The Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission Public Hearing was taken on Saturday, September 15, 2001, commencing at 3:07 p.m., at City of Bullhead City Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Boulevard, Bullhead City, Arizona, before Alexis A. Taylor, a Registered Professional Reporter, Certified Court Reporter in Arizona, and a Notary Public in and for the State of Minnesota.

PROCEDINGS

MR. RIVERA: I would like to call the hearing in Bullhead City of the Independent Redistricting Commission to order. We're going to wait two minutes because Commissioner Huntwork we didn't think was going to make it. We weren't sure he was going to make it in because of the difficulties this week. Here he
is.

While Mr. Commissioner Huntwork is coming to set up, let me introduce some people here. To my left is Augusta, a member of our staff; and Alexis, who is our court reporter; Alma, a member of the staff. I'm Jose Rivera, who is going to vacate this seat in a minute for the Commissioner; Commissioner Huntwork, who just walked in; and Alan Heslop, who is one of the advisors and one of the consultants of NDC.

The way we have been doing and the -- manner in which we have been proceeding is we have a small slide show telling you what we're doing and hopefully where we're going to present to the audience. The way we do it is you submit speaker slips. If you can keep it down to three or four minutes, we would appreciate it. If you can't do it in three or four minutes, we'll listen to everything you have to say. If you have forgotten something, tell us, and you will be heard.

Commissioner Huntwork will state your name. We will not call anyone that does not have a yellow slip. When you come up, for the court reporter's sake, please state your name and spell it out for her if you can.

DR. HESLOP: Thank you. My name is Alan Heslop. I'm with National Demographics. We are one of the consultants to the Commission. My role simply is to take you through this very brief power point, which is aimed to get everyone on the same page. It covers many basic factual information and can save us getting into some discussion later on. Without further ado, I would like to begin this power point.

(Presentation done.)

DR. HESLOP: The testimony at this hearing will be described by the court reporter, it will be summarized and verbatim excerpts will be taken from it. These materials will go on our web site. Commissioners will review the testimony in detail. There is a form in this packet where you can give a written reaction to the draft maps. You can write to the Commission or you can e-mail to the Commission. We give 72-hour turnaround on your e-mails, so you're not writing to a nonresponsive agent. We respond, and the web site, which is maintained by the Commission has a great deal of information. It is, we believe, very user-friendly. That's the end of our power point, and it is the end of my role here. I'm going to take very careful notes to supplement whatever the court reporter has to say, and now I turn it over to Commissioner Huntwork.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you, Dr. Heslop.

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to turn the floor over to you in just a moment but I think it's appropriate to pause for a minute and reflect on what we're doing here today. This is an exercise in Democracy, and as such, it is truly part of the unshakeable foundation of America that no enemy will ever be able to touch as long as we ourselves continue to hold our own rights precious and exercise them boldly and enthusiastically. That is what you are here to do today, and on behalf of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission, I would like to welcome you
here and thank you in advance for participating, exercising your rights and helping us to do our job better.

When I call on you to speak, please come up to this podium in front and start by stating your name. If the spelling is not obvious, I would also ask you to spell it for our stenographer, who is keeping a verbatim transcript of this proceeding, which by the way will be read in its entirety by all of the other commissioners.

Secondly, I want to encourage you, of course, to say everything you came here to say, but also to be as concise as possible as a courtesy to your fellow citizens. If you speak too long, I may ask you to defer the rest of your remarks to the rest of the hearing so that other people will have their chance to speak as well. I and the Commission staff will stay and hear you out in full, and if you want to ask us questions or talk to us after the hearing, we will stay around in order to do that as well.

Finally, I want to warn you in advance that we may ask you questions at the end of your remarks and we may even interrupt you in the course of your remarks if we get overly enthusiastic about what you're saying. With that introduction, I'm going to -- bear with me one minute.

MR. RIVERA: We have to make a statement with regard to Spanish-speaking people.

(Discussion held in Spanish.)

