

INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

HEARING

AUGUST 27, 2001

SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA

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

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

18 The second thing that I would ask you is
19 we will begin our presentation which almost always
20 begins with a power point presentation as to where we
21 are in the process. This is a very short power point
22 presentation, so we ask your indulgence for that. And
23 as they are getting set up with the other sound system,
24 we will just try to use this one for the time being so
25 that we can get started.

1 So, with that said, let me officially call
2 the meeting of the Independent Redistricting Commission
3 to order, and let the record show that a quorum is
4 present. Three members of the Commission, Mr. Hall,
5 Mr. Elder, Chairman Lynn are all present. The
6 consultants are represented. Legal counsel is here and
7 staff.

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

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

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

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

23 MR. LYNN: I would be happy to tell you.
24 Mr. Elder resides in Tucson. Mr. Hall resides in St.
25 Johns, Arizona, and I reside in Tucson as well. Okay?

1 It's been a long time since Tucson got a murmur out of
2 the crowd.

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

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

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

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

25 I also want to say on the record that

1 there's a sense of the Commission that the legislative
2 map, portion of the map that deals with Cochise County,
3 believe me, is not done.

4 (Applause.)

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

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

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

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

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

22 Now, as you may know, the last several
23 times that lines have been drawn, they've been drawn in
24 a single room in Phoenix with very few people
25 participating. This kind of meeting was never

1 contemplated, nor would it ever have happened in a
2 prior redistricting process. Next slide.

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

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

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

20 The last of these new rules, rule F,
21 requires us to try to make competitive districts. That
22 is to say, once we've addressed all the other criteria,
23 we need to adjust the districts to be more competitive
24 so long as that involves no significant detriment to
25 the other goals that we're trying to achieve.

1 Proposition 106 required the Commission to
2 begin by designing a grid. You all remember the grid.
3 Some people liked it. Some people didn't. But that
4 was understandable because that grid was pretty random
5 in terms of its design and its construction of
6 districts.

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

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

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

23 So we heard from an awful lot of people
24 about these communities of interest, and there were
25 three major communities identified throughout the

1 state. First, Native-Americans. Second, Hispanic
2 communities of interest. And third was a clear
3 distinction between urban and rural communities of
4 interest.

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

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

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

22 Much the same is true of counties as well.
23 Even though our draft plan has to draw lines for 8
24 congressional districts as opposed to the current 6, we
25 split only one more county than the existing 6

1 districts. The draft legislative map splits 4 fewer
2 counties than the existing districts. Next slide.

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

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

22 SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: What's
23 competitiveness?

24 MR. LYNN: We will define that as we go.
25 We will define it later as in terms of the process.

1 Now, it's times to show you some of the
2 draft plans beginning with Arizona's 8 congressional
3 districts. And what I've said to people is we're not
4 drawing 2 new districts. We're drawing 8 new
5 districts. The fact that some of these district look
6 like the old districts has more to do with how we
7 arrived at defining the 8 than trying to preserve
8 anything that looks like it was an old district. But
9 as you can see, these 8 districts represent a new way
10 of looking at the state in terms of a congressional
11 map.

12 Now, we've lettered the districts for the
13 purposes of this process rather than numbering them.
14 We've done that on purpose because it's very confusing
15 for people to talk about old District 5 or old District
16 2 when there's a different number on these districts.
17 These districts ultimately will be numbered, but they
18 will only be numbered once they have been approved and
19 they are finalized, not now, not at this stage of the
20 process. It's another sure sign that these are works
21 in progress and not finished maps.

22 So let's take a closer look at Maricopa
23 County, Phoenix area and this is how that draft
24 congressional map impacts on Phoenix area. And again,
25 these are in your citizen kits. This is how that draft

1 congressional map impacts the Tucson area and radiates
2 from both of those centers of population.

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

11 This is the legislative -- this was.

12 SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Your mic.

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

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

24 Here's the same picture for Tucson, how
25 the current draft looks in the Tucson area. We've

1 already had one hearing in Tucson. Clearly this draft
2 is going to be changing based on the input from that
3 hearing.

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

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

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

24 There are also forms on the process, and
25 you can fill those out tonight and give us your input

1 or you can choose to send that in at a later date. It
2 doesn't matter which you do. They will all be taken
3 into consideration, and the Commission will not be
4 making final determinations on these maps until
5 October. So you have the entire -- the rest of this
6 month, which is only the rest of this week, and then
7 the entire month of September to get input to us.

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

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

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

24 First and foremost, you need to know that
25 this Commission, all of us, understand that this

1 portion of the state's legislative map is not correct,
2 is not complete, and will change. Please understand
3 that we know that. You don't need to convince us of
4 that tonight. We get it.

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

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

18 So with that, we will open the public
19 hearing portion of the evening. And I would like to
20 ask Commissioner Elder to conduct that portion of the
21 public hearing. If you would, when you're called to
22 speak, if you would come to the microphone in the
23 center of the room so that everyone can hear your
24 comments, and again, we don't have a firm stop watch
25 but we would appreciate it if those who wish to speak

1 would keep their initial remarks to 3 minutes. We will
2 then return to you.

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

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

20 The first speaker is Leslie Thompson.

21 MR. THOMPSON: Good evening and welcome to
22 Cochise County. I am Les Thompson, Cochise County
23 Board of Supervisor Chairman. And I would like to
24 compliment the board on how to fill a room. Send out a
25 map like you did and we guarantee it's going to be

1 filled every time.

2 We were so glad to see that you put the
3 initiative measure up because it's very important to us
4 that it's followed. The map that we received certainly
5 didn't fit that criteria and now we understand why.

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

11 (Applause.)

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

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

20 The primary reason that we're looking
21 toward this map in here as far as this supervisor is
22 concerned is the fact that we are a very rural county.
23 We are very heavily dependent on mining. We're
24 dependent on ranching and agriculture. Our
25 environmental issues are very close to the same as they

1 are in Graham and Greenlee and eastern Pinal Counties.

2 We serve with these folks continuously.

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

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

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

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

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

1 Thank you.

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

4 MR. NEWMAN: Good evening, everyone.

5 MR. LYNN: Mr. Newman?

6 MR. NEWMAN: Sure.

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

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

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

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

23 MR. NEWMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
24 Ladies and Gentlemen. Welcome, Mr. Elder, Mr. Hall,
25 welcome to Sierra Vista.

