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ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING - ROUND TWO
COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK, CHAIRMAN

City of Bullhead City Council Chambers
1255 Marina Boulevard
Bullhead City, Arizona
Saturday, September 15, 2001
3:07 p.m.

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

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

8 is.

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

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

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

6 Alan?

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

15 (Presentation done.)

16 DR. HESLOP: The testimony at this hearing will be
17 described by the court reporter, it will be summarized
18 and verbatim excerpts will be taken from it. These
19 materials will go on our web site. Commissioners will
20 review the testimony in detail. There is a form in
21 this packet where you can give a written reaction to
22 the draft maps. You can write to the Commission or you
23 can e-mail to the Commission. We give 72-hour
24 turnaround on your e-mails, so you're not writing to a
25 nonresponsive agent. We respond, and the web site,

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1 which is maintained by the Commission has a great deal
2 of information. It is, we believe, very user-friendly.
3 That's the end of our power point, and it is the end of
4 my role here. I'm going to take very careful notes to
5 supplement whatever the court reporter has to say, and
6 now I turn it over to Commissioner Huntwork.

7 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you, Dr. Heslop.

8 Ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to turn the
9 floor over to you in just a moment but I think it's
10 appropriate to pause for a minute and reflect on what
11 we're doing here today. This is an exercise in
12 Democracy, and as such, it is truly part of the
13 unshakeable foundation of America that no enemy will
14 ever be able to touch as long as we ourselves continue
15 to hold our own rights precious and exercise them
16 boldly and enthusiastically. That is what you are here
17 to do today, and on behalf of the Arizona Independent
18 Redistricting Commission, I would like to welcome you

19 here and thank you in advance for participating,
20 exercising your rights and helping us to do our job
21 better.

22 When I call on you to speak, please come up to
23 this podium in front and start by stating your name.
24 If the spelling is not obvious, I would also ask you to
25 spell it for our stenographer, who is keeping a

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1 verbatim transcript of this proceeding, which by the
2 way will be read in its entirety by all of the other
3 commissioners.

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

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

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

22 (Discussion held in Spanish.)

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

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

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

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

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1 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

2 The next speaker is Marty Coburn.

3 MR. COBURN: I would like to not speak right now.

4 MR. HUNTWORK: Okay. Alberta Ecklund.

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

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

20 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

21 Next speaker it is Lester Byram.

22 MR. BYRAM: My name is Lester Byram, B-Y-R-A-M
23 Mr. Chairman and members of your delegation, thanks
24 again for coming to Mohave County and giving our
25 citizens an opportunity to be heard. Last Saturday in

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

15 For your information, Colorado City has been
16 in a similar district for the last ten years. During
17 that entire ten years, they have never seen a
18 representative. I think that's a tragedy for the
19 American way of life and representation. The same
20 thing will happen to us if we are kept in this
21 district, because we would be talking about 45,000
22 people, Kingman, Colorado City and Page with 120,000
23 Native Americans on the east side of the state where we
24 have no commonality of interest. We don't consider
25 ourselves a rural area. You're talking about Havasu,

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1 Kingman and Bullhead City, who are the fastest growing
2 cities in Arizona; and Mohave County, the fastest
3 growing County in Arizona. We have great differences
4 in our business interest than the eastern side of the
5 state. The eastern side of the state is primarily
6 ranching, tourism and government checks; whereas, we
7 have virtually no ranching and farming anywhere. We
8 have tourism, we have great manufacturing and
9 distribution centers, and those type of things are
10 growing, and growing rapidly.

11 We have hope that you would reevaluate the
12 suggestion and go back to what was originally suggested
13 to you by your own consultant for the grid system that
14 kept Mohave County together. Mohave County has 155,000

15 residents by the latest census. We only need 12,000
16 more to make the legislative district. It was
17 initially presented we would be included with LaPaz
18 County, where it makes great sense, where we have great
19 commonality of interest, where we have other
20 governmental entities. That area makes up the
21 majority, with Yuma County, of the Western Arizona
22 Council District. It makes up District 6 of the State
23 Transportation Board. They're included in the CanaMex
24 Corridor, Mohave County Water Authority. We have
25 greater commonality of interest, as well as the need to

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1 keep our county together, not divide it. One portion
2 with Prescott, another portion with a northern border,
3 which is absolutely asinine to put us in that district
4 where representation cannot occur.

