddard.
MR. STODDARD: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. My name is Dave Stoddard. I've called Cochise County my home since 1954, although, I haven't always lived in Cochise County all those years. I've been to the Cochise County Fair one time. Well, several times actually.

Mr. Les Thompson, Mr. Ben Anderson, Mr. Pat Call, and Mr. Cunningham have quite succinctly summarized my concerns. However, there is a concern that I have that has not been spoken tonight.

Perhaps it hasn't been spoken because it's politically incorrect, and that is the issue, there's been a lot of discussion about border issues, counties that live on the border and so forth. There is a large amount of voter fraud in which citizens of Mexico cross into the United States and vote in U.S. elections.

As the district is currently composed, our main concern is residents of Aqua Prieta and residents of Naco, Sonora. Our county recorder to my knowledge has never taken steps to insure that that doesn't occur even though it occurs.

Now, for that reason, I find maps number four and number five totally unacceptable. There is another factor in there, and that is the Papago Indian Reservation more recently became know as Tohono O'Odham
extends several miles into Mexico. There's Papago Indians who are, if I use the term citizens as a tribe. There are also Mexican citizens and Mexican nationals and they live in Mexico.

Now, saddling Cochise County with Aqua Prieta, Naco, Nogales, Sonora, and that large huge population of Papagos down in northern Sonora, I think that disenfranchises a large number of American citizens who live on this side of the border.

And that's the extent of my comments.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. I'm having trouble with the lettering. I think it's Jim Tinney.

MR. TINNEY: Okay. You guys have already said that you're going to change, so I'm going to take it your word. I thank you for the opportunity to talk. I'm going to address a couple of things that were talked about earlier by Mr. Newman and some of the other folks that were interested in number four and number five up there on the wall.

They said that the one main reason you want to do that is because they needed all the border, all the areas along the border to be in one district so that you could have representation at the state level.

Now, my question is if you take map two, you have another district that takes in Santa Cruz
County and you have another district over by Yuma and another district in between, that's five, four to five representatives that are going to be in the state that are going to have to deal with the border issues. That is a much higher percentage of representation than one big district. One big district is not going to have the authority or ability to affect what happens in the state legislature as four or five people having the same problems.

I would like to commend Ben Anderson for his presentation. I think it was an excellent presentation, and I am from Willcox, Arizona. I apologize for not telling you that to start with. And I am in the real estate business, and I understand that when you go up Cochise County and you get up there in the northern part of Cochise County, the Graham Mountains run just the other side just north of the boundary line in Graham County, and a good portion of Graham County is on this side of the Graham Mountains.

Now, Mr. Newman was also talking about the beauty of how the mountains along the southern boundary is beautiful and it all coincides and everything. He needs to come north. We got mountains up there, too. They're just as beautiful. So those reasons are just
not good reasons to deal with this.

When you go up to northern Cochise County
all the way down to Silver Spring Valley, down the
valley south of Silver Spring Valley and towards
Douglas, north of Douglas down to Elfrida, that's
primarily an agricultural area that raises alfalfa,
corn, beans, safflower, chilies, any number, I mean a
tremendous amount of crop land. And it goes all the
way up into Graham County. We have a tremendous --
huge -- we have one tomato plant out there that covers
240 acres right now and they're building just as fast
as they can. We have a cucumber hothouse up there. We
have three other hothouses in the northern area between
Cochise and Graham County up there. We're all
interrelated. Everything happens up there, it's
interrelated.

It's very important that we retain some
type of continuity there. And I appreciate some of the
other things, some of the other comments here, and
they've basically what we need to talk about, but I
highly recommend that we take a look at map two, and I
can -- when you go up the San Pedro River, which
includes Sierra Vista, and you're going down the San
Pedro River going north, you go all the way up Mammoth
up there in map two, you have a continuity of interest
there all up and down the San Pedro on the water
issues. That's a very, very important issue right now.
And when you take that upper portion off, you're
breaking up a lot of the continuity of the problems
that we have there.

And then the other valleys, you have the
Gila River come in from the west going east that's
confluent just outside of the district, and you would
have some of the same concerns up there because they
come together over there and the same situations,
watersheds and all that are very important to both
areas. And they're both very important and they
intermingle all the time. They constantly
intermingling.

I don't have a whole lot more to say. You
brought up a question about the Gerrymandering, the
Hopi district. Yes, ma'am, that is Gerrymandering. I
don't care how you cut it. But I personally think that
anybody in this room would say if everybody up there
basically agreed with it, that we could go along with
it if, you know, the Hopi Tribe and the Navajos and
everybody up there and you didn't have a lot of
heartache with it, I don't think that that -- because
that's representative of the people, and that's one
thing about -- you talked about the room. You know,
used to be they sit down in a room and a group of
people without any public comment set the district.
One thing you forgot to say it was passed by the
legislature by people who are supposed to be
accountable to us. If we don't make them accountable,
that's our fault.

This situation here does not make you
accountable to us unless you go to court, which is
expensive and that. So enough said about that. But if
you have any questions, I would be glad to take them.

MR. ELDER: I would like to ask one
question. You were talking about the interrelation on
the agriculture going up across the border into Graham.

Does that include going across the Grahams
into like the Gila Valley that runs east-west through
that area?

MR. TINNEY: Yes, because a good portion
of the northeastern part of Cochise County drains into
the Gila watershed there, and you have farming over
there, and then you have an area of just basically
ranching. And then you come into the Gila watershed
where you have a substantial amount of farming. We
have cotton in both places. We have alfalfa in both
places. We have very, very interrelated activity going
on there.
MR. ELDER: Thank you.

MR. TINNEY: Okay.

MR. ELDER: Here we go. Geraldine Ligon.

MS. LIGON: Good evening. I'm so glad that you folks came here. Most of what everybody else has said was what I had written down.

However, I would like to say that my husband works with some of the highest technologically that this country has, and I sit on the Cochise County Fair Board.

(Applause.)

MS. LIGON: We've lived here about 25 years, and I did want to say that I've never in all of the different kinds of meetings I've been to seen such a unity of ideas as what I've seen this evening. I know probably three-quarters of the people here, and we've all come on one accord.

Other than that, everything else that's been said, I really do like plan two. Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Gilbert Reeves.

MR. REEVES: Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission and staff.

I'm also a member of a commission here in the county and I'm appointed. God, I sympathize with you. So I'm not going to drag you over the coals,
okay? But I would like to address the lady that asked about the Hopi people.

The Hopi people have asked to be taken out. Okay. The people asked. This is what this is about. I can look at these three maps up here, and I can see two that assures a reelection for a politician, and I can see one that represents the people. And that one is number two.

That's all I have to say.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. Jerry Krusick.

MR. KRUSICK: My name is Jerry Krusick, K-R-U-S-I-C-K.

I was taught early on that redundancy is not a virtue. Therefore, I will not get into castigation. It's already been done.