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

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

18 However, I come from a perspective and the
19 county board had a strong resolution against District
20 W, which is the very bad district that goes from
21 Cochise all the way to Fountain Hills. We need to do
22 something different. And I was actually in a
23 leadership training this last couple of days in The
24 University of Arizona, and I happened to be in that
25 training with some of the Santa Cruz supervisors. And

1 just they know that Cochise County is broken here, the
2 legislative map is out of whack.

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

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

21 It is a district that shares a lot in
22 common. I know. I mean, Nogales and Cochise County
23 merely share common borders. We share the common
24 problems of trying to get compensation from the federal
25 and state government for immigration problems.

1 Ethnically we fit in. We're friends. The
2 merchant communities would like to be in alliance.
3 When I mentioned leadership training before because it
4 was just an interesting indication of what the public
5 thought. Eighty people from all over the state were
6 picked for a select group to get trained at The U of A.
7 When we showed them what District W looked like, they
8 said, not one person in the room said that that moral
9 or just. We had a whole philosophical rating on this.
10 Four people for that matter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 I don't necessarily have that feeling but

1 it exists, and that's the reason why that notch goes in
2 there. I did want to explain that to you.

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

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

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

25 Thank you.

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

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

10 SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Terrific.

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

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

16 MR. NEWMAN: I have printouts.

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

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

22 SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Okay. Okay.

23 MR. NEWMAN: Thank you.

24 SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: Mr. Newman, am
25 I safe in assuming based upon the maps that you

1 presented that your desire is to maintain a completely
2 rural nature?

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

17 It would be a beautiful district to
18 represent. But also I just want to mention the
19 O'Odham, the tribal chairman of the nation are being
20 approached. I don't know what they think yet. I've
21 not talked to the chairman, but I did speak in terms of
22 scenario five, I did speak with the Yaquis vice
23 chairman when I was in Tucson, and basically we will
24 proceed talking, and I think it might help if you saw
25 it, I don't know. It could throw another can of worms

1 in.

2 But what I am really asking is the line
3 between Cochise and Santa Cruz and I think the O'Odham
4 gives it a very unique ethnic mix, and that's a
5 community of interest.

6 MR. ELDER: Thank you.

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

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

11 MR. ELDER: He will.

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

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

18 MR. ELDER: Ms. Leoni.

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

23 MR. NEWMAN: Well, this has to do with the
24 previous legislature and also what I heard were maybe
25 some feelings in the community in Sierra Vista. It

1 worked well sometimes to have members of both major
2 parties representing this area. I know there is a
3 theory and it strikes me but it's there because of
4 that. There is a theory that you get, you know, two
5 bites of the apple if you have, you know, powerful
6 people asking from both sides.

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

10 MS. LEONI: That's what I wanted to know.
11 Thank you.

12 MR. ELDER: Tom Hessler.

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

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

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

25 We also passed a resolution that

1 corresponds to the county. I was going to read some
2 excerpts from it, but I will not. I will just provide
3 copies for the records.

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

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

15 (Applause.)

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

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

25 Three, Sierra Vista has a longstanding

1 informal relationship with all of the incorporated
2 towns of Cochise County as well as the county
3 government.

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

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

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

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

25 And lastly, ten, the proposed district of

1 Cochise County obviously violates the concept of grid-
2 like districts. I would like my comments and the city
3 resolution be made part of the Commission today, and
4 the bottom line is put Sierra Vista back into Cochise
5 County where we belong.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. ELDER: Any questions. Mayor Dan
8 Beshaw.

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

13 Cochise County has to be kept intact.

14 (Applause.)

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

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

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

1 understand that.

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

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

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

19 And I thank you for coming here tonight.

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

21 MR. CALL: Thank you. Appreciate the
22 opportunity to speak here tonight. My name is Patrick
23 Call. I'm supervisor from District 1 in Cochise
24 County. That includes Sierra Vista, Hereford, and
25 Palominos.

1 I'm here to speak specifically to the
2 point that Sierra Vista must be part of Cochise County.
3 The Sierra Vista area is the economic hub for 60,000
4 people in Cochise County. The Sierra Vista area is the
5 single-most densely population portion of Cochise
6 County, and the current scenario drives a wedge in the
7 Sierra Vista community.

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

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

24 Severing Sierra Vista from Cochise County
25 and associating the rest of Cochise County with Pinal

1 and Maricopa insures that this county and this
2 community will cease to exist from the standpoint of
3 political representation.

4 (Applause.)

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

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. CALL: -- is the one I would support.
11 Again, not just from the standpoint that Sierra Vista
12 needs to remain part of Cochise County. You've heard
13 the reasons so far. I'm sure you're going to hear many
14 more tonight. But we have a border issue problem here.
15 You may have heard about it.

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

20 We have our healthcare issues, our
21 agriculture issues, and many more, all put us with
22 Graham and Greenlee and not along the border.
23 Admittedly, the border issues are very important but
24 they are not our only issues. We are a large county.
25 We have many, many issues.

1 Thank you. If you have any questions, I
2 will be glad to answer them.

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

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

9 MR. EASTERHOUSE: Mr. Chairman,
10 Commissioners, staff, public, I'm Marlin Easterhouse,
11 the mayor of the City of Willcox representing the
12 20,000 people living in and around Willcox, Arizona.

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

15 (Applause.)

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

20 Thanks.

21 MR. ELDER: Mr. Nerhan.

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

25 We got plans to grow a larger city than 2

1 miles, but Sierra Vista and Huachuca City got broken
2 away before we had a chance to grow up to a bigger
3 city.

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

7 (Applause.)

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

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

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

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

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

25 The one question that I have is, Steve, I

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

8 (Applause.)

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

22 You know, you've got a bunch of wonderful
23 people in Apache Junction, but I will make you a bet
24 it's grown so fast that half of them don't even know
25 there is a Cochise County.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. AMES: I've got an awful lot more to
3 say, but I'm not going to because the air is so bad in
4 here I have to leave. But I thank you guys. I would
5 never have taken your job for \$100,000.