5 As far as we're concerned, we feel if this is
6 remains, we will simply be disenfranchised, and there
7 would be a sort of discrimination in reverse. Again,
8 we hope you will go back and look at this. We don't
9 think this is good for the Native American reservation
10 on the east side of Arizona either. One of the Navajo
11 representatives was there last week in Kingman and
12 expressed that to you. They want include the Apache
13 reservation. Again, for the eastern part of the state,
14 as well as the residents of Mohave County, particularly
15 Kingman and Colorado City, we hope that you will go
16 back and look at what your consultants recommended in
17 the beginning and give us adequate and fair
18 representation. Thank you.

19 Question?

20 MR. HUNTWORK: Yes, I would like to ask you one
21 question if I may. Thank you. Thank you for your very
22 frank remarks. I appreciate that, and I think it's
23 very helpful. The question that the Commission faced
24 in changing from the original configuration was to
25 generally rural congressional districts, one on the

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1 west and one on the east side of the state, was that
2 particularly the western district came down into
3 Maricopa County and a substantial amount of
4 population --

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

7 MR. HUNTWORK: The substantial population in that
8 district was western Maricopa County, that percentage
9 was going to grow very rapidly, and the argument was in
10 order to keep people in this area from being dominated
11 by the Phoenix Metropolitan area, we had to create one
12 massive rural district, if you will, by a district
13 outside of the Phoenix Metropolitan. That's the
14 configuration that you see.

15 The question is, given the demographics, the
16 population numbers that are necessary to create a
17 district, would you prefer to be joined up in the
18 western valley.

19 MR. BYRAM: The representative in Kingman,
20 including everyone, the Democratic and Republican
21 representative from both parties, expressed that they
22 would much prefer to have Mohave County and the western
23 side of Maricopa County as one district rather than the
24 large extremely district that you have put us in where
25 we feel that it would be impossible for, no matter how

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1 good the intentions were of a representative, to cover
2 that area. Think of the expense any representative
3 would have to undertake and the time just to visit once
4 a year.

5 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

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

9 MR. HUNTWORK: Next speaker is Patricia Coburn.

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

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1 if you split that area up along the river, you split
2 our effectiveness. Thank you.

3 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

4 The next speaker is Tom Sockwell.

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

21 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

22 The next speaker is Jack Hakim.

23 MR. HAKIM: Jack Hakim, H-A-K-I-M. That's okay. I
24 get called that often. First of all, welcome to
25 Bullhead. I am a City Council person here, but I'm

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1 speaking on my own. I share Mayor Byram's comments and
2 also Commissioner Sockwell's comments. When you had
3 your diagram up there, one thing that was interesting
4 was items C, D, E and F that dealt with community
5 interests and the commonality. When the consultants
6 came through, there were a number of us that spoke up
7 that wanted to see the river communities all in one.
8 Bullhead City was split last time with the legislative,
9 it was split in half, we had one side of the street was
10 in District 1, and the other side of the street was

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

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

21 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

22 The next speaker is Damian Hulther.

23 MR. HULTHER: My name is Damian Hulther,
24 H-U-L-T-H-E-R. I didn't list an affiliation on the
25 speaker card because I'm speaking for myself today, but

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1 since the gentleman from Havasu identified himself as
2 from the Democratic Party, I am the President of the
3 Colorado River Republican Forum, and to highlight what
4 Mayor Byram told you, we object to the way these lines
5 are presently drawn. I think the most important thing
6 in the consideration of these districts is what you
7 listed in your point program is communities of
8 interest, but I think what was mentioned the last time
9 you had a meeting down here was commonality of
10 interest. I would like to ask you on the congressional
11 district map, what Bullhead City has in common with
12 Swift Trail Junction all the way on the other side of
13 the state? Or in legislative, what it has this common
14 with Chino Valley?