A couple of those maps I hadn't seen until this evening. Map number two, I knew about that, and I'm totally in favor of that map because of the actual community of interest between Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee Counties. Those portions of those two counties that are not included in that proposed district are, as Ben Anderson said, the Indian reservations. There is no community of interest in Cochise County with those reservations.

First of all, much of what goes on on an
Indian reservation is federal. The reservations are federally controlled. The land is federally controlled. So, you know, a district representative just doesn't have a lot of influence on a reservation.

As far as maps four and five are concerned, they look very similar to the old District 8, which was one of the worst jobs of Gerrymandering I've ever seen just shortly after I got to Cochise County. But regardless of what they say about, well, we're looking for minority interests, please look at those and say we're looking at Democratic party interests because down here minority and democratic party are synonymous, and I'd asked one of the commissioners earlier if he could give me an example of a minority interest in Cochise County, not just the fact that there are a group of people who are 82 percent in Douglas Hispanic, but what is the interest that is different from my interest in the county. And I haven't found anybody to give me an answer for that. So, therefore, I don't think that minority interest should bear that much consideration in this whole thing.

Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. William Eifrig.

MR. EIFRIG: Thank you. I am William
Eifrig. I reside in Santa Cruz County. May I speak?

I am a member of the Board of the Sonoita Crossroads Community Forum, an organization that has existed since 1995 to give my neighbors of Sonoita, Elgin, and Canelo a place to come together to be concerned of growth or not growth, of problems or not problems.

Most currently we are trying to make the deadline that some counties are not making to present to our county supervisors a comprehensive plan for northeast Santa Cruz County.

Our work for the last 6 years, and especially our work on this comprehensive plan, makes it quite apparent that northeast Santa Cruz County has more to do with Sierra Vista and Cochise County than it does perhaps with Nogales and the Santa Cruz Valley.

When earlier maps showed Santa Cruz County put off to the west, number two, we were concerned that we were being separated from our common interests. The maps that we have looked at most recently, and I won't get into the problems of Cochise County as one, but the maps that show northeast Santa Cruz County part of Cochise makes sense to us.

Thank you.

MR. ELDER: It looks like Priscilla.
That's the only name here.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: She was here.

She left.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. Kathryn Hardy.

MS. HARDY: My name is Kathryn Hardy. I want to thank the Commission for being here tonight and giving us an opportunity to voice our opinion. I just want to thank those who have come before me, most of those who have been before me, who have ultimately expressed some of my concerns. So I will not repeat those.

I would like to say that when you held your previous meeting in Sierra Vista that at that time there was one very strong message from the public here. It was loud and it was clear. That message was that Cochise County and its traditional boundaries should be respected and included into one single legislative district.

It is evident, though, from your drafted maps that you were either asleep or listening with deaf ears. It is apparent tonight that same message has been expressed loud and clear again. I just hope that this time you are listening with an open mind and open ears.

We're a long way down here in a remote
southeastern part of the state. All of our county
boundaries are straight lines. There's not a single
curve anywhere. But it is just unconscionable that you
would even consider reaching over the Huachuca
Mountains and snatching Sierra Vista to keep Phoenix
and Tucson politicians happy. Whose idea was this? I
don't think it was the computer's. The computer just
does what it's told to do.

Your drafted maps make it very clear that
Prop 106 and the Commission are not free from politics,
that there are outside influences motivating the
proposed maps that you have drafted.

As I look at four and five and your
drafted maps, it's already been brought to our
attention that fact that Douglas would be a forgotten
area when it comes to the Phoenix area. Sierra Vista
would basically be forgotten with the Tucson people.
But extreme distances, as you look at those maps and
you see the travel time that's involved to go to
meetings, to participate, when you think about Douglas,
which is a three plus hour trip one way to get to the
Phoenix area, how do you think those people are going
to be able to participate in the political system of
that legislative district. What you're doing is just
signing a death warrant for us in both four, five in
your drafted maps because it just puts distance then becomes an enemy of participating in the political process.

I strongly support scenario two. I certainly hope that you will keep your word as you have expressed it here tonight and that this is resolved in an orderly fashion, and that we do not have to take any kind of further legal action in order to have our voices heard.

Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. Sue Kartchner.

MS. KARTCHNER: Good evening. I'm Sue Kartchner, and I'm from the really large town of Saint David. There were several more here, but we go to bed early and they left.

I'm here, and I appreciate what I think are listening ears. I remember a number of years ago when this same process was happening before, and those of us in a little pocket call Saint David and a little pocket called Pomerene and a little bit of this area got Gerrymandered over to legislative District 9. That was not a real comfortable situation, and I had high hopes that we were going to do a little better than that this time.

I would second those things that have been
said along the lines of keeping Cochise County totally
contiguous.

The little bit different angle that I
would like to throw out is I serve on the school board
in Saint David, and that's about the highest elected
position you can get in Saint David. And we deal with
the county, and we deal with our legislators and we
deal with the Cochise College district, and many of our
students attend Cochise College campuses as well as
campuses in Graham County, and that's the majority of
where our students attend. And that seems to be from
an educational standpoint a common area of interest in
that map too, and I would encourage that direction if
possible.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. I'm getting all
the good ones. Mark Suagee. It looks like two Es.

MR. SUAGEE: That's pretty close. It's
pronounced Suagee. It's a hard G. I'm probably the
only enrolled Cherokee Indian in the room. My dad went
to Oklahoma, and probably because of that background I
know the issue of northern Arizona, and two or three
people have touched on it, but that's a traditional and
still is between those two nations. And they chose to
be out from under the Navajos because they hate the
Navajos. The Navajos hate the Hopis, and it's a
pressure cooker for them to be wrapped up with a tribe they literally hate.

But back to this. I first saw Cochise County in 1958. My dad moved out from California. He was the project manager at Fort Huachuca developing communications programs, and I don't think I've ever seen -- there are other places that are wonderful and they really are beautiful. Driving down that hill from Tucson looking out across Cochise County and the valley has got to be one of the most beautiful things there is, and when I first saw your map, I felt like somebody had pulled the rug out, tossed me out the back door. And politically, I think that's what you did do.

I'm really thinking at this point because I just hope as a couple have said before me is I hope that as you drive back up to your homes and you have the next meeting that you still here reverberating in your ears that this county's residents feel real strongly about having representation, and that was just completely taken away with this proposed map.

I work as a public defender in Cochise County. I'm used to addressing juries and looking at juries and trying to figure out who's the foreman and trying to figure out what they're going to do. Usually their faces are between hostile to ambiguous. And I've
been watching all night long trying to figure it out.
I don't think I can pick the foreman for sure, but I
really hope that you've heard what people have said
here tonight.

Any of those maps on the wall are just an
incredible improvement over what has been thrown at us
down here because the only way that I can understand
that map having been drawn is to placate other
interests and ignore interests of Cochise County.