6 MR. ELDER: Thank you very much.

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

9 MR. ELDER: For a fine lottery ticket.
10 Casey Jones, Mayor Pro Tem of Sierra Vista.

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

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

21 As the Mayor has said, Sierra Vista is a
22 part of Cochise County and Cochise County is a part of
23 Sierra Vista. For anybody to even consider separating
24 that bond shows a total disregard for the sensibility
25 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

1 us to be represented in our state legislature.

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

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

16 I thank you.

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

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

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

1 or the Christmas mines.

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

5 MR. ELDER: That's correct.

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 In Proposition 106 it starts out by
24 talking about Gerrymandering. And then it gets down
25 here and Proposition 106 says, "Shall be Independent

1 Redistricting Commission." Well, not being altogether
2 sure, I got a dictionary, and it says, "Independent,
3 free from the influence, control, or determination of
4 another or other specific interests." And it's got
5 more there, but I think that covers it.

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

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

21 Well, I'm very small of what you're doing,
22 but I do read the papers, and like World War II, you
23 know, you don't believe anything you read and half of
24 what you see. But in reading the papers, I don't see
25 the independent district being all that independent.

1 From what I see in the paper, I think you're being
2 handled when you start off first of all by blocking off
3 people on one side and let them sit fat there, and then
4 on the other side where the people, the powers to be in
5 Tucson should know we won't fight districts. Well, how
6 are you going to get that district. So you're just
7 kind of Gerrymandering out Cochise to give the powers
8 in Tucson to find what they wanted, how does that
9 represent you to the public. What does the public see
10 right now. So I'm submitting, sir, that by putting out
11 something like that to start with, you've eroded a lot
12 of confidence in the public and violated the principles
13 set forth in 106.

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

21 Thank you, sir.

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

24 MS. PRICKET: You had it right the first
25 time. It's Pricket. I'm redundant at this point, but

1 my comments will perhaps reinforce some things that
2 have been said thus far.

3 My name is Phyllis Pricket, and I'm co-
4 president of the Legal Women Voters of Cochise County.
5 I'm speaking for our members who worked to pass
6 Proposition 106, sorry case, which set up the
7 Independent Redistricting Commission.

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

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

1 people of the Arizona."

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

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

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

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

20 Number two, we'll move onto the map for
21 Cochise County in our local legislative races. I feel
22 that you, the Commission, invited Cochise County to
23 dinner and served us leftovers. I really do. Now, I
24 don't want to take you completely at task. I know you
25 have a hard job. The Commission's job is like a

1 shotgun wedding, there's still going to be a little
2 resentment when it's over.

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

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

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

22 The one other thing I want to say, and it
23 really disturbs me, and I know you guys already know
24 this, I had no idea that rational or mostly rational
25 people got crazy when the new moon of redistricting

1 shines on the dark recesses of our political souls.

2 MR. ELDER: Dan Anderson.

3 MR. ANDERSON: Do we have a pointer?

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

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

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

16 (Applause.)

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

21 First off, I wanted to make it very
22 simple, compact, contiguous, meet the provisions of
23 Proposition 106 as absolutely closely as possible to
24 make your job easier because I know it is very, very
25 difficult.

1 To that end, I designed two of the four
2 boundaries to be pretty doggone simple. One is the
3 border of Mexico. The other one is the border with the
4 next state. So that's two out of four, and that ain't
5 bad.

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

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

17 So what I did or what we did in concert is
18 to design that boundary to fit along those lines that
19 would pass judicial review. To wit, right there that
20 little boundary that jigs up and down all the way over
21 to Greenlee County follows the southern boundary of the
22 San Carlos Indian Reservation, and it does that for a
23 purpose. We know that the Indian nation's rights must
24 be respected. They have a community of interest. And
25 as such, we do not infringe upon them for one iota.

1 On the far right edge of that point where
2 it comes into Greenlee, we come into a county that like
3 Santa Cruz and Cochise, Greenlee is three, are the only
4 counties in the state of Arizona that do not have an
5 Indian reservation.

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

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

24 Now, I know that your computers are
25 magnificent, what you can do. You just have to go to

1 the website and go through them, but you can go forward
2 and you can select until you get the requisite number
3 of people and that's okay.

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

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

10 MR. ANDERSON: Very good. Thank you.

11 First of all, right here we took away from
12 the district next to us old LD9, it's known as BB on
13 yours, 38,000 people. Well, it just so happens that
14 right down in here is Santa Cruz County. And you know
15 how many people are in Santa Cruz County and Nogales?
16 38,000 just about. It's within a couple hundred. When
17 you run your numbers, you will find it's that's close.
18 Nogales -- Santa Cruz is about 38 and change. Nogales
19 is 21. Works out about together.

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

24 SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: It's been
25 relettered.

1 MR. ANDERSON: Well, it has all those
2 different numbers. It's the one right here. Okay.
3 They've got to go get those people now. It just
4 happens that you provided them. They're up here in the
5 Gila River Reservation and Bopp Chin and up toward the
6 places where you have ascribed to us now whiskey, W,
7 those places are open now to give to the places right
8 there.

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

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

21 And furthermore, in the case of the Indian
22 reservations, why don't they go to the EACO area. They
23 match with Indian reservations that are already there,
24 and in terms of Gila and Hachien, they match very well
25 with Indian reservations that are down there. So

1 there's a communities of interest for the Native-
2 Americans. They're not all alone being represented
3 perhaps by someone from Douglas or Fort Huachuca where
4 in 1877 they got real famous for doing unkind deeds to
5 Native-Americans. So we want to protect our Native-
6 American friends.

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

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

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

22 Ed Coltmahaya. Cunningham. Excuse me.
23 Thank you.

24 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Cunningham, sir, is a
25 proud but incapable of being properly pronounced name,

1 so I will forgive you.

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

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

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

25 We were, of course, warned that the ideal

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

7 (Applause.)

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

12 (Applause.)

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

19 (Applause.)

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

25 It raises the idea of taxation without

1 representation to heights that have not been seen on
2 this continent since the American Revolution.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Put yourselves, if you
5 will, in the position of someone running for state
6 senator or representative from your proposed
7 legislative district. Would you run on border issues?
8 Would you run on economic issues? Would you run on I-
9 10 corridor issues involving highways, railroads,
10 pipelines, tourism and all the other things? Would you
11 run on mining issues? Would you run on ranching or
12 farming issues? Would you run on civic issues
13 involving schools, police, and fire protection, shared
14 city and county growth and development matters? And if
15 so, would you run on those which involve suburban
16 Sierra Vista or would you run on those that involve
17 Apache Junction? Would you run on property taxation
18 issues when Cochise, Pima, Maricopa, and Pinal Counties
19 are all involved? Would you run on Native-American
20 issues of concern to the four forgotten reservations in
21 Pinal County that you somehow think belong with us or
22 without us as the case may be?