15 What Bullhead City has in common is with other
16 river cities. All the way down to the Mexican border,
17 we all have the same interest; that is, the water and
18 waste water issues, and it's highlighted by what
19 happened on Tuesday. We have the hazardous issue if
20 one of the dams went by either a terrorist or just by
21 accident, and I think that the commonality of interest
22 in regards to the river communities is more important
23 than even the county line, if you have to break the
24 east boundary. We are presently all joined together on
25 both sides of the river in what is called the Colorado

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1 River Regional Sewer Coalition, because we are
2 attempting to be recognized by the US Congress in an
3 attempt to get funding of \$1 billion was the last
4 estimate. The Colorado River from Davis Dam down,
5 excluding Mexico, is the sole source of drinking water
6 for 20 million people. That's the commonality of
7 interest. Thank you.

8 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

9 The next speaker is Jean Mace.

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

19 I would like to echo everything that has been
20 stated by every speaker before we. At the -- I'm
21 sorry, I don't recall the first visit to Bullhead City,

22 by the Commission, we were shown a map that was told to
23 us had been computer-generated, which indicated that
24 Mohave County and LaPaz County would be joined as one
25 district. I fully, fully endorse that. I still do.

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1 We have nothing in common with what is listed here.

2 I do hope that you listen, and I hope that
3 when it comes right down to the decision making, that
4 our voices will be heard, that we can be Mohave County
5 and LaPaz, river cities, with the exception of Kingman,
6 I'm sorry, but we are in Bullhead also, we're very,
7 very unique and we're proud of our uniqueness. Because
8 of our proximity to our neighbors across the river,
9 Laughlin, Nevada, we're a 24-hour city. Believe it or
10 not, we are. If you visit the area sometimes at 1:00,
11 2:00, 3:00 in the morning, drive our streets, not only
12 our main streets, but our side streets.

13 That's about all what I would like to say, and
14 please join us with Mohave County, with LaPaz County,
15 and we could be very effective group of citizens in
16 electing our representative. Thank you very much.

17 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

18 MR. RIVERA: One question, we also took testimony
19 in Yuma, and LaPaz would prefer to go down with Yuma.
20 If that's true, what would you suggest we do?

21 MS. MACE: That's food for thought. Are you
22 telling me that the majority of the people in LaPaz
23 County wanted to be joined up with Yuma?

24 MR. RIVERA: The majority of people that came and
25 spoke at the hearing wanted to go with Yuma rather than

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1 come up north. That's legislative, not congressional.

2 A lot of people in Mohave County said that. If that
3 happens, what would Mohave County like to do?

4 MS. MACE: Well, I certainly hope that you don't --
5 this huge, huge congressional district is not -- to me
6 it's not workable. It's just not workable. That's
7 some food for thought. I hadn't thought about that. I
8 did not realize. All right.

9 On the second matter, in your public hearings
10 and in your mail-ins and e-mails, does that still
11 reflect the wishes of LaPaz County?

12 DR. HESLOP: I suppose I would have to say that by
13 and large it does, yes. I think the written comments
14 also point in that direction.

15 MR. HUNTWORK: Let me say something here. We have
16 also asked the same question, however, of people in
17 LaPaz County, and they're primary goal is to remain
18 together as well, and they certainly indicated that
19 they would be very happy if they were kept together and
20 placed with Mohave County.

21 MS. MACE: That would be acceptable.

22 MR. HUNTWORK: That would be acceptable to them. I
23 got very little dissent from that either. The question
24 goes to how do we -- there is -- the numbers between
25 Mohave County, LaPaz County and Yuma don't add up quite

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1 right. We have to find 10 to 12,000 additional people.

2 MS. MACE: We can find that. You heard our
3 speakers speak. We're growing daily, weekly, monthly.
4 I have another question. Just another question. Once
5 the Commission has made their decision and sent your
6 decision to the Justice Department for ratification and

7 recognition, is all this testimony going to be
8 forwarded as well to the Justice Department?