Mr. Cooper made a comment about running
for office and it's incredible -- I hadn't even thought
of this before, but what an incredible burden it would
be on someone from this area to pay that kind of cost
to campaign across a district like that. It's an
incredible burden.

I favor maps four and five, but I think
that if you do something other than what you've done
and if you recognize Cochise County as a distinct
political entity that has its place in the system,
you're going to have avoided a lot of hostilities, and
I think it's been said here tonight that you'll have
done a much better service for all of us.

MR. ELDER: Thank you, Andre Newcum.

MR. NEWCUM: Good evening. My name is
Andre Newcum. Thank you for letting me speak.
First of all, I would like to talk to the congressional redistricting. I believe that whenever we have a state that only has one representative and possibly the congress, the House of Representatives should select one of those people as a speaker of the house because many times we have states that have a million people but only have one representative. And there are many states like that. And I think it would be extremely fair to the people of the United States or America that they give extra respect to the people of less because they are deprived of equal representation in the congress.

Now, in Phoenix, this Hopi thing gives Phoenix six representatives, and I think that is kind of not very nice. I think it would be nice if the Hopi was traded over for the Salt River. The Hopi situation is an ancient trip. They have been either slandered or alleged scientific fact that claims that they were this or that, and this is really not nice.

I think also that because of the nature of our state, all 8 representatives will be from urban areas. I think it would be very nice if one of them was rural and switch that Hopi/Salt River thing.

Now, looking at the state's legislature, 62 percent of the population is a very impressive
number, and I don't know what the Tucson number is, but that would have to probably be 80 percent of the population. So we're looking at 80 percent of manufacturing distribution and cultural and educational and medical from urban areas, and that's very important for us to look at.

Because of our rural nature, we have had problems with state distribution of monies for medical and for food stamps and for education and stuff. And now, looking at Sierra Vista, Sierra Vista is a more or less urban sort of people. They are with federal and they play with paper and they play with retail and various services in restaurants and hospitals, stuff like that.

If you want to have good representation for rural interests, what you have done seems to be pretty nice. It follows the San Pedro River and all sorts of rural interests along that river, and I think that's a very nice thing to do because then you've only bitten off a little piece of Phoenix, and you have more than a 100,000 people that are rural. You're always going to have someone elected who will be of rural interest. And to say to put Sierra Vista back in, you know, that's 40,000 urban people that are voting when you could have had 120,000 rural voting.
What you people have done I think is quite nice because you are helping these people guarantee their medical help, their highway patrol help, their food stamps distribution, and education funds that have that new law of schools, you know, that they're distributing money for, you know, and having a strong rural voice and there are other districts that you are proposing that are also consensually rural. I think it's quite nice.

And I mean, I could talk about our own area of politics, but that gets all tit for tat in talking about history and how, you know, I mean, you know, we talk about neighbors and we argue back and forth, you know, but that's really nothing. We want to look at numbers. We want to make sure that everyone gets some of the help that the cities can give because the cities are essentially where the money flies around. And what you have done is to help the rural areas get their voice there so that some of that works back to you, and thank you very much.

MR. ELDER: Okay. Thank you. It looks like Ginger Ryan.

MS. RYAN: Chairman Lynn, Commission Elder, Commission Hall. It's Ginger Ryan. I just don't write very well.
Okay. I'm here as the director of the Chiricahua Community Health Center in greater downtown metropolitan Elfrida.

(Applause.)

MS. RYAN: We are a federally qualified community health center. The only one in Cochise County, the only one that actually serves Graham and Greenlee Counties. It is our mandate and our mission to provide healthcare to everyone who presents themselves without regard to their ability to pay. And I would like to speak to or from a healthcare perspective because it's one thing that hasn't been addressed this evening.

In the last few months in our little clinic we have freed a 70-year-old woman who had been held hostage for 8 months by an illegal alien. We have dealt with cases of pesticide exposure, removed termites from the ears of children, treated farmers and ranchers for back problems, hypertension, worked over snake bites, one came in this morning, and treated some of the most wonderful strong and outspoken people in Arizona.

I do not think that the clinics in Chandler, Payson, Nogales, Gilbert, and other places seen on those maps deal with the same issues that we
deal with in Elfrida. If you stand outside our clinic
-- well, actually if you stand on the roof of our
clinic, you can see from Mexico to New Mexico. If our
eyes were better, we could see to Graham and Greenlee
Counties.

We share similar healthcare issues,
similar demographics, similar economics, and a similar
united need for a strong and cohesive representation of
the legislature.

Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Matt Cook.

MR. COOK: I'm Matt Cook. I'm the
environmental health specialist and deputy health
officer for District 1 now of Cochise County's
environmental health district.

What we do is we deal with the public
health in sort of the largest sense, and it's areas
that are too small for the state to deal with, like
food sanitation, waste water, insect borne diseases,
and so forth. Things that are appropriate to an area
as small as a county but things which are necessary to
be provided in the name of the people.

What we're dealing with tonight is
ultimately a legislative district, which is to say that
group of people who will elect and communicate with
someone who will stand for us in the state legislature. So the bottom line is do we -- is there some configuration on a map that best describes who we, these people of this future legislature will be.

I think that you did a very fair job in what you've done in working around the state with the information you have, with the specifications of what you have to do to somehow chop up lands so that it comes within the right number of people to make it equal and then to start balancing other facts about the people.

I don't believe that there -- especially since I work for government and I should be even more skeptical, but I really don't believe that the Independent Commission that it was specifically in any way unduly influenced to come up with this. I believe it's one of those consequential things that you separate out and as you look at factors, you come up with a particular shape.

If you were a government from Phoenix, what we see in this legislative map would be the law, and we wouldn't have an answer. So Prop 106 is working because you were able to bring together people from all around Cochise County to speak with you about our concerns, and I think we learned how important it is to
somehow have Cochise County contiguous because the
nature of who we are and the nature of our geography
brings us to a point where to take out some area of
Cochise County really hurts us because we've developed
as a county, as a group of people who communicate and
do business with us.

For example, when you can't get a
competent technician somewhere else in the county, you
have to ship someone out from Sierra Vista because not
only is it the largest town, but it will have the most
professional services. So what happens is that Sierra
Vista is knitted into the rest of Cochise County and
the rest of Cochise County as needs to Sierra Vista.

The wisdom of map number two is that other
aspects of Cochise County, even going down to Douglas,
connects well to Safford and connect well to other
areas above Greenlee County and so forth. Willcox has
real connections up that way. So it would look like
map two would be an interesting thing to have, and
that's something that I would support.

I have two questions. The first one is
that earlier on you had mentioned in the general
information to the Independent Redistricting Commission
that under the last goal, the sixth goal says to the
extent practicable, competitive districts should be
favored where to do so would create no significant
detriment of the other goals. What is the definition
of competitive districts?