23 What is even one single community of
24 interest in this monument of political strangers.
25 People who live and work together? Not at all. People

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

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

14 (Applause.)

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

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

23 This is particularly trying in view of
24 your obvious ability to satisfy all the concerns of the
25 rural counties in legal and ethical ways as you

1 previously so well demonstrated when you were here
2 before.

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

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

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

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

25 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Good. I was going to

1 suggest that.

2 MR. LYNN: Thank you.

3 MR. ELDER: The next speaker is Trudy
4 Berry.

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

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

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

23 And I was also going to talk about, you
24 know, when I voted on Prop 106 how I expected a
25 geographically compact and contiguous area to be

1 represented by, I'm not going to talk about that.

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

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

20 When I do training, I do countywide
21 training for all of the teachers in our county. I have
22 representation from Douglas and Benson and Bisbee,
23 Willcox, Bowie, San Simon, everywhere around the county
24 just like we have here. This is a great example of the
25 cohesiveness of our county, the fact that we have

1 people from Douglas and people from Willcox. This
2 shows you that we are united and that we do feel very,
3 very close-knit.

4 Back to the training for my teachers. I
5 have given several different trainings where we've
6 pulled in speakers from out of our area, such as
7 Phoenix, from the big city we brought down. And we had
8 people from Graham County attend. Several things that
9 I have done in education have involved Graham County.
10 In fact, when I worked at Cochise College, I wrote
11 grants. And some of the services provided, some of the
12 classes provided I was trained covered Cochise County
13 and they came back with requests to cover Graham
14 County.

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

22 I just feel that -- I feel that this has
23 to stay as one cohesive unit. I don't know what you're
24 going to tell Graham and Greenlee, but I hope that you
25 will consider what we're saying tonight. And I didn't

1 hear -- somebody said, oh, they already agreed that
2 we're going to be a cohesive one piece in our county.
3 I haven't heard you say that yet, so I just want to
4 reiterate that that's important.

5 Thanks.

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

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

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

22 I know and I realize that you folks have
23 been loudly and rightly criticized, and I know you have
24 heard those comments. I certainly would hope you have
25 heard those comments. But I also want to make sure

1 that we don't consider the next iteration has any
2 Gerrymandering in it. And the first line of
3 Proposition 106 reads, "Proposition 106 Official Title,
4 an initiative measure proposing an amendment to the
5 Constitution of Arizona amending Article 4, Part 2,
6 Section 1, Constitution of Arizona, relating to ending
7 the practice of Gerrymandering."

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

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

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

25 And I would like to address the maps.

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

5 Thank you very much.

6 MR. ELDER: Thank you.

7 MS. COWAN: Yes, ma'am.

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

24 So, the question I have is: Is your
25 opinion on that issue one that would hold true in this

1 particular area of the state as well when the Hopi had
2 requested to be taken out or does that matter to you
3 one way or the other?

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

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

1 Okay. Thank you. And those of you who
2 would prefer something that looks like number two as a
3 solution.

4 (Cheering from the audience.)

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

9 Thank you. We will return in about 15
10 minutes.

11 (Recess.)

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

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

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

22 My prepared remarks have been passed up
23 simply because they were better put by preceding
24 speakers. But as I listened to the proceeding this
25 evening, I want to bring a number of things to your

1 attention that should be important to you as you make
2 your determination of our political fate.

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

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

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

24 It may be critical politically as well in
25 how our legislators deal with the federal government

1 who is a very powerful player in this matter of water
2 here in Cochise County.

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

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

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

9 So thanks very much.

10 MR. ELDER: Thank you. Alexander Sandy
11 Cunzer.

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

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

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

1 Patton. It was General McCullen.

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

6 Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

7 MR. ELDER: Jim Horton.

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

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

14 But my community of interest, and I would
15 suggest that this evening or early in the morning,
16 whenever we finish, if you have time, if you stop in
17 one of -- Wal-Mart's open all night. A grocery store
18 here and there are open all night. And ask the people
19 that you run into in Sierra Vista that probably have an
20 average age of 30 years less than what's in this room,
21 what their community of interest is, and I don't
22 believe very many of them can name you one town in
23 Greenlee County or even know where it is. I don't
24 believe very many of you can make very many of them, if
25 you said where's Graham County, would have a clue where

1 it is. I suspect if you were in Willcox or San Simon
2 or somewhere over there, they very likely would.

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

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

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

16 Where do we go? Where is our orientation?
17 I would bet that if you make that little stop at one of
18 the restaurants or one of the stores here and you even
19 ask about county fairs, how many people have been to
20 the county fair in Graham or Greenlee or Cochise for
21 that matter or even know where it is. Well, the
22 politicians know where it is. But of the folks here,
23 you'll find more that have been to the fair in Sonoita,
24 the Santa Cruz County Fair. Go over for the races. At
25 least people in this community.

1 So I would -- during the break we were
2 talking about how can I be so wrong. How can I be the
3 only person in the room that thinks our community of
4 interest lies someplace besides Graham and Greenlee
5 County. I got the Yellow Pages out. Grab our
6 telephone book before you leave town and go to the
7 Yellow Pages and open them up and they're maybe an inch
8 thick for Cochise County. And see how many entries you
9 find under mining in Cochise County. About two inches
10 space out of the whole Yellow Pages. Find timber and
11 logging in Cochise County. No entries in the Yellow
12 Pages. Cattle companies, zero, zilch, zip. But look
13 at it for tech. Look at those Yellow Pages and decide
14 where our community of interest is.

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

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

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

25 MR. ELDER: Dave Stoddard.

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

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

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

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

22 Now, for that reason, I find maps number
23 four and number five totally unacceptable. There is
24 another factor in there, and that is the Papago Indian
25 Reservation more recently became know as Tohono O'Odham

1 extends several miles into Mexico. There's Papago
2 Indians who are, if I use the term citizens as a tribe.
3 There are also Mexican citizens and Mexican nationals
4 and they live in Mexico.