MR. RIVERA: Let the record reflect nobody raised their hand based on that or asked for any assistance with Spanish. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: With that introduction, the first speaker will be Bruce Hinman.

MR. HINMAN: My name is Bruce Hinman. I'm the President of the Democratic Association of Havasu, and I want to, first of all, thank the Redistricting Commission for the opportunity to speak. I will be brief. My concern is that the congressional and legislative districts are not as competitive as they could be. When I total the number of members of the major two parties of the state for the whole state, I come up with something like a 5 percent variance between the totals of both parties. When I study the congressional and legislative districts as proposed, I see a significant preference in the total for perhaps one party over another. For example, in the congressional districts, if I understand correctly, the Republicans would have the majority in five districts, where Democrats would only have three; and in the legislative districts, Republicans would have a population or majority of 19 districts, where Democrats would only have 11.

My point is that our districts, in my opinion, need to be more competitive and more in the range of the 5 percent for the total variance of this state. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

The next speaker is Marty Coburn.

MR. COBURN: I would like to not speak right now.
MR. HUNTWORK: Okay. Alberta Ecklund.

MS. ECKLUND: Hi. Alberta Ecklund, Bullhead City.

Thank you for being here. I went to the first hearing that they had here in Bullhead City, and it seems like everything that people talked about and suggested was totally ignored in what I see in these maps that we have here. We asked to be in with the river communities, which is something we have in common, and instead, in the congressional district, my Lord, we're half of Arizona. I mean, how could anybody in that congressional district get proper representation in that size of a district? The legislative district comes a little closer.

Mr. Hinman addressed some of my concerns, so I won't go into that, but right now that's my major concern. Thank you very much.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

Next speaker it is Lester Byram

MR. BYRAM: My name is Lester Byram, B-Y-R-A-M.

Mr. Chairman and members of your delegation, thanks again for coming to Mohave County and giving our citizens an opportunity to be heard. Last Saturday in

Kingman, I told you or the group that was there that I had written a letter to Steve Lynn expressing our strong objections at what is being imposed for Mohave County, in particular. Kingman and Colorado City. I read a letter into the record at Kingman last week, so I won't do that again today. I strongly urge you to go back and reevaluate this district that you are proposing for Kingman and Colorado City to be included in. We're talking about a district from the Nevada line 350 miles across this state to the New Mexico line; and for the congressional district, another 150 miles down or so. It would stagger the imagination to think any representative would cover an area like that.

For your information, Colorado City has been in a similar district for the last ten years. During that entire ten years, they have never seen a representative. I think that's a tragedy for the American way of life and representation. The same thing will happen to us if we are kept in this district, because we would be talking about 45,000 people, Kingman, Colorado City and Page with 120,000 Native Americans on the east side of the state where we have no commonality of interest. We don't consider ourselves a rural area. You're talking about Havasu, Kingman and Bullhead City, who are the fastest growing cities in Arizona; and Mohave County, the fastest growing County in Arizona. We have great differences in our business interest than the eastern side of the state. The eastern side of the state is primarily ranching, tourism and government checks; whereas, we have virtually no ranching and farming anywhere. We have tourism, we have great manufacturing and distribution centers, and those type of things are growing, and growing rapidly.

We have hope that you would reevaluate the suggestion and go back to what was originally suggested to you by your own consultant for the grid system that kept Mohave County together. Mohave County has 155,000
residents by the latest census. We only need 12,000
more to make the legislative district. It was
initially presented we would be included with LaPaz
County, where it makes great sense, where we have great
commonality of interest, where we have other
governmental entities. That area makes up the
majority, with Yuma County, of the Western Arizona
Council District. It makes up District 6 of the State
Transportation Board. They're included in the CanaMex
Corridor, Mohave County Water Authority. We have
greater commonality of interest, as well as the need to
keep our county together, not divide it. One portion
with Prescott, another portion with a northern border,
which is absolutely asinine to put us in that district
where representation cannot occur.
As far as we're concerned, we feel if this is
remains, we will simply be disenfranchised, and there
would be a sort of discrimination in reverse. Again,
we hope you will go back and look at this. We don't
think this is good for the Native American reservation
on the east side of Arizona either. One of the Navajo
representatives was there last week in Kingman and
expressed that to you. They want include the Apache
reservation. Again, for the eastern part of the state,
as well as the residents of Mohave County, particularly
Kingman and Colorado City, we hope that you will go
back and look at what your consultants recommended in
the beginning and give us adequate and fair
representation. Thank you.