9 MR. RIVERA: Yes.

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

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

17 MS. JESSIE: Thank you, you got it right. I'm
18 Jacquie Jessie, Bullhead City. I'm on City Council.
19 I'm chairman of Western Arizona Council of Governments.
20 I'm past chairman of the Mohave County Democratic
21 Party, and I have been involved in quite a few
22 different issues around the state. I'm not going to
23 repeat everything said before. I thought Bruce Hinman
24 stated it very well as far as the political
25 differences. We're all concerned with that because we

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1 Democrats in Mohave County sometimes have a difficult
2 time, we want to have the ground as level as possible.
3 Lester Byram, Mayor of Kingman, spoke eloquently about
4 the issues that face this area, and the reasons we feel
5 that the plan that you have placed before us now, in my
6 own words, mine only, are ridiculous. I know you've
7 worked very hard to reach this, but it just -- when I
8 look at this map, I can't believe that anyone would
9 take it seriously. If you can't get LaPaz County to
10 agree to join up with Mohave County and keep all of
11 this area, all of us that have so much in common
12 together, my suggestion would be to take as little as
13 Maricopa County as possible. We really don't want to
14 be a part of Maricopa County. We have had enough of
15 that. We want to stand on our own along the river.
16 The western part of Arizona has a lot to offer the rest
17 of the state. As it's been stated, it's growing, and
18 it will continue to grow for some years to come. We're
19 trying to develop businesses along through here. We're
20 doing everything we can to make this a really viable,
21 workable, process, plus community, and to divide us and
22 place us in competition with over there, I feel it's
23 totally wrong.

24 I do appreciate all the work you've done so
25 far, but I would like to of this taken under

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1 reconsideration, please. Thank you.

2 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

3 The next speaker is Karen Sondgeroth.

4 MS. SONDGEROTH: That was pretty good. Karen
5 Sondgeroth, spelled S-O-N-D-G-R-O-T-H. I'm a committee
6 woman from Bullhead City here. I believe in the grass
7 roots, and I appreciate the fact that you're coming out
8 to hear what we have to say. I was at the first
9 meeting also, and when I went away from there, I was
10 really confident that we were going to keep all the
11 river cities together and Mohave County was going to be
12 together. When I got the information in the mail, I
13 was shocked, shall we say, to see how things were
14 working out and knew that we had to get everybody to
15 bring this to your attention that we are not happy with
16 that.

17 So we would appreciate you going back to the

18 drawing board one more time and coming up with a better
19 plan. Thank you.

20 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.
21 Don Sullivan.

22 MR. SULLIVAN: Good afternoon, gentlemen of the
23 Commission, Chairman and staff. I'm Vice Mayor here at
24 Bullhead City. I'm going to speak to basically on the
25 recurring theme of what you've heard. The integrity of

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1 the river community really seriously needs to be
2 addressed in whatever revised plan you come up with.
3 There's got to be a way, and there is a gentleman
4 speaking later to tell you how he feels it should be
5 done. The integrity of the river communities is what's
6 important. The original draft that we walked away
7 from, as Karen said, we felt really good when we first
8 saw that original draft. We were keeping the river
9 communities and Mohave County together. Mayor Byram,
10 Mayor Barlow of Colorado City, I've talked with him,
11 and it's extremely important to all of us, I feel, to
12 keep Mohave County as an entity together.

13 Whoever comes in along with us, wherever you
14 have to go to get the additional 10, 12,000 people, but
15 Mohave County is in essence the most important to us,
16 to maintain our integrity. Kingman, you know, Colorado
17 City, has that representation for at least 10 years, if
18 not 20 as well.

19 As far as the congressional map, once again
20 it's the same issue, and I really object, as a
21 Councilman Jessie said, I find it hard to take the
22 congressional map seriously as large it is. You are
23 separating Bullhead City from our neighbors to the
24 south. Those are our -- they're not our constituents,
25 but they're our people. They come to Bullhead City to

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1 shop. So that line you needed to change a little bit.
2 My main statement, the river communities are
3 important. We have more in common with each other on
4 the river than we do with the east side of the state,
5 and it's extremely important, I feel, that Mohave
6 County stay together. Kingman, Havasu, Bullhead and
7 Colorado City.