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

10 And that's the extent of my comments.

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

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

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

24 Now, my question is if you take map two,
25 you have another district that takes in Santa Cruz

1 County and you have another district over by Yuma and
2 another district in between, that's five, four to five
3 representatives that are going to be in the state that
4 are going to have to deal with the border issues. That
5 is a much higher percentage of representation than one
6 big district. One big district is not going to have
7 the authority or ability to affect what happens in the
8 state legislature as four or five people having the
9 same problems.

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

20
21 Now, Mr. Newman was also talking about the
22 beauty of how the mountains along the southern boundary
23 is beautiful and it all coincides and everything. He
24 needs to come north. We got mountains up there, too.
25 They're just as beautiful. So those reasons are just

1 not good reasons to deal with this.

2 When you go up to northern Cochise County
3 all the way down to Silver Spring Valley, down the
4 valley south of Silver Spring Valley and towards
5 Douglas, north of Douglas down to Elfrida, that's
6 primarily an agricultural area that raises alfalfa,
7 corn, beans, safflower, chilies, any number, I mean a
8 tremendous amount of crop land. And it goes all the
9 way up into Graham County. We have a tremendous --
10 huge -- we have one tomato plant out there that covers
11 240 acres right now and they're building just as fast
12 as they can. We have a cucumber hothouse up there. We
13 have three other hothouses in the northern area between
14 Cochise and Graham County up there. We're all
15 interrelated. Everything happens up there, it's
16 interrelated.

17 It's very important that we retain some
18 type of continuity there. And I appreciate some of the
19 other things, some of the other comments here, and
20 they've basically what we need to talk about, but I
21 highly recommend that we take a look at map two, and I
22 can -- when you go up the San Pedro River, which
23 includes Sierra Vista, and you're going down the San
24 Pedro River going north, you go all the way up Mammoth
25 up there in map two, you have a continuity of interest

1 there all up and down the San Pedro on the water
2 issues. That's a very, very important issue right now.
3 And when you take that upper portion off, you're
4 breaking up a lot of the continuity of the problems
5 that we have there.

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

15 I don't have a whole lot more to say. You
16 brought up a question about the Gerrymandering, the
17 Hopi district. Yes, ma'am, that is Gerrymandering. I
18 don't care how you cut it. But I personally think that
19 anybody in this room would say if everybody up there
20 basically agreed with it, that we could go along with
21 it if, you know, the Hopi Tribe and the Navajos and
22 everybody up there and you didn't have a lot of
23 heartache with it, I don't think that that -- because
24 that's representative of the people, and that's one
25 thing about -- you talked about the room. You know,

1 used to be they sit down in a room and a group of
2 people without any public comment set the district.
3 One thing you forgot to say it was passed by the
4 legislature by people who are supposed to be
5 accountable to us. If we don't make them accountable,
6 that's our fault.

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

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

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

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

1 MR. ELDER: Thank you.

2 MR. TINNEY: Okay.

3 MR. ELDER: Here we go. Geraldine Ligon.

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

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

11 (Applause.)

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

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

20 MR. ELDER: Gilbert Reeves.

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

23 I'm also a member of a commission here in
24 the county and I'm appointed. God, I sympathize with
25 you. So I'm not going to drag you over the coals,

1 okay? But I would like to address the lady that asked
2 about the Hopi people.

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

9 That's all I have to say.

10 MR. ELDER: Thank you. Jerry Krusick.

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

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

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

25 First of all, much of what goes on on an

1 Indian reservation is federal. The reservations are
2 federally controlled. The land is federally
3 controlled. So, you know, a district representative
4 just doesn't have a lot of influence on a reservation.

5 As far as maps four and five are
6 concerned, they look very similar to the old District
7 8, which was one of the worst jobs of Gerrymandering
8 I've ever seen just shortly after I got to Cochise
9 County. But regardless of what they say about, well,
10 we're looking for minority interests, please look at
11 those and say we're looking at Democratic party
12 interests because down here minority and democratic
13 party are synonymous, and I'd asked one of the
14 commissioners earlier if he could give me an example of
15 a minority interest in Cochise County, not just the
16 fact that there are a group of people who are 82
17 percent in Douglas Hispanic, but what is the interest
18 that is different from my interest in the county. And
19 I haven't found anybody to give me an answer for that.
20 So, therefore, I don't think that minority interest
21 should bear that much consideration in this whole
22 thing.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. ELDER: Thank you. William Eifrig.

25 MR. EIFRIG: Thank you. I am William

1 Eifrig. I reside in Santa Cruz County. May I speak?

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

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

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

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

24 Thank you.

25 MR. ELDER: It looks like Priscilla.

1 That's the only name here.

2 SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: She was here.
3 She left.

4 MR. ELDER: Thank you. Kathryn Hardy.

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

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

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

25 We're a long way down here in a remote

1 southeastern part of the state. All of our county
2 boundaries are straight lines. There's not a single
3 curve anywhere. But it is just unconscionable that you
4 would even consider reaching over the Huachuca
5 Mountains and snatching Sierra Vista to keep Phoenix
6 and Tucson politicians happy. Whose idea was this? I
7 don't think it was the computer's. The computer just
8 does what it's told to do.

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

13 As I look at four and five and your
14 drafted maps, it's already been brought to our
15 attention that fact that Douglas would be a forgotten
16 area when it comes to the Phoenix area. Sierra Vista
17 would basically be forgotten with the Tucson people.
18 But extreme distances, as you look at those maps and
19 you see the travel time that's involved to go to
20 meetings, to participate, when you think about Douglas,
21 which is a three plus hour trip one way to get to the
22 Phoenix area, how do you think those people are going
23 to be able to participate in the political system of
24 that legislative district. What you're doing is just
25 signing a death warrant for us in both four, five in

1 your drafted maps because it just puts distance then
2 becomes an enemy of participating in the political
3 process.

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

10 Thank you.

11 MR. ELDER: Thank you. Sue Kartchner.

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

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

25 I would second those things that have been

1 said along the lines of keeping Cochise County totally
2 contiguous.