      MR. ELDER: Ms. Hauser?

      MS. HAUSER: I always get the questions
that make me have to give the answer "it depends."

      We're in the process right now, we
commissioned an expert to do a study for us of
districts in Arizona and what makes them competitive.

      They're going to differ from place to
place. A competitive district in one part of the state
may not be a competitive district in another. It
depends on the voting patterns. It depends on party
registration. In some parts of the state, there's a
lot of crossover voting. For example, people, you
know, switching parties and voting for the candidate of
the other party.

      So we're in the process of trying to work
that out, but it is not solely based on voter
registration. It's going to be based on a number of
different factors, and we're working on that right now.

      There are parts of the state where I think
it may be very difficult to come up with competitive
districts. For example, I mean, the examples that are
usually presented to us are places like Scottsdale.
For example, it's going to be difficult to make that truly competitive. It's predominantly Republican, and there are other areas of the state that, you know, with that same kind of issue.

MR. COOK: So you mean, by this you mean competitive for the possibility of making a legislative race, a horse race, something that's sort of a toss up where the best woman would win and the guy ended up getting it.

MS. HAUSER: The information that comes to us most frequently on that point is that a competitive district is one where the entire election is not decided in the primary.

MR. COOK: Oh, good. Okay. And that's fair.

The other thing is that I --

COMMISSION ATTORNEY: You know, one lawyer speaks, the other lawyer also wants to speak.

In fact, one of the reasons that we're having this hearing is not only to listen to how the people think the district should be drawn but also to hear comments from the people in the area as to what they perceive competitiveness is and what they think on that aspect of it.

So, you know, the Commission is very
interested in hearing from the people in the area, how
you perceive it, how you define competitiveness.

MR. COOK: Thank you. The other thing is
what drew me here tonight and I think what may have
drawn a lot of people here is an article that was in
the Sunday paper where, to quickly read this quote, it
said, "Virtually all of Cochise County is unified in
the goal that the county be made one. All of the early
plans distributed by the Commission had the county
intact. Local residents who attended the Commission
meeting last week in Tucson said the maps with Cochise
County intact were kept up until the final minutes long
after most members of the public had left the meeting.
The new maps were presented just minutes before the
final vote, and the Commission admitted that Cochise
County was getting the short end of the stick with the
vote."

I don't know about the truth of that. I
wasn't at the meeting or the reasons behind it. But
again, working for the government, that's one of the
things that led me here tonight to try to hear what the
reality was.

My concern having worked with the
government in Cochise County for 7 years, and in fact
having been a resident of Cochise County during two
centuries, since 1993, is that it's important for us as citizens in this country and in all the different sections to be able to govern ourselves, and it's important that the interest, the specific interest that is most protected is the interest of all of us people who have different ideas but who have in our case ultimately 170,000 some odd individuals make our decisions rather than people who are blessed with power, money, and good looks, and are able to make decisions that then we have to live with.

And I'm hoping that in the rest of your work that you will continue to do these kind of listen to people like us and to consider our concerns and to help us see through to the kind of redistricting that gives us the opportunity to elect legislators who will actually not only serve us but be able to serve us.

And finally, I especially want to thank you more than anything else for having brought Sierra Vista to this point where it realizes that it needs the rest of Cochise County.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. Richard Domianus or Domianus.

MR. DOMIANUS: Well, you were closer the first time. It is spelled D-O-M-I-A-N-U-S.

I will be quite honest with you. When we
saw this new map came out, the people that I deal with wanted to give you guys a necktie party. They were not too happy with you at all.

If memory serves me, the last meeting that you all had down here you were very adamant about keeping Cochise County in one area, one legislative district. I would like to know what happened and where that went to. If you can believe half of what went into the paper, somebody got a hold of somebody's ear and did some talking. Whether that's true or not, I don't know.

The original map that you had the first time down here, your first ones, if memory serves me correct again, most of the people that were at that meeting said that was absolutely fine for them. That was a good start. It was there all the way through the state.

What I see now defeats the purpose of Proposition 106 in every way. Proposition 106 doesn't say a district has to be nice or pretty or follow a certain mountain range. It doesn't even say it has to be competitive. Competitive is on the low end of the stick for this. Again, that seems to keep being brought up from over here.

Communities of interest. As it stands
right now, the best map that I've seen so far is the
number two. I'll go along with that.

The one that you got for the federal
congressional, I would go along with it, but I won't
like it. Again, your initial map that you put out the
last time, the first time you were down here, I liked
that and so did everybody else that was at that
meeting.

So what changed? If this does not change
to something like that or something a whole lot fairer
for Cochise County and Sierra Vista. I lived here -- I
first came here when you couldn't get to Sierra Vista
from Interstate 10. You had to go through Sonoita or
through Tombstone or by train. I kind of liked it that
way but progress moves on.

We're rural folks. This is a community
and a county of farm, ranching, mining, even with the
military. That's where we belong. I went through this
stuff 10 years ago. Where I live in Sierra Vista, I'm
part of Green Valley and Tucson. I don't go to Tucson.
If I can't buy here, I don't buy it. I don't need it.

As a matter of fact, to be quite honest
with you, I detest Tucson. It is commonly called, in
my group of people, the principality of Tucson.
Phoenix is even less thought of. That's the kingdom of
Phoenix. And yet I see you ladies and gentlemen are from Tucson and Phoenix. If that gives you the idea that we are not particularly fond of you, you're right. We're not. I'm not politically correct. You know what, I don't care.

I go through Phoenix as fast as humanly possible. The only time I go to Phoenix is when I needed to be in a hospital for one thing or another. And that's not -- luckily so far that's too often.

I detest being put in with Phoenix or Tucson. The big thing of it is is Gerrymandering. What I see is Gerrymandering. The two maps here put out the by the county and the map that you ladies and gentlemen put out. I did not vote for 106. At least I voted for the people in Phoenix and we can throw them rascals out. And as most people say, we don't have a whole lot to do with you ladies and gentlemen except take you to court, and that's a time consuming and expensive process. But I will tell you one thing, I will be leading the charge if that's what it comes to.

That's all I have to say.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. Ruben Ortega.

While Ruben's coming up, if there's anybody else that would like to speak this evening, if you would fill out a slip and pass it forward, I would be more than happy
MR. ORTEGA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. My name is Ruben Ortega. I am a resident from Hereford, Arizona. Spell my name R-U-B-E-N, last name O-R-T-E-G-A.

I come before you to show you a map that I put together. It's very similar to one of the maps that the board of supervisors put together, and there's some concerns that I want to deal with tonight that haven't been spoken to as of yet.

First of all, my favorite definition of Gerrymandering is that if you like the lines, it's redistricting. If you don't like the lines, it's Gerrymandering. So that's really the difference between the two words.

