



THE BEACH VOTER

The League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities

310 / 793-0569 www.beachvoter.org

serving El Segundo, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Manhattan Beach, and Redondo Beach

WHERE WILL CALIFORNIA GET ITS ENERGY? (And at what cost?)



In the months of January and February we will be learning all about energy as we participate in the League of Women Voters of California Energy Update Study. The topic is extremely timely, with electric bills about to take a big jump, costly transmission projects under consideration, and supply options that were formerly rejected for California, like LNG, back on the table once more.

The past ten years have brought dramatic changes to the pricing and delivery of electric energy in California. The LWVC Energy position, last revised in 1980, reflects the assumptions of a time when electricity was still provided by a regulated monopoly system, in which exclusive service areas were granted and a single company provided generation, transmission and distribution of power for each area under the oversight of designated public agencies. The League's position strongly supports conservation, efficiency and renewable sources of energy, but its scope does not encompass issues of current concern, including troublesome questions resulting from attempts to operate the power system as a competitive marketplace.

Frustrated by our inability to address current issues, delegates to the 2003 LWVC convention called for a study to update our position. The LWVC Energy Update Study Committee has labored long and hard to make sense of a complicated topic. Those of us on the LWV-Beach Cities Energy Committee have been impressed with their efforts and look forward to sharing their findings with you at our Membership meetings on January 28 and February 27, when we will seek to reach consensus on a number of important topics.

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WE WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

We have two new members to welcome this month: Jane Affonso of Redondo Beach and Margaret Harrell of Hermosa Beach. We look forward to getting acquainted with you both.

Susan Grebe, Membership

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FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization open to all citizens of voting age. Young people and non-citizens may join as associate members. The League's mission is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government. The League never supports or opposes any political candidate. The League advocates on issues that members have studied and on which members have reached consensus.

Each January your nominating committee starts work on the slate of officers for the LWVBC for the following year. Although the official election is not until May and the League year does not start until September, it is important to have people lined up to fill the positions. So I am asking League members to consider what leadership role they might play in 2006-2007.

Leadership in the League consists of officers and a board of directors - 14 in all this year. In our new directory I see well over one hundred names and I must admit that I know only a small percentage of our members. I feel sure there are those who could contribute new energy and ideas to our board. We just need to know who they are.

Selecting our board each year should not, and we hope will never be, an exercise in cronyism. Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering for a board position or if you know of a member that you think should be asked.

Ann Martin, Nominating Committee Chair
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Beach Voter

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PONDERING OUR BYLAWS

A committee of the Board is now reviewing the bylaws for the League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities. Proposals for amendments should be submitted in writing no later than February 11, 2006 to Doris Rosenberg, 3006 Johnston Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90278.

NEW BLUE LEAGUE DIRECTORY

Our sincere thanks to Doris Rosenberg and Peggy Bartlett who helped compile and proofread the Beach Cities League Directory for 2005-2006. We hope you will refer to it often for the information it contains on elected officials, election dates, web addresses for the County, State and National levels of the League, and much more.

We are aware of one needed correction to the Calendar on the back of the front cover: **Membership Meetings will take place on February 27 and March 27, not on the 20th as stated. Please correct your copy now so you won't be confused later. Please also check your listing and let us know of any other corrections.**

Susan Grebe, Membership

(Thank you, Susan, for your fine work on this huge project!)

LWVC Energy Update Study (continued from page 1)

Topics to be addressed at the Beach Cities membership meetings are:

Monday, Jan. 23, 7-9 pm: The anatomy of an electric bill. Changes to the electric industry since 1996. Sources of supply. Transmission constraints. Who's in charge? Consensus discussion.

Monday, Feb. 27, 7-9 pm: Energy and water. Global climate change. Role of the legislature. Role of the FERC. Natural gas and LNG. Consensus discussion.

MORE ENERGY

Saturday, Feb. 11, 10-12 noon -- the Tri-League (Beach Cities, Palos Verdes, Torrance) and the Long Beach Area League co-sponsor **Energy Decisions for the 21st Century**, an information meeting featuring Mignon Marks, California Energy Commission and member of LWVC Energy Update Study Committee. See the enclosed flyer for more details.

Saturday, January 28, 10 am to 2 pm -- A County League Day on energy policy which will include lunch. Taix Restaurant, 1911 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026. Additional details, including cost, will be posted on the Beachvoter.org website when we know more about this event. Or check the L.A County LWV website at <http://lacilo.ca.lwvnet.org>.

Check with Maggie Wilkinson if you need a ride to any of these events.

BACKGROUND READING

"A World of Its Own: Electric Utility Regulation in California," an informative article prepared by the LWVC Energy Committee, is enclosed with this issue of *The Beach Voter*.

Let your voice be heard. Help us come to consensus.

--- Henrietta Mosley for the LWVBC Energy Committee

INVITATION TO JOIN THE LEAGUE

All citizens of voting age are welcome to join. Associate membership is open to young people and non-citizens. If you can't attend our monthly meetings and special events, please consider showing your support through your 2005/06 annual membership fee of \$50 (which is not tax deductible — however, donations to the LWV Beach Cities Education Fund are tax deductible).

For more information, you may contact Susan Grebe at susan@beachvoter.org or (310) 545-2097. Or just send your check (payable to the League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities), to Peggy Bartlett at 701 13th St, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

Name _____ Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

Interests _____

The League affirms our belief in and our commitment to diversity and pluralism. There shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability. The League recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making.

Jan. 9 Monday	7:00- 9:30 pm	Board Meeting 7 pm-social. Meeting starts promptly at 7:15.	At home of Peggy Bartlett.
Jan. 16 Monday		Martin Luther King Day	
Jan. 23 Monday	7-9 pm	Membership Meeting -- Energy Study Part I	Manhattan Beach Library 1320 Highland Avenue.
Jan. 28 Saturday	10 am- 2 pm	County League Day. Meeting on energy policy. Includes lunch.	Taix Restaurant, 1911 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026
Jan. 31 Tuesday	Noon	February Beach Voter Deadline	E-mail articles, pictures, news Subject: "February Voter" to VoterEditor@beachvoter.org
Feb. 11 Saturday	10 am- 12 noon	<u>Energy Decisions For the 21st Century.</u> Co-sponsored by Tri-League (Beach Cities, Palos Verdes, Torrance) and the Long Beach Area League. Speaker: Mignon Marks, California Energy Commission and member of LWVC Energy Update Study Committee.	Katy Geissert Civic Center Library 3301 Torrance Blvd, Torrance.
Feb. 13 Monday	7:00- 9:30 pm	Board Meeting 7 pm-social. Meeting starts promptly at 7:15.	At home of Irma Cohen.



701 13th Street
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

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