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

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

17 MR. SUAGEE: That's pretty close. It's
18 pronounced Suagee. It's a hard G. I'm probably the
19 only enrolled Cherokee Indian in the room. My dad went
20 to Oklahoma, and probably because of that background I
21 know the issue of northern Arizona, and two or three
22 people have touched on it, but that's a traditional and
23 still is between those two nations. And they chose to
24 be out from under the Navajos because they hate the
25 Navajos. The Navajos hate the Hopis, and it's a

1 pressure cooker for them to be wrapped up with a tribe
2 they literally hate.

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

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

21 I work as a public defender in Cochise
22 County. I'm used to addressing juries and looking at
23 juries and trying to figure out who's the foreman and
24 trying to figure out what they're going to do. Usually
25 their faces are between hostile to ambiguous. And I've

1 been watching all night long trying to figure it out.
2 I don't think I can pick the foreman for sure, but I
3 really hope that you've heard what people have said
4 here tonight.

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

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

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

23 MR. ELDER: Thank you. Andre Newcum.

24 MR. NEWCUM: Good evening. My name is
25 Andre Newcum. Thank you for letting me speak.

1 First of all, I would like to talk to the
2 congressional redistricting. I believe that whenever
3 we have a state that only has one representative and
4 possibly the congress, the House of Representatives
5 should select one of those people as a speaker of the
6 house because many times we have states that have a
7 million people but only have one representative. And
8 there are many states like that. And I think it would
9 be extremely fair to the people of the United States or
10 America that they give extra respect to the people of
11 less because they are deprived of equal representation
12 in the congress.

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

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

24 Now, looking at the state's legislature,
25 62 percent of the population is a very impressive

1 number, and I don't know what the Tucson number is, but
2 that would have to probably be 80 percent of the
3 population. So we're looking at 80 percent of
4 manufacturing distribution and cultural and educational
5 and medical from urban areas, and that's very important
6 for us to look at.

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

15 If you want to have good representation
16 for rural interests, what you have done seems to be
17 pretty nice. It follows the San Pedro River and all
18 sorts of rural interests along that river, and I think
19 that's a very nice thing to do because then you've only
20 bitten off a little piece of Phoenix, and you have more
21 than a 100,000 people that are rural. You're always
22 going to have someone elected who will be of rural
23 interest. And to say to put Sierra Vista back in, you
24 know, that's 40,000 urban people that are voting when
25 you could have had 120,000 rural voting.

1 What you people have done I think is quite
2 nice because you are helping these people guarantee
3 their medical help, their highway patrol help, their
4 food stamps distribution, and education funds that have
5 that new law of schools, you know, that they're
6 distributing money for, you know, and having a strong
7 rural voice and there are other districts that you are
8 proposing that are also consensually rural. I think
9 it's quite nice.

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

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

23 MS. RYAN: Chairman Lynn, Commission
24 Elder, Commission Hall. It's Ginger Ryan. I just
25 don't write very well.

1 Okay. I'm here as the director of the
2 Chiricahua Community Health Center in greater downtown
3 metropolitan Elfrida.

4 (Appause.)

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

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

23 I do not think that the clinics in
24 Chandler, Payson, Nogales, Gilbert, and other places
25 seen on those maps deal with the same issues that we

1 deal with in Elfrida. If you stand outside our clinic
2 -- well, actually if you stand on the roof of our
3 clinic, you can see from Mexico to New Mexico. If our
4 eyes were better, we could see to Graham and Greenlee
5 Counties.

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

10 Thank you.

11 MR. ELDER: Matt Cook.

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

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

23 What we're dealing with tonight is
24 ultimately a legislative district, which is to say that
25 group of people who will elect and communicate with

1 someone who will stand for us in the state legislature.
2 So the bottom line is do we -- is there some
3 configuration on a map that best describes who we,
4 these people of this future legislature will be.

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

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

20 If you were a government from Phoenix,
21 what we see in this legislative map would be the law,
22 and we wouldn't have an answer. So Prop 106 is working
23 because you were able to bring together people from all
24 around Cochise County to speak with you about our
25 concerns, and I think we learned how important it is to

1 somehow have Cochise County contiguous because the
2 nature of who we are and the nature of our geography
3 brings us to a point where to take out some area of
4 Cochise County really hurts us because we've developed
5 as a county, as a group of people who communicate and
6 do business with us.

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

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

21 I have two questions. The first one is
22 that earlier on you had mentioned in the general
23 information to the Independent Redistricting Commission
24 that under the last goal, the sixth goal says to the
25 extent practicable, competitive districts should be

1 favored where to do so would create no significant
2 detriment of the other goals. What is the definition
3 of competitive districts?

4 MR. ELDER: Ms. Hauser?

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

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

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

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

22 There are parts of the state where I think
23 it may be very difficult to come up with competitive
24 districts. For example, I mean, the examples that are
25 usually presented to us are places like Scottsdale.

1 For example, it's going to be difficult to make that
2 truly competitive. It's predominantly Republican, and
3 there are other areas of the state that, you know, with
4 that same kind of issue.

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

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

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

16 The other thing is that I --

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

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

25 So, you know, the Commission is very

1 interested in hearing from the people in the area, how
2 you perceive it, how you define competitiveness.

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

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

23 My concern having worked with the
24 government in Cochise County for 7 years, and in fact
25 having been a resident of Cochise County during two

1 centuries, since 1993, is that it's important for us as
2 citizens in this country and in all the different
3 sections to be able to govern ourselves, and it's
4 important that the interest, the specific interest that
5 is most protected is the interest of all of us people
6 who have different ideas but who have in our case
7 ultimately 170,000 some odd individuals make our
8 decisions rather than people who are blessed with
9 power, money, and good looks, and are able to make
10 decisions that then we have to live with.

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

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

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

23 MR. DOMIANUS: Well, you were closer the
24 first time. It is spelled D-0-M-I-A-N-U-S.

25 I will be quite honest with you. When we

1 saw this new map came out, the people that I deal with
2 wanted to give you guys a necktie party. They were not
3 too happy with you at all.

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

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

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

25 Communities of interest. As it stands

1 right now, the best map that I've seen so far is the
2 number two. I'll go along with that.

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

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

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

22 As a matter of fact, to be quite honest
23 with you, I detest Tucson. It is commonly called, in
24 my group of people, the principality of Tucson.
25 Phoenix is even less thought of. That's the kingdom of

1 Phoenix. And yet I see you ladies and gentlemen are
2 from Tucson and Phoenix. If that gives you the idea
3 that we are not particularly fond of you, you're right.
4 We're not. I'm not politically correct. You know
5 what, I don't care.