What I did is put together a district that I hope would help you in your trials with the Department of Justice. Ten years ago, as you well know, the Department of Justice came down to southeastern Arizona and said that if you can demonstrate that you can draw a majority/minority district, that you had to.

Now, I also know that over the last 10 years, there are several Supreme Court decisions that have gone down and have spoken to the issue of race as
it is spoken to, as it is addressed in the Voting Rights Act. But none of those Supreme Court decisions have ever nullified or put as either unlawful or put as either unlawful or unconstitutional any portion of the Voting Rights Act. Therefore, every portion of the Voting Rights Act is still intact. We may differ as to the interpretation of the difference court cases, but the fact remains none of the Voting Rights Act was ever struck down.

As my friend Levi Hauser from 10 years, she knows we never know what the Department of Justice is going to say. The reason for the configuration of what is District G, District W I believe in you alls maps is that it creates a district that will not cause retrogression in southeastern Arizona. We've got to remember that a history of the Department of Justice run under a different Bush said that you had to draw a district that took into consideration the various aspects of protected racial minorities and language minorities. I think the district that I propose does that. The demographics of the district are such that it is a majority/minority district of 53 percent.

A little bit about the history of the district is that the reason that you can see the line being drawn is that 10 years ago we went west because
you could pick up predominantly Hispanic communities, i.e., the community of Patagonia in Nogales. But this year because of the current proposal district, they had to drop down and you no longer had the minority populations of Graham and Greenlee County. So you had to go west. The district had to grow approximately 40,000 people.

This map takes in the Tohono O'Odham Indian Nation. It takes in the Pasqua Yaqui Indian Nation. The demographics are such that it is 41 percent Hispanic. Well, not Hispanic. White 47 percent just about. Native-Americans 6 percent. African-American 6.6, and in other non Hispanic 3.04.

What we've got to remember is that Voting Rights Act and redistricting is by its nature because of the way both the Act was written by Congress is a racially conscious legislative or commission process. And that's what makes it even more difficult for all you all to try to put together some kind of map.

So I would hope if you would look at it, consider some of the issues that will be involved in possible retrogression of what was a majority/minority district, a majority/minority district that has been elected a Hispanic legislator and previously elected one, and at the same time when you start looking at all
three scenarios, the Commission needs to look at racial
block voting. I don't know if the Commission has
looked at racial block voting in particular of the
three maps that are being shown in front of us. But I
think that's something that you have to consider
because we have to remember that like it or not, there
are some people out there just do not vote for someone
either for the color of their skin or their last name.
That's unfortunate, but we know because of demographic
information, because of past election results, that
that in fact does happen, and in fact it does happen in
southeastern Arizona.

I won't tell you I have a preference, but
the three maps are a whole lot better than what the
Commission proposed. I would like to see the
demographics of map two, whether or not in fact we have
close to the majority/minority numbers that we had 10
years ago.

So I do thank you all for the opportunity
to present this, and we will see you all again.

MR. ELDER: Any questions?

MR. HALL: Mr. Ortega, can you explain, is
that split in Sierra Vista?

MR. ORTEGA: This is -- Sierra Vista is
right here. These two -- to answer your answer, Mr.
Chairman, or Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hall, it does not split the major population portion of Sierra Vista. It takes out Huachuca but includes Huachuca City into legislative District 8, legislative District G, and then it takes what is called Sierra Vista Fort, which is another precinct, and connects it into District K.

The reason being that Fort Huachuca, just like our prisons, are what are called ghost numbers. There are a lot of numbers there, but there are not a lot of actual people there. So it does split Sierra Vista in that it takes two precincts, Fort Huachuca, Huachuca precinct, Sierra Vista Fort precinct.

But the numbers in there are really probably going to be less significant than they really are, and the other being that it gives the Commission at least some numbers to work with in Pima County.

MR. HALL: Are you familiar with the demographics of this proposal versus the demographics of this proposal?

MR. ORTEGA: No. the only one that I'm familiar with the demographics is the one that I am proposing District G, and I do believe it's very similar to map five over on the far right, but I've not seen a particular demographics.

MR. HALL: Is there other reasons why
Santa Cruz County was split in this proposal?

MR. ORTEGA: I have not read the transcript from Santa Cruz County, but my understanding of the testimony down in Nogales is that Santa Cruz County asked to be put into two legislative districts, and the reason it splits Santa Cruz County down the middle in the manner that it does, which is this line right there, what it does it goes up and takes in Patagonia and it takes in Nogales.

The reason I did that is because 10 years ago we were required to do that. So there is precedence set for having the map go west as it did before.

MR. ELDER: Okay. Thank you. We need to take about a 2-minute break to get our stenographer underway with his paper again, and we will start then.

(Recess taken.)

MR. ELDER: Let's get it back underway, if we can. We've got five more speakers. The next speaker is Sue Krenitz.

MS. KRENITZ: Good evening, and thank you for allowing me to speak. I come from a ranch 35 miles northeast of Douglas, Arizona. It's the Cherish Ranch, and I'm here representing Cochise County, Cochise Graham Cattle Herders, Arizona State Cattle Herders.
We are all members of ranching counties, have been in the ranching business -- well, my husband's family has been in business since 1906. My family's been here sine 1912. So ranching does exist in Cochise County. They're found under ranches in the Yellow Pages. That's where it's found.

I was married in 1977. I voted in Douglas. I grew up in Douglas, and in 1977 I married my husband Robby, moved to the ranch, and at that time I became a member of last District Number 42.

In 1982 the district was redefined, and for over 50 years the community, which was a ranching community voted at the Apache Elementary School. Overnight we lost our voting district, and the community, it really caused a great hardship on the community. It was a very big thing, you know. When we had our voting, everybody came to the school. I got to go to school. And we had a barbeque and everybody voted and, you know, very a traditional thing that we passed on to our children. I'm a fourth generation ranchers from that area.

And so they moved us, and for a while we were in Portal, and then we voted -- and now we vote at large out at Sunnyside in Douglas, Arizona. And at one time out of the five people living on the ranch, my
husband voted in Douglas, my brother-in-law, the my
sister-in-law, my father-in-law all voted in Douglas.
I voted in Portal.

So redistricting can really raise my hair.
I am in total support of the map number two, and I will
tell you why.

First of all, as I've told you, the
Cochise/Graham Cattle Herders do overlap with Cochise
and Graham cattle herders. We do network with the
Greenlee cattle herders, but we also work with the
cattle herders in Santa Cruz and Pima County as well.
But also on this map, it seems that what you people
fail to understand, Santa Cruz County has earned the
right to represented by themselves. And that's a real
step, I think, for somebody who has lived in rural
Arizona all my life and have been told since I was a
child that Maricopa and Pima County ran the state and
all the sudden, this sense of to the small, you know,
Cochise County and then this very small county, Santa
Cruz County, is going to get their own representation.
I mean that's marvelous.