Question?
MR. HUNTWORK: Yes, I would like to ask you one
question if I may. Thank you. Thank you for your very
frank remarks. I appreciate that, and I think it's
very helpful. The question that the Commission faced
in changing from the original configuration was to
generally rural congressional districts, one on the
west and one on the east side of the state. Was that
particularly the western district came down into
Maricopa County and a substantial amount of
population --

MR. BYRAM: You're talking about the congressional
district?

MR. HUNTWORK: The substantial population in that
district was western Maricopa County, that percentage
was going to grow very rapidly, and the argument was in
order to keep people in this area from being dominated
by the Phoenix Metropolitan area, we had to create one
massive rural district. If you will, by a district
outside of the Phoenix Metropolitan. That's the
configuration that you see.
The question is, given the demographics, the
population numbers that are necessary to create a
district, would you prefer to be joined up in the
western valley.

MR. BYRAM: The representative in Kingman,
including everyone, the Democratic and Republican
representative from both parties, expressed that they
would much prefer to have Mohave County and the western
side of Maricopa County as one district rather than the
large extremely district that you have put us in where
we feel that it would be impossible for, no matter how
good the intentions were of a representative, to cover
that area. Think of the expense any representative
would have to undertake and the time just to visit once
a year.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

MR. BYRAM: Any other questions? Again thank you
for coming to Mohave County and giving us an
opportunity to express our feelings to you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Next speaker is Patricia Coburn.

MS. COBURN: Good afternoon. I would like to thank
you for being here too and giving us an opportunity to
speak. My name is Patricia Coburn, C-O-B-U-R-N. I
think Mr. Byram was very eloquent in expressing the
opinion of a lot of us here. I want to reiterate that
the initial grid from your consultants left most of the
river communities together, which I think is very
important. It's -- it seems to be the prime
responsibility and interest of our river communities to
deal with the river, and here in Bullhead City, we have
had -- we are under a mandate for the sewers, to sewer
this area. This has taken, I would say, 90 percent of
the time of our local government. The other community
south of us are going to have similar problems. They
are facing them now. We needed to be able to -- to
combine our interests and to work together on this, and
if you split that area up along the river, you split
our effectiveness. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

The next speaker is Tom Sockwell.

MR. SOCKWELL: Members of the Commission, my name
is Tom Sockwell, S-O-C-K-W-E-L-L. I'm County
Supervisor for here from District 2. I'm speaking for
myself today. Gentlemen, we would like to keep the
river communities together. Your consultants' drawing
was very good. It kept most of the river communities
tied together. We have a gigantic problem along the
river, and that is ground water contamination. We have
several entities that are working such as the Colorado
River Coalition that's working. We're trying to get
government funding to help sewer these communities
along the river, keep our ground water clean, and I
think it's very, very important, because we have
nothing in common with the people across the state, and
let's keep us all tied together as much as possible
here in the river. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

The next speaker is Jack Hakim.

get called that often. First of all, welcome to
Bullhead. I am a City Council person here, but I'm
speaking on my own. I share Mayor Byram's comments and
also Commissioner Sockwell's comments. When you had
your diagram up there, one thing that was interesting
was items C, D, E and F that dealt with community
interests and the commonality. When the consultants
came through, there were a number of us that spoke up
that wanted to see the river communities all in one.
Bullhead City was split last time with the legislative,
it was split in half, we had one side of the street was
in District 1, and the other side of the street was
BULLHE-1.TXT

District 2, and for some, especially those that were new to the area, it was rather confusing. I see by the new maps that you have drawn out, especially the congressional district, where we have Bullhead City, and then you go down to Fort Mohave and down to Lake Havasu, it's a different district. We have a lot in common. We would like to stay the same.

