Good afternoon,

I’m a resident of Ventura County, living in the South Oxnard. The Oxnard Plain, including the communities of Oxnard, Port Hueneme and El Rio, is an important Community Of Interest in California’s Central Coast, which should be kept together and ideally united in the same districts as the nearby Santa Clara Valley, including the communities of Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru.

We are a community of interest because:

- We are an agricultural, working-class, and farmworker community facing disparities in housing, education, and healthcare with unique economic needs
- We are a community of immigrant families with a much larger share of Latinx residents, immigrants, and Spanish and indigenous language speakers than the surrounding region
- We are an environmental justice community who has been disproportionately impacted by pollution from oil and gas, agricultural chemicals, and groundwater depletion

I ask that my community not be divided and that our needs, identities, and struggles be considered when defining district borders. The previous divisions hurt our community as they neglect to fully acknowledge many important identifies that must be taken into account when decisions that affect the community are made.

I will join tomorrow’s community meeting to further influence the new district drawings. Please listen to the community and draw a district that is more representative of the people in Ventura County.

Thank you for your time.

Best regards,
Eduardo Coyotzi Zarate