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

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

21 That's all I have to say.

22 MR. ELDER: Thank you. Ruben Ortega.
23 While Ruben's coming up, if there's anybody else that
24 would like to speak this evening, if you would fill out
25 a slip and pass it forward, I would be more than happy

1 to take those.

2 MR. ORTEGA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
3 members of the Commission. My name is Ruben Ortega. I
4 am a resident from Hereford, Arizona. Spell my name R-
5 U-B-E-N, last name O-R-T-E-G-A.

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

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

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

23 Now, I also know that over the last 10
24 years, there are several Supreme Court decisions that
25 have gone down and have spoken to the issue of race as

1 it is spoken to, as it is addressed in the Voting
2 Rights Act. But none of those Supreme Court decisions
3 have ever nullified or put as either unlawful or put as
4 either unlawful or unconstitutional any portion of the
5 Voting Rights Act. Therefore, every portion of the
6 Voting Rights Act is still intact. We may differ as to
7 the interpretation of the difference court cases, but
8 the fact remains none of the Voting Rights Act was ever
9 struck down.

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

23 A little bit about the history of the
24 district is that the reason that you can see the line
25 being drawn is that 10 years ago we went west because

1 you could pick up predominantly Hispanic communities,
2 i.e., the community of Patagonia in Nogales. But this
3 year because of the current proposal district, they had
4 to drop down and you no longer had the minority
5 populations of Graham and Greenlee County. So you had
6 to go west. The district had to grow approximately
7 40,000 people.

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

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

20 So I would hope if you would look at it,
21 consider some of the issues that will be involved in
22 possible retrogression of what was a majority/minority
23 district, a majority/minority district that has been
24 elected a Hispanic legislator and previously elected
25 one, and at the same time when you start looking at all

1 three scenarios, the Commission needs to look at racial
2 block voting. I don't know if the Commission has
3 looked at racial block voting in particular of the
4 three maps that are being shown in front of us. But I
5 think that's something that you have to consider
6 because we have to remember that like it or not, there
7 are some people out there just do not vote for someone
8 either for the color of their skin or their last name.
9 That's unfortunate, but we know because of demographic
10 information, because of past election results, that
11 that in fact does happen, and in fact it does happen in
12 southeastern Arizona.

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

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

21 MR. ELDER: Any questions?

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

24 MR. ORTEGA: This is -- Sierra Vista is
25 right here. These two -- to answer your answer, Mr.

1 Chairman, or Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hall, it does not split
2 the major population portion of Sierra Vista. It takes
3 out Huachuca but includes Huachuca City into
4 legislative District 8, legislative District G, and
5 then it takes what is called Sierra Vista Fort, which
6 is another precinct, and connects it into District K.

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

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

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

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

25 MR. HALL: Is there other reasons why

1 Santa Cruz County was split in this proposal?

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

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

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

17 (Recess taken.)

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

21 MS. KRENITZ: Good evening, and thank you
22 for allowing me to speak. I come from a ranch 35 miles
23 northeast of Douglas, Arizona. It's the Cherish Ranch,
24 and I'm here representing Cochise County, Cochise
25 Graham Cattle Herders, Arizona State Cattle Herders.

1 We are all members of ranching counties, have been in
2 the ranching business -- well, my husband's family has
3 been in business since 1906. My family's been here
4 sine 1912. So ranching does exist in Cochise County.
5 They're found under ranches in the Yellow Pages.
6 That's where it's found.

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

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

22 And so they moved us, and for a while we
23 were in Portal, and then we voted -- and now we vote at
24 large out at Sunnyside in Douglas, Arizona. And at one
25 time out of the five people living on the ranch, my

1 husband voted in Douglas, my brother-in-law, the my
2 sister-in-law, my father-in-law all voted in Douglas.
3 I voted in Portal.

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

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

22 This is why map number two is really the
23 most logical. And we really need to keep the county,
24 you know, contained, and that's another reason why
25 Cochise County is -- that's a marvelous map for Cochise

1 County to get our message heard, and our message does
2 deal with water issues. We deal with border issues.
3 We deal with property rights issues. And property
4 rights, the protection of private property rights is
5 very, very important to myself and my family and my
6 children.

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

11 Thank you.

12 MR. ELDER: Bob Carpenter.

13 MR. CARPENTER: Mr. Chairman, the
14 Commissioners.

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

22 I couldn't disagree more. I thought that
23 that first map or that map, that preliminary map that
24 you had here that split Sierra Vista away from Cochise
25 County was a great idea. And the truth of the matter

1 is that this is a cosmopolitan area. The population
2 here has grown. We have a lot more in common with the
3 people in Tucson than we do with people that live along
4 the border that concern themselves with the border
5 issues, that concern themselves with mining, that
6 concern themselves with agriculture.

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

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

21 But I think that's a good idea. I think
22 that, you know, Tucson should have some political clout
23 to offset what's obviously going to be a problem, a
24 future problem in Arizona with all the population that
25 has accumulated in Maricopa County.

1 The representatives, there's three
2 representatives on the state level that we have
3 representing us, representing Sierra Vista, none of
4 which is in Sierra Vista. One of them lives in Bisbee.
5 One of them lives in Patagonia, and one of them lives
6 in Willcox. And they take care of issues that are of
7 interest to those people in those areas.

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

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

23 So this issue never gets talked about.
24 Okay. They just keep abusing the system and keep over
25 drafting. At some point in time we're going to need

1 some water, and I might suggest a good place to get it
2 would be from Tucson. Okay. You're going to have to
3 pump it uphill, okay, but nevertheless, this is
4 something that Sierra Vista might have in the future.

5 So I ask -- you listen to these people
6 that talked before me with a great assault. Okay.
7 They've got an agenda. They want Sierra Vista's
8 population, but they don't want what it means. They
9 don't want the political influence that we should
10 rightly have. And this comes up speaker after speaker.
11 They all say the same thing. Don't split Sierra Vista
12 away from Cochise County. I say I couldn't be happier.
13 By all means let's align ourselves with Tucson. Let's
14 get into the 20th century. Let's get rid of this old,
15 boring network. Times are changing.

