

Program Planning 2015 Natural Resources Portfolio

State Positions

In 2014 the State League (LWVC) took three positions on high profile environmental issues:

- Opposed a proposed CEQA (California Environmental Policy Act) exemption for a Tesla battery plant.
- Remained neutral on the November 2014 water bond measure.
- Opposed certification of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan Environmental Impact Report.

These actions were based on the broad range of positions in the in the natural resources portfolio that address Land Use, Solid Waste Management, Hazardous Materials Management, Flood Control Management and Water Resources which includes water supply, recycled water and drought management.

In the past few years both the Governor and Legislature have advanced proposals to reform the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), to expedite economic development and public works projects around the State. The LWVC does have explicit positions regarding CEQA, so comments regarding legislative proposals must be derived from existing environmental positions. While an explicit position regarding CEQA would be to the League's advantage, a study on the subject would likely take too long to enable to LWVC to address any CEQA reform proposals that emerge in the next two years.

Bay Area

The Bay Area League has a strong policy on CEQA mitigation, which should enable effective comment on environmental proposals of regional concern. The Bay Area League also supports regional approaches and solutions to environmental issues.

Los Altos Mountain View

Local League policies are broadly framed to enable comment on a broad range of environmental topics including land use planning, solid waste management, hazardous materials management, flood control management and water resources. Like LWVC, there are no explicit policies regarding CEQA or impact mitigation and comments would have to conform to existing environmental positions. As a practical matter, with the exception of affordable housing, the

League has not commented on the environmental impact of local development projects in recent years.