This is why map number two is really the
most logical. And we really need to keep the county,
you know, contained, and that's another reason why
Cochise County is -- that's a marvelous map for Cochise
County to get our message heard, and our message does
deal with water issues. We deal with border issues.
We deal with property rights issues. And property
rights, the protection of private property rights is
very, very important to myself and my family and my
children.

There is no other map here that recognizes
that kind of issue. I can guarantee that. So I would
hope that you would consider looking and agreeing with
the second, map number two.

Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Bob Carpenter.

MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chairman, the

Commissioners.

I live in Sierra Vista, and a lot of the
people that you have heard here tonight do not but they
live in Cochise County. There's been a political point
effort which built itself up over the history of this
area, and people that live here still think that Sierra
Vista should be part or should be a political part of
Cochise County.

I couldn't disagree more. I thought that
that first map or that map, that preliminary map that
you had here that split Sierra Vista away from Cochise
County was a great idea. And the truth of the matter
is that this is a cosmopolitan area. The population
here has grown. We have a lot more in common with the
people in Tucson than we do with people that live along
the border that concern themselves with the border
issues, that concern themselves with mining, that
concern themselves with agriculture.

The truth of the matter is that you've got
to draw lines that are going to last for 10 years.
Take this into account. Sierra Vista is the fastest-
growing area in this county, and I like the idea of
being politically align to Tucson. I think that's a
good idea.

The reason that you had to make some
compromises up in Tucson was that you wanted to provide
some common elements to Maricopa County. Nobody's
mentioned this here today. I think Maricopa gets
something like 10 or 12 representatives under the new
system with their population growth, and Tucson wanted
5. They probably put together some political alliances
on the issues that are going to affect the state.

But I think that's a good idea. I think
that, you know, Tucson should have some political clout
to offset what's obviously going to be a problem, a
future problem in Arizona with all the population that
has accumulated in Maricopa County.
The representatives, there's three representatives on the state level that we have representing us, representing Sierra Vista, none of which is in Sierra Vista. One of them lives in Bisbee. One of them lives in Patagonia, and one of them lives in Willcox. And they take care of issues that are of interest to those people in those areas.

You've heard them here tonight. They come down and they say, you know, you've got to take mining into account. You've got to take ranching into account. I live in a cosmopolitan place that's going to get more cosmopolitan as time goes by. I identify with people in Tucson and their problems.

What problems are a big problem? Well, they're no more important to me than let's say national defense or Social Security, something like that. And there are two big issues here in Sierra Vista that have always been growth and water. And none of these people talk about growth and water. They've left this issue to the city government, and the city government is in firm control the Chamber of Commerce. It's in control of the real estate industry and developers.

So this issue never gets talked about. Okay. They just keep abusing the system and keep over drafting. At some point in time we're going to need
some water, and I might suggest a good place to get it
would be from Tucson. Okay. You're going to have to
pump it uphill, okay, but nevertheless, this is
something that Sierra Vista might have in the future.
So I ask -- you listen to these people
that talked before me with a great assault. Okay.
They've got an agenda. They want Sierra Vista's
population, but they don't want what it means. They
don't want the political influence that we should
rightly have. And this comes up speaker after speaker.
They all say the same thing. Don't split Sierra Vista
away from Cochise County. I say I couldn't be happier.
By all means let's align ourselves with Tucson. Let's
get into the 20th century. Let's get rid of this old,
boring network. Times are changing.
Thank you for your attention.
MR. ELDER: Thank you. Tony Zimmermann or
Zittermann.
MR. ZIMMERMAN: That's right. Z-I-M-M-E-
R-M-A-N-N.
I live in Sierra Vista. Commissions and
staff, as an analyst I trusted you've already used
valid statistical methods to analyze the population
demographics in drawing maps. And I do compliment you
on the effectiveness in stimulating public
participation in this process. You've dealt with the
nicest group you've ever seen.

I have visited Apache Junction on occasion
and there's no doubt in my mind that Apache Junction is
part of Phoenix metroplex. People in Cochise County
are faced with problems that are foreign to the people
in the Phoenix metroplex.

Conservation of water is a critical issue
here in Cochise County. People in the metroplex
routinely flood their yard inches deep with water
that's been transported hundreds of miles across the
desert. And people in Tucson rejoice when they have
the leftover water, even when they couldn't drink it.

The largest employer in this county has
taken some very significant steps in reducing water
consumption by installing waterless urinals. Now, I
ask you how could somebody who floods their yard weekly
with water relate to the criticality of water shortage.

There are many functions of government
that you've heard tonight that Cochise County has
either assumed or helped out the infrastructure of
surrounding neighborhoods. Parts of Greenlee and
Graham County are essentially now part of our spirit
influence. Whether that was our desire or intent,
Cochise County stepped up and said: We'll take that
burden and we'll do that.

I wasn't particularly in favor of that, but now that we've done it, I think we need to support that and we need to have the legislative power to be able to continue that.

I would like to compliment you on taking the time to come down here and listen to us. And I would like to suggest that you incorporate map number two with perhaps the amendment of the gentleman from Santa Cruz County to take in the northeast section of Santa Cruz County. People there do feel they're more part of Sierra Vista than they are anywhere else. They come here. We appreciate their money. We appreciate their sales tax, and they gladly leave it here and it keeps my property taxes lower.

So I would commend to you map number two with perhaps adding the northeast portion of Santa Cruz County.

MR. ELDER: Sir, to clarify the line per se, do you split at Sonoita, between Sonoita/Patagonia, Patagonia going to the west and the Sonoita and the northeast, is that where the divide --

MR. ZIMMERMANN: From my understanding of the economics of that area is that Elgin and Sonoita consider themselves one economic entity. Patagonia has
realized that they are not Nogales, and they jointly
publish community breakfasts and things like that. So
in their mind, they are one entity from Patagonia all
the way to Sierra Vista, in their mind. They shop here
and we do like that.

MR. ELDER: Thank you.

MR. ZIMMERMANN: Thank you, sir.

MR. ELDER: This is the last slip I have,
but if there is anybody else that would like to speak,
we'll go from there. Gary Frasier.

MR. FRASIER: I'm a veterinarian. Even
though I'm in the phone book, you might not be able to
find me. It's under Beef Cattle and Ranch Forces. And
I make a business of it all over the southern part of
the state. It is a business and it is definitely a
good business. I've supported my family here for
almost 30 years.

started off in Sierra Vista. It was a
nice ranching community, believe it or not, at one
time. But there was those few people from Tucson who
moved and pushed their politics our way, and I moved a
little bit farther out, just as far as Patagonia or
Palomino Switch. It's still Sierra Vista. I don't
care what you say.

But I do travel all this area, into Graham
County, Greenlee County, over in Santa Cruz County, and
I can tell you that Sierra Vista is not only just a
commercial center for most of the county, it's a center
where people are using the hospitals, they're using all
kinds of things all the way up into Graham County.