16 Thank you for your attention.

17 MR. ELDER: Thank you. Tony Zimmermann or
18 Zittermann.

19 MR. ZIMMERMAN: That's right. Z-I-M-M-E-
20 R-M-A-N-N.

21 I live in Sierra Vista. Commissions and
22 staff, as an analyst I trusted you've already used
23 valid statistical methods to analyze the population
24 demographics in drawing maps. And I do compliment you
25 on the effectiveness in stimulating public

1 participation in this process. You've dealt with the
2 nicest group you've ever seen.

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

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

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

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

1 burden and we'll do that.

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

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

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

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

23 MR. ZIMMERMANN: From my understanding of
24 the economics of that area is that Elgin and Sonoita
25 consider themselves one economic entity. Patagonia has

1 realized that they are not Nogales, and they jointly
2 publish community breakfasts and things like that. So
3 in their mind, they are one entity from Patagonia all
4 the way to Sierra Vista, in their mind. They shop here
5 and we do like that.

6 MR. ELDER: Thank you.

7 MR. ZIMMERMANN: Thank you, sir.

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

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

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

25 But I do travel all this area, into Graham

1 County, Greenlee County, over in Santa Cruz County, and
2 I can tell you that Sierra Vista is not only just a
3 commercial center for most of the county, it's a center
4 where people are using the hospitals, they're using all
5 kinds of things all the way up into Graham County.
6 Graham County and Cochise County have always been
7 together as far as I know. Somebody mentioned the
8 Graham -- Cochise/Graham Cattle Herders Association.
9 They must be 50, 60 years old.

10 SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: 1912.

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

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

23 I really take a lot of issue with Mr.
24 Carpenter and Mr. Horton's statement about we are
25 Sierra Vista, and we're much more area, whatever they

1 are, high tech than the rest of the county. They're
2 missing the boat. They haven't been there. They're
3 burying their head in some endangered species hole and
4 can't find their way out. They don't know what's going
5 on. They really don't in this county. They've moved
6 from some other place and they want to bring their
7 politics with them and control.

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

23 And frankly, I think it's a real stress to
24 not call any of the other suggestions, including Mr.
25 Ortega's suggestion, it's Gerrymandering. It's

1 Gerrymandering pure and simple, obvious. I don't care
2 if you mask it under the minority/majority thing. It's
3 Gerrymandering.

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

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

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

1 to Tucson for anything.

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

10 That's about all I got to say.

11 MR. ELDER: Marianne Black. He did it.
12 He stole my slip.

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

18 I think map two is going to come the
19 closest to satisfying our needs down here. And if you
20 do anything other than that, you're going to dilute the
21 representation for this area. We are a unit, and we
22 are going step by step. We comply with the
23 constitutional requirements. Our congressional
24 district should have equal population. The
25 congressional map, I think that fits very well for this

1 community. We should be geographically compact and
2 contiguous. I think that's met right there with map
3 number two.

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

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

20 I have ranched and rodeoed all over this
21 country and all over Arizona, and we are contiguous all
22 the way up to Graham and Greenlee. We all have common
23 interests, and we have common economic interests, and
24 Sierra Vista happens to be one of the dominating
25 economic influences in this whole county and is

1 necessary for this county, and every time you take
2 Sierra Vista out of our legislative district, then
3 you're diluting our representation and preventing us
4 from being a representative of participative
5 government.

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

16 Thank you.

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

19 MR. EHL: Can we ask questions?

20 MR. ELDER: Sure.

21 MR. EHL: I'm Jim Ehl. Okay. My
22 question, sir, is this. I'm Jim Ehl, E-H-L. Since I
23 mentioned earlier the question I would like to make it
24 direct either to the Chair or maybe Mr. Hall is: what
25 was the argument --

1 MR. ELDER: Let me interrupt just one
2 moment. We ask questions to the attorneys, and I'm not
3 quite sure I know the -- why that is, so. The
4 questions you said they had to be addressed to the
5 attorneys as opposed to the Commission?

6 FEMALE: No.

7 MR. ELDER: Never mind.

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

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

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

1 Unit Representation, with a couple of exceptions.

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

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

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

22 Did that answer your question or?

23 MR. EHL: I don't know what their plan is.
24 I would have to hear it.

25 MR. HALL: I would invite, very sincerely,

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

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

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

1 that, what was it, Pinal insertion plan was proposed.

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

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

17 MALE SPEAKER: Just to answer your
18 question, Mr. Ehl, that meeting is on September 13th at
19 6:30 p.m. That will be at Eastern Arizona College at
20 Thatcher. And just FYI.

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

1 have with respect to their concerns.

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

7 Are there some other questions?

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

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

20 SPEAKER FROM THE AUDIENCE: I just would
21 like to kind of comment on the watershed. My ranch
22 lies at the foot of the Chiricahuas. The north of the
23 ranch, the water does flow to the Gila River. On the
24 south the watershed is on the Yaqui. And so, you know,
25 you throw us into a whole situation with the first map

1 where, you know, ranchers who -- since we have been
2 putting water rights on our water since 1906, then we
3 get into a big conflict on water control and water
4 ownership and stuff like that, which everything is fine
5 right now. I don't want to mess with it. So don't
6 make it worse on us.

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

18 They got no notification through the mail
19 and they got nobody coming up to the ranches and
20 leaving the tag or no phone calls calling them because
21 the ranch roads are very rough, and so a lot of people
22 who are on census, they don't really want to drive out
23 over the rough roads, and then most of the ranchers are
24 gone during the day. They're not there during the day.
25 So there was quite a few people that weren't counted.

1 MR. ELDER: Thank you. Yes, sir?

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

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

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

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

24 Taking Sierra Vista away from us, well, if
25 we can't find it in Bisbee or Willcox, that's where we

1 come. I see no sense of driving 94 miles to Tucson
2 when all I do is drive 32 miles to Sierra Vista. I'm
3 even switching one of my chest doctors. I'm leaving my
4 chest doctor in Tucson and coming here because that's
5 about 184 or 188 miles round trip. And here it's only
6 64.

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

10 Thank you.

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

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

23 Thank you very much.

24 MR. LYNN: Thank you. That concludes the
25 formal portion of the evening. I've been told that the

1 staff at the library needs to clean the building and
2 they need to be out of here around 10:30. So with
3 respect to them, we will try to exit as quickly as we
4 can.

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

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

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