We would like to be part of the river communities, and I hope that you give that consideration. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

The next speaker is Damian Hulther.

MR. HULTHER: My name is Damian Hulther, H-U-L-T-H-E-R. I didn't list an affiliation on the speaker card because I'm speaking for myself today, but since the gentleman from Havasu identified himself as from the Democratic Party, I am the President of the Colorado River Republican Forum and to highlight what Mayor Byram told you, we object to the way these lines are presently drawn. I think the most important thing in the consideration of these districts is what you listed in your point program is communities of interest, but I think what was mentioned the last time you had a meeting down here was commonality of interest. I would like to ask you on the congressional district map, what Bullhead City has in common with Swift Trail Junction all the way on the other side of the state? Or in legislative, what it has this common with Chino Valley?

What Bullhead City has in common is with other river cities. All the way down to the Mexican border, we all have the same interest; that is, the water and waste water issues, and it's highlighted by what happened on Tuesday. We have the hazardous issue if one of the dams went by either a terrorist or just by accident, and I think that the commonality of interest in regards to the river communities is more important than even the county line, if you have to break the east boundary. We are presently all joined together on both sides of the river in what is called the Colorado River Regional Sewer Coalition, because we are attempting to be recognized by the US Congress in an attempt to get funding of $1 billion was the last estimate. The Colorado River from Davis Dam down, excluding Mexico, is the sole source of drinking water for 20 million people. That's the commonality of interest. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

The next speaker is Jean Mace.

MS. MACE: Good afternoon. My name is Jean Mace of Bullhead City, and I thank you very much for giving us this opportunity to one more time express our concerns and opinions regarding the redistricting, and I thank you so very much in your beginning statements, but what I was thinking is how very fortunate we are as citizens of the United States to be able to do something like this to say to representatives, this is what we want or this is what we don't want. Enough of that.

I would like to echo everything that has been stated by every speaker before we. At the -- I'm sorry, I don't recall the first visit to Bullhead City,
by the Commission, we were shown a map that was told to
us had been computer-generated, which indicated that
Mohave County and LaPaz County would be joined as one
district. I fully, fully endorse that. I still do.

We have nothing in common with what is listed here.
I do hope that you listen, and I hope that
when it comes right down to the decision making, that
our voices will be heard, that we can be Mohave County
and LaPaz, river cities, with the exception of Kingman,
I'm sorry, but we are in Bullhead also, we're very,
very unique and we're proud of our uniqueness. Because
of our proximity to our neighbors across the river,
Laughlin, Nevada, we're a 24-hour city. Believe it or
not, we are. If you visit the area sometimes at 1:00,
2:00, 3:00 in the morning, drive our streets, not only
our main streets, but our side streets.
That's about all what I would like to say, and
please join us with Mohave County, with LaPaz County,
and we could be a very effective group of citizens in
electing our representative. Thank you very much.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.
MR. RIVERA: One question, we also took testimony
in Yuma, and LaPaz would prefer to go down with Yuma.
If that's true, what would you suggest we do?
MS. MACE: That's food for thought. Are you
telling me that the majority of the people in LaPaz
County wanted to be joined up with Yuma?
MR. RIVERA: The majority of people that came and
spoke at the hearing wanted to go with Yuma rather than
come up north. That's legislative, not congressional.
A lot of people in Mohave County said that. If that
happens, what would Mohave County like to do?
MS. MACE: Well, I certainly hope that you don't --
this huge, huge congressional district is not -- to me
it's not workable. It's just not workable. That's
some food for thought. I hadn't thought about that. I
did not realize. All right.
On the second matter, in your public hearings
and in your mail-ins and e-mails, does that still
reflect the wishes of LaPaz County?
DR. HESLOP: I suppose I would have to say that by
and large it does, yes. I think the written comments
also point in that direction.
MR. HUNTWORK: Let me say something here. We have
also asked the same question, however, of people in
LaPaz County, and they're primary goal is to remain
together as well, and they certainly indicated that
they would be very happy if they were kept together and
placed with Mohave County.
MS. MACE: That would be acceptable.
MR. HUNTWORK: That would be acceptable to them. I
got very little dissent from that either. The question
goes to how do we -- there is -- the numbers between
Mohave County, LaPaz County and Yuma don't add up quite
right. We have to find 10 to 12,000 additional people.
MS. MACE: We can find that. You heard our
speakers speak. We're growing daily, weekly, monthly.
I have another question. Just another question. Once
the Commission has made their decision and sent your
decision to the Justice Department for ratification and
recognition, is all this testimony going to be forwarded as well to the Justice Department?