Graham County and Cochise County have always been
together as far as I know. Somebody mentioned the
Graham -- Cochise/Graham Cattle Herders Association.
They must be 50, 60 years old.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: 1912.

MR. FRASIER: 1912. I mean, they've been
associated for that long.

Santa Cruz County and Sierra Vista area
have been associated as long as the cattlemen somewhat,
so I'm not opposed the fact that Patagonia, Canelo,
Elgin, and Sonoita might be included in that if you
need more population. They do fit the area a lot more
than some of the other areas. Maybe even take out Ben
Anderson's Pinal ejection. But at any rate, that may
be how you can change it to make it fit, and I don't
think there would be any argument as far as that's
concerned.

I really take a lot of issue with Mr.
Carpenter and Mr. Horton's statement about we are
Sierra Vista, and we're much more area, whatever they
are, high tech than the rest of the county. They're missing the boat. They haven't been there. They're burying their head in some endangered species hole and can't find their way out. They don't know what's going on. They really don't in this county. They've moved from some other place and they want to bring their politics with them and control.

If they're talking about water issues and how they were worried about it, at one time when I came here, I thought it was a wonderful idea because the CAP project, which irrigated so much of the farmlands in central Arizona, was going to come to Sierra Vista. Nobody remembers that. It's called Charleston Dam, and it would have satisfied all that kind of problem, but there was people from Tucson, they did criticize it. I would like to see that drawn up again. You know, it's not a bad deal really. It could solve all the water problems, and repair any habitat problems that there are. It may be a, you know, an archaic suggestion, but it's something I would like to see brought out but I don't think you're going to get it with people out of Tucson representing us.

And frankly, I think it's a real stress to not call any of the other suggestions, including Mr. Ortega's suggestion, it's Gerrymandering. It's
Gerrymandering pure and simple, obvious. I don't care if you mask it under the minority/majority thing. It's Gerrymandering.

The Hopi thing is Gerrymandering, too, you know, and I don't know how you can argue that. I mean, sure, the Hopis want out of the Navajos. Well, maybe that's so. Maybe the two people in Sierra Vista can get their little lot, you know, Gerrymandered out of Sierra Vista. That satisfied me fine if they want it that way.

Let's see. I wrote some other notes down. I had almost given up until Mr. Horton stood up here. I was going to go home, but when he started that, I just couldn't believe that he doesn't think that the rest of the county has anything to do with it, and that there is no other industry besides what's sitting here in Sierra Vista. He's missing the boat. You know he's missing the boat.

The rest of the county is using Sierra Vista. It's a center for them. They really appreciate Sierra Vista, and they come here and use it. I have a client in Willcox, north of Willcox, the other day told me what a great hospital Sierra Vista has. And I said, gees, people in Sierra Vista don't know that. He came all that way and it's his right. He didn't want to go
to Tucson for anything.

Let me remind you that Cochise County one
time was part of Pima County. And it's 120 years ago
or so Cochise County says we want out. And when they
took out and took their own county, Tombstone was the
courthouse. You know, you still see the 1881 thing on
the top of the courthouse. It's a museum now. But
Fort Huachuca was in it. Fort Huachuca was in it
because Cochise County needed it and they need it now.

That's about all I got to say.

MR. ELDER: Marianne Black. He did it.

He stole my slip.

MS. BLACK: I about gave up, too. I
thought, well, gosh, maybe I didn't fill out a slip,
but thank you very much for coming down here. We
appreciate it very much, and, Mr. Chairman and members
of the Commission and attorneys and everybody.

I think map two is going to come the
closest to satisfying our needs down here. And if you
do anything other than that, you're going to dilute the
representation for this area. We are a unit, and we
are going step by step. We comply with the
constitutional requirements. Our congressional
district should have equal population. The
congressional map, I think that fits very well for this
community. We should be geographically compact and
contiguous. I think that's met right there with map
number two.

And just to give you a little bit of
history, I am a fourth generation Arizonan. My husband
is too. We have ranches here in Cochise County. We've
got a ranch right here in Sierra Vista. We've got a
ranch is Pomerene. And somehow with the last
Gerrymandering that one of our speakers here tonight
did, we ended up in District 9, in Green Valley, for
heaven's sake. Both our Pomerene ranch and our Sierra
Vista ranch if you can believe that.

So how in the heck are we going to get any
representation from Green Valley. And in this mess
that you folks have proposed, there's absolutely no way
that we're going to have any representation. And to
follow your requirements in Prop 106, again, district
boundaries should respect communities of interest to
the extent practicable.

I have ranched and rodeoed all over this
country and all over Arizona, and we are contiguous all
the way up to Graham and Greenlee. We all have common
interests, and we have common economic interests, and
Sierra Vista happens to be one of the dominating
economic influences in this whole county and is
necessary for this county, and every time you take Sierra Vista out of our legislative district, then you're diluting our representation and preventing us from being a representative of participative government.

So going on it again to the extent practicable, district lines should be use visible geographic features taking into account county boundaries. Country boundaries. It's right there. I mean, everything is clearly spelled out in Prop 106 the way this district should be drawn, and I hope that you folks will adhere to that, and I think tonight you've heard enough from all of us how we feel about it, and if anything else were to happen, I expect you will hear a loud voice from us.

Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. Is there anybody else that wishes to speak this evening?

MR. EHL: Can we ask questions?

MR. ELDER: Sure.

MR. EHL: I'm Jim Ehl. Okay. My question, sir, is this. I'm Jim Ehl, E-H-L. Since I mentioned earlier the question I would like to make it direct either to the Chair or maybe Mr. Hall is: what was the argument --
MR. ELDER: Let me interrupt just one moment. We ask questions to the attorneys, and I'm not quite sure I know the -- why that is, so. The questions you said they had to be addressed to the attorneys as opposed to the Commission?

FEMALE: No.

MR. ELDER: Never mind.

MR. EHL: Okay. Then this question I think maybe goes to the root of the matter, and maybe you can help us then. My question is this to either the Chair or Mr. Hall.

What was the argument put forth by EACO that they move Graham and Greenlee from our contingent.

MR. HALL: That's an excellent question. I'm not sure the date. Ruben, when do we go into Thatcher again? I'm going to invite all of you to go to Thatcher whoever would like to make that trip to East Arizona College. I was there last time we held a public hearing. As has been commonly referred to as the EACO proposition which is an acronym, for the Eastern Arizona Counties Organization. That plan was -- that proposal was supported by a numerous resolutions from both county and city governments throughout that particular area; and therefore, our consultants and we as a Commission again invite that as an AUR, Arizona
Unit Representation, with a couple of exceptions.

The bulk of the voice in Safford and Thatcher and those that came from Greenlee County indicated that their preference was to be to the north, almost to the same degree that we heard from you folks that your preference was that they come to the south, which is a very prime example of the numerous challenges we as a commission have where we hear absolutely conflicting information from parties that are neighboring parties. Whether it be move my neighborhood this way or whether it be move whole communities one way or another.