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

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

15 The next speaker is Sam Medrano.

16 MR. MEDRANO: For the record, my name is
17 Sam Medrano. I am a member of the local media here.
18 I'm telling you I will speak on behalf of myself. I'm
19 somewhat of a map freak to begin with. I study maps.
20 I look at legislative, I look at congressional, and
21 when you first came out with your grids, like everybody
22 else, I thought, wow, they must have been reading our
23 mind. They said Mohave and LaPaz. That's great. I
24 know Mohave County has 155,000 and with LaPaz, that
25 will put us quite a bit over the limit. Maybe if you

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1 could come up with two legislatives between Mohave,
2 LaPaz and Yuma, like you said, you're 10 to 12,000

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

13 There is no reason to go east to west, cutting
14 across the northern part of the state. So, if LaPaz
15 County doesn't want to be part of Mohave County, I
16 believe there is your answer to your previous question
17 as to where we get the additional people. Again, I
18 think that's the best thing for Mohave County. We have
19 had ten years of, I think, we have five legislative
20 districts running through Mohave County. That's a
21 little on the ridiculous side. Effectively what that
22 has done is that really has, as you hear from people in
23 Prescott right now, only vote for one representative
24 because we're trying to get at least one person for
25 Mohave County. That's ridiculous. We should be able

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1 to vote for two without fear we'll end up giving the
2 votes over to somebody in Prescott. That's ridiculous.

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

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

23 Switching to your congressional map now, I
24 agree with a lot of what was said today in regard to
25 keeping the river communities together. However, I

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1 agree with Mrs. Jessie in regard to keeping us out of
2 Maricopa County. There is only eight congressional
3 seats to go around the entire state. Maricopa County
4 compounds two-thirds of the population of the State of
5 Arizona. It's difficult to draw around. Areas of
6 commonality become less and less. We can't say all our
7 economy is tourism and on the eastern side is ranching
8 and mining; you can't break it down that far.

9 I think on the congressional map, the way that
10 you have looked at it, urban and rural, that's probably
11 as common you're going to get. I know for instance in
12 the State of Nevada, which is something I cover where I
13 work in the television station in Laughlin, Nevada

14 Congressional District 2 takes on the whole State of
15 Nevada. Our congressional representative lives in
16 Reno, which is ten hours, but we do see him a lot.
17 It's going to be a big congressional district,
18 one, two, three of them are going to be large
19 congressional districts, anyway you look at it, but I
20 do think, and again going to the same concept that I
21 have on the legislative district, there is no reason to
22 split Mohave County. You can take in all of Mohave
23 County and cut out Graham [ph] and Green [ph] Counties.
24 You can cut the Apache Indian reservations as well and
25 put Mohave County as one district. Yes, again, the

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1 district is large, there is no getting around that, but
2 this is somewhere where you can actually make many
3 changes and accomplish the same goals of urban versus
4 rural, but it also accomplishes keeping the river
5 communities together.

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

8 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

9 Next speaker is Bill Ford.

10 MR. FORD: Good afternoon. My name is Bill Ford,
11 F-O-R-D. I drove up from Lake Havasu City. I was in
12 Lake Havasu City on the first go-around and when LaPaz
13 County Supervisor Fisher expressed their preference to
14 be united with Yuma in a district, I understand it's
15 traditional, they have a lot of commonality between
16 them. One way to pick up part of LaPaz is perhaps
17 leave Parker itself in a legislative district with
18 Yuma. When representatives ran for election on the
19 last election, they were both supportive of a river
20 community legislative district this time around. At
21 that time, they didn't know the Redistricting
22 Commission was going to have a burden. I do not envy
23 your burden. I know it's a mind-boggling undertaking,
24 and not everyone is going to win. We realize that, but
25 I feel that Mohave County with Kingman, Bullhead City

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1 and Havasu have more in common than, say, Bullhead and
2 Lake Havasu City and Prescott. The first go-around in
3 Lake Havasu wasn't heavily attended, but there was fair
4 attendance. This afternoon, you have fair attendance.
5 Kingman last week was standing room only. It's a
6 bigger issue in Kingman than it is perhaps in Bullhead
7 and Havasu.

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

11 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you.

12 The last slip that we have is for Eva Scott.

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

23 So, I think in making these judgements, we may
24 have to put LaPaz with us, but since we always got

25 along, I don't really see the problem In addition,
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1 LaPaz is part of the river communities. Thank you.

2 MR. HUNTWORK: Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

3 There are no other speakers recorded. Let me ask
4 before we adjourn does our counsel have anything they
5 would like to say?

6 MR. RIVERA: No.

7 MR. HUNTWORK: Consultant?

8 DR. HESLOP: No.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 Signed this 17th day of September, 2001.

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