MR. RIVERA: Yes.

MS. MACE: Okay. Well, I do hope you can see your way to join Mohave County and LaPaz County. I just think that we will be a dynamite combination. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you. The next speaker, and I'm afraid I'll misspronounce the name. Jacquie Jessie.

MS. JESSIE: Thank you, you got it right. I'm Jacquie Jessie, Bullhead City. I'm on City Council. I'm chairman of Western Arizona Council of Governments. I'm past chairman of the Mohave County Democratic Party, and I have been involved in quite a few different issues around the state. I'm not going to repeat everything said before. I thought Bruce Hinman stated it very well as far as the political differences. We're all concerned with that because we Democrats in Mohave County sometimes have a difficult time. We want to have the ground as level as possible. Lester Byram, Mayor of Kingman, spoke eloquently about the issues that face this area, and the reasons we feel that the plan that you have placed before us now, in my own words, mine only, are ridiculous. I know you've worked very hard to reach this, but it just -- when I look at this map, I can't believe that anyone would take it seriously. If you can't get LaPaz County to agree to join with Mohave County and keep all of this area, all of us that have so much in common together, my suggestion would be to take as little as Maricopa County as possible. We really don't want to be a part of Maricopa County. We have had enough of that. We want to stand on our own along the river. The western part of Arizona has a lot to offer the rest of the state. As it's been stated, it's growing, and it will continue to grow for some years to come. We're trying to develop businesses along through here. We're doing everything we can to make this a really viable, workable process, plus community, and to divide us and place us in competition with over there, I feel it's totally wrong. I do appreciate all the work you've done so far, but I would like to of this taken under reconsideration, please. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

MS. SONDGEROTH: That was pretty good. Karen Sondgroth, spelled S-O-N-D-G-R-O-T-H. I'm a committee woman from Bullhead City here. I believe in the grass roots, and I appreciate the fact that you're coming out to hear what we have to say. I was at the first meeting also, and when I went away from there, I was really confident that we were going to keep all the river cities together and Mohave County was going to be together. When I got the information in the mail, I was shocked, shall we say, to see how things were working out and knew that we had to get everybody to bring this to your attention that we are not happy with that. So we would appreciate you going back to the
drawing board one more time and coming up with a better plan. Thank you.

MR. HUNTER: Thank you.

Mr. SULLIVAN: Good afternoon, gentlemen of the Commission, Chairman and staff. I'm the Vice Mayor here at Bullhead City. I'm going to talk to basically on the recurring theme of what you've heard. The integrity of the river community really seriously needs to be addressed in whatever revised plan you come up with. There's got to be a way, and there is a gentleman speaking later to tell you how he feels it should be done. The integrity of the river communities is important. The original draft that we walked away from was good, we felt really good when we first saw that original draft. We were keeping the river communities and Mohave County together. Mayor Byram of Colorado City, I've talked with him, and it's extremely important to all of us, I feel, to keep Mohave County as an entity together.

Whoever comes in along with us, wherever you have to go to get the additional 10,000 people, but Mohave County is in essence the most important to us, to maintain our integrity. Kingman, you know, Colorado City, has that representation for at least 10 years, if not 20 as well.