So that is certainly one of our challenges is that what we heard, what I heard as I was there, Mr. Ohern can correct me if I'm wrong, he was at the same meeting, is that they prefer to be connected with and keep their whole counties intact and be connected with the communities to the north as is currently represented on our draft legislative map.

I couldn't tell you why, that's just what they told us as a Commission.

Did that answer your question or?

MR. EHL: I don't know what their plan is.

I would have to hear it.

MR. HALL: I would invite, very sincerely,
I would invite those to come to the meeting. We're going to be in Thatcher, Eastern Arizona College of whatever the date is. The staff can tell us here in a second. I don't have it memorized. And hear what they have to say because there seems to be a sentiment in that respect.

MR. ELDER: I would like to add to that the people who said it didn't make any difference, they have the issue they wanted to keep Gila Valley whole because they had the same issues that came up here tonight. They have water issues. They're in battles with their adjacent areas. They have agriculture. They have the mines and Morenci and Phelps Dodge or BPH, whatever it is now, and it's a new mine or at least they've done the testing and would open as soon as copper prices come out. So they've got developer mining issues all the way over, you know, toward the Hayden/Kearney area which is where the Gila and the San Pedro converge.

So that was in my mind sort of a cutoff point. That's one of the reasons why we're looking for communities of interest. Say, well, what would happen if we went up and picked up those mines at the San Pedro. The San Pedro has water issues. You know, so there was some rationale, believe or not, as to why
that, what was it, Pinal insertion plan was proposed.

So in any case, you know, that's what we have heard both at Globe. You know, I was at Globe. I was at Thatcher. I was at Sierra Vista. You know, so there was almost the same thing that we're going to get to, I think, tomorrow night at Santa Cruz is that we have about a 50-50 split that says we want one strong one representational area and the other 50 percent we really like multiple because we have more, you know, people up there in the state senate, and then legislature that can represent us.

So that's why we're here is to try and find out if we can get clarification of the if sos, why sos and what other factors do we need to take into consideration when we're trying to balance these sort of competing or moderately similar issues.

MALE SPEAKER: Just to answer your question, Mr. Ehl, that meeting is on September 13th at 6:30 p.m. That will be at Eastern Arizona College at Thatcher. And just FYI.

Let me just make one more comment. There seem to be some more questions back there. But being a resident of rural Arizona and being a rancher and being a farmer and being a fifth generation Arizonan, I can emphasize with the feelings that folks in rural Arizona
have with respect to their concerns.

And one thing that I was refreshed by at
least by all of the folks we've heard this evening from
a personal standpoint is that there was an attempt I
could see at least to maintain a rural character to all
the proposals that were there.

Are there some other questions?

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Just a quick
comment because Mr. Ortega brought up earlier about the
content. I believe map two, if you look at the mining
interests in the Gila Valley and that whole area,
you're going to find that that will meet the criteria
that he was discussing because the Hispanic population
in that area in the Gila Valley and in the mining
towns, and I'm very familiar with all those towns. And
I believe that you will find that you will have that 53
percent minority content. I believe that will meet
that criteria.

MR. ELDER: Okay. Thank you. Yes, ma'am?

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: I just would
like to kind of comment on the watershed. My ranch
lies at the foot of the Chiricahuas. The north of the
ranch, the water does flow to the Gila River. On the
south the watershed is on the Yaqui. And so, you know,
you throw us into a whole situation with the first map
where, you know, ranchers who -- since we have been
putting water rights on our water since 1906, then we
get into a big conflict on water control and water
ownership and stuff like that, which everything is fine
right now. I don't want to mess with it. So don't
make it worse on us.

And then, you know, so much of you think --
people don't understand. They think everything flows
some other way, but, you know, the rivers don't always
flow like you think they do because it's just the way
water flows. It flows -- so anyway, our water goes,
you know, actually south and then into New Mexico and
back up into the Gila. So that's about the way our
water goes. So it's just -- and I would also like to
tell you that in my area, which is the San Bernadino
Valley, there are many ranchers that were not even
counted in the census.

They got no notification through the mail
and they got nobody coming up to the ranches and
leaving the tag or no phone calls calling them because
the ranch roads are very rough, and so a lot of people
who are on census, they don't really want to drive out
over the rough roads, and then most of the ranchers are
gone during the day. They're not there during the day.
So there was quite a few people that weren't counted.
MR. ELDER: Thank you. Yes, sir?

MR. TATE: My name is John Jay Tate. I live in Bisbee. I came back after several years in Europe.

But looking at these two maps here, you are placing, in the legislative, you are placing us in the power of a lot of money in Phoenix. And on the congressional district, you are putting us in the power of a lot of money in Tucson. You have done a vast disservice to Santa Cruz County because you split us in half.

And I understand why the northern part of our district wants to go home. They've been with us I don't know how many years. I lived here in 1948, but I think they've been with us then, too. But to me it's just a simple case of wanting to go home and control their own, even though we lose something that way.

But putting us in with Tucson and Phoenix on legislative and congressional -- on the congressional legislative district, the money that runs the power of the parties is located in those counties, and we will be without any representative party whatsoever.

Taking Sierra Vista away from us, well, if we can't find it in Bisbee or Willcox, that's where we...
come. I see no sense of driving 94 miles to Tucson when all I do is drive 32 miles to Sierra Vista. I'm even switching one of my chest doctors. I'm leaving my chest doctor in Tucson and coming here because that's about 184 or 188 miles round trip. And here it's only 64.

But don't put us in the hands of the money in Tucson and Phoenix because we will never have a word to say anymore.

Thank you.

MR. ELDER: Thank you. And if there aren't anymore questions, I'll turn it back over to Mr. Lynn so he can -- oh, we have one more.

SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: No, it's not a question but we're reaching the end of the night, so on behalf of Cochise County if it's left up to me and my colleagues I would like to think it's because of my good looks and talent that I'm still here. However, they had a lot of their trips more than I do. But I would like to thank you on behalf of Cochise County for your ear and patience and frankly for your good chore, and we look forward to seeing you in the future.

Thank you very much.

MR. LYNN: Thank you. That concludes the formal portion of the evening. I've been told that the
staff at the library needs to clean the building and
they need to be out of here around 10:30. So with
respect to them, we will try to exit as quickly as we
can.

I do want to thank all of you for coming
and all of your colleagues who had to leave earlier.
As some said, it was with some trepidation that we came
to Sierra Vista this evening, but please understand as
we said at the beginning of the evening, this is still
a work in progress. Your input has been invaluable in
helping us solve the problems that we know exist with
the maps, and we will certainly hope that you will see
that your input has had an effect when we get to the
final maps as we must in October.

So we thank you very much for staying with
us. The meeting is adjourned.