As far as the congressional map, once again it's the same issue, and I really object, as a Councilman Jessie said, I find it hard to take the congressional map seriously as large it is. You are separating Bullhead City from our neighbors to the south. Those are our -- they're not our constituents, but they're our people. They come to Bullhead City to shop. So that line you needed to change a little bit.

My main statement, the river communities are important. We have more in common with each other on the river than we do with the east side of the state, and it's extremely important, I feel, that Mohave County stay together. Kingman, Havasu, Bullhead and Colorado City.

Thank you, gentlemen, and thank you, gentlemen, for coming here and giving us this opportunity to express our feelings.

MR. HUNTER: Thank you. I only have two speaker slips left. I would say if anybody else would like to speak, raise your hand and our staff will make sure you get an opportunity to sign up.

The next speaker is Sam Medrano.

Mr. MEDRANO: For the record, my name is Sam Medrano. I am a member of the local media here. I'm telling you I will speak on behalf of myself. I'm somewhat of a map freak to begin with. I study maps. I look at legislative, I look at congressional, and when you first came out with your grids, like everybody else, I thought, wow, they must have been reading our mind. They said Mohave and LaPaz. That's great. I know Mohave County has 155,000 and with LaPaz, that will put us quite a bit over the limit. Maybe if you could come up with two legislatives between Mohave, LaPaz and Yuma, like you said, you're 10 to 12,000
BULLHE~1.TXT

short. If LaPaz gets put in with Yuma County, then I
would suggest you take over and look at other parts of
northern Coconino County. These are communities being
lumped together with the Navajo Nation for nothing more
than makeup population for a Navajo or Indian
reservation district. I strongly believe that the
Navajo Nation should be put with the rest of Apache and
Navajo Counties, and for the reason I just stated; they
are in Navajo and Apache Counties. They already have
something in common with those counties.

There is no reason to go east to west, cutting
across the northern part of the state. So, if LaPaz
County doesn't want to be part of Mohave County, I
believe there is your answer to your previous question
as to where we get the additional people. Again, I
think that's the best thing for Mohave County. We have
ten years of, I think, we have five legislative
districts running through Mohave County. That's a
little on the ridiculous side. Effectively what that
has done is that really has, as you hear from people in
Prescott right now, only vote for one representative
because we're trying to get at least one person for
Mohave County. That's ridiculous. We should be able
to vote for two without fear we'll end up giving the
votes over to somebody in Prescott. That's ridiculous.

Another thing is you have Mohave County, the
district that Bullhead City, Lake Havasu City and
Prescott, these are the three fastest cities in Arizona
that are growing. In five years, the district is going
to be a bit more populated around the state.
That means our representatives, we're not getting as
much representation as other people across the State of
Arizona. That's not fair.

So, I would recommend that we look strongly at
taking part of LaPaz County. If LaPaz County cannot be
put with Mohave County, then northern Coconino County
and other areas up there in Page and Fredonia, we do
have things in common there. Mohave County College has
a satellite center in Fredonia, for instance. We have
some commonality with Page because we are along the
Colorado River, just a different part. So I think
that's important. Again, I can't help but look at this
map as well and feel that the Navajo Nation should be
looked at a district going along with the eastern
border, going north/south rather than east/west.

Switching to your congressional map now, I
agree with a lot of what was said today in regard to
keeping the river communities together. However, I
agreed with Mrs. Jessie in regard to keeping us out of
Maricopa County. There is only eight congressional
seats to go around the entire state. Maricopa County
compounds two-thirds of the population of the State of
Arizona. It's difficult to draw around. Areas of
commonality become less and less. We can't say all our
economy is tourism and on the eastern side is ranching
and mining; you can't break it down that far.

I think on the congressional map, the way that
you have looked at it, urban and rural, that's probably
as common you're going to get. I know for instance in
the State of Nevada, which is something I cover where I
work in the television station in Laughlin, Nevada
Congressional District 2 takes on the whole State of Nevada. Our congressional representative lives in Reno, which is ten hours, but we do see him a lot. It's going to be a big congressional district, one, two, three of them are going to be large congressional districts, anyway you look at it, but I do think, and again going to the same concept that I have on the legislative district, there is no reason to split Mohave County. You can take in all of Mohave County and cut out Graham [ph] and Green [ph] Counties. You can cut the Apache Indian reservations as well and put Mohave County as one district. Yes, again, the district is large, there is no getting around that, but this is somewhere where you can actually make many changes and accomplish the same goals of urban versus rural, but it also accomplishes keeping the river communities together.

I agree with everyone else here, we really do have a lot in common. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

Next speaker is Bill Ford.

MR. FORD: Good afternoon. My name is Bill Ford, F-O-R-D. I drove up from Lake Havasu City. I was in Lake Havasu City on the first go-around and when LaPaz County Supervisor Fisher expressed their preference to be united with Yuma in a district, I understand it's traditional, they have a lot of commonality between them. One way to pick up part of LaPaz is perhaps leave Parker itself in a legislative district with Yuma. When representatives ran for election on the last election, they were both supportive of a river community legislative district this time around. At that time, they didn't know the Redistricting Commission was going to have a burden. I do not envy your burden. I know it's a mind-boggling undertaking, and not everyone is going to win. We realize that, but I feel that Mohave County with Kingman, Bullhead City and Havasu have more in common than, say, Bullhead and Lake Havasu City and Prescott. The first go-around in Lake Havasu wasn't heavily attended, but there was fair attendance. This afternoon, you have fair attendance. Kingman last week was standing room only. It's a bigger issue in Kingman than it is perhaps in Bullhead and Havasu.

I think the majority of the citizens in Lake Havasu City would support a united Mohave County, and I support that effort. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

The last slip that we have is for Eva Scott.

MS. SCOTT: My name is Eva Scott, S-C-O-T-T. I'm from Lake Havasu City, and I just want to address the LaPaz issue that you brought up. I was at the first meeting in Lake Havasu City as well, and I did hear them say that they did want to be with Yuma. However, they also said that we always got along with Lake Havasu City. They always got along with river communities, my memory is good on this, and they even said if it can't be, it can't be. They just said they would prefer to be with them.

So, I think in making these judgements, we may have to put LaPaz with us, but since we always got
along, I don't really see the problem. In addition, LaPaz is part of the river communities. Thank you.

MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. There are no other speakers recorded. Let me ask before we adjourn does our counsel have anything they would like to say?

MR. RIVERA: No.

MR. HUNTWORK: Consultant?

DR. HESLOP: No.

MR. HUNTWORK: In that case, I would like to close the meeting again by thanking you very much for taking time out of your busy schedules to come here and present testimony for the Commission to consider. I know some of you are concerned about the apparent lack of hearing you the first time around, but I do want to assure you that your testimony is clear. It is consistent, I have heard it, the Commission has heard it, and we are going to do everything we possibly can to accommodate your concerns or at least do so to the maximum extent possible.

Again, thank you very much for coming, and the meeting is adjourned.

(The proceedings concluded at 4:03 p.m., September 15, 2001.)

-oo-

STATE OF ARIZONA ) ss: REPORTER' S CERTIFICATE
COUNTY OF MOHAVE )

I, Alexis A. Taylor, do hereby certify that I am a Registered Professional Reporter, Certified Court Reporter in Arizona.

I further certify that this proceeding was taken in shorthand by me at the time and place herein set forth, and was thereafter reduced to typewritten form and that the foregoing constitutes a true and correct transcript.

I further certify that I am not related to, employed by, nor of counsel for any of the parties or attorneys herein, nor otherwise interested in the result of the within action.

Signed this 17th day of September, 2001.

----------------------------------
ALEXIS A. TAYLOR, RPR
AZ CCR No. 50576
413 North San Francisco, Suite 2
Flagstaff, Arizona 86001