



League of Women Voters of New Mexico

Study of Water Supply and Demand

At its 2007 state Convention, the League of Women Voters of New Mexico (LWVNM) approved a two-year study of Water Supply and Demand. A third year was approved at the 2009 state Convention. The League will develop a statewide position on the allocation of available water among competing uses, grounded in a basic understanding of water availability and water law in New Mexico.

Four questions are being presented for discussion in the local consensus meetings that will be held in the fall and winter of 2009-2010:

1. What elements of “public welfare” are most important?
2. What should be the role of regional water planning?
3. How should land use be tied to water availability?
4. Why conserve water?

This packet contains a one-page background paper for each question plus a list of points to be considered in formulating the LWVNM position. For the latter, each item is to be ranked at the consensus meetings as “essential” for inclusion in the new state position, “important” but not essential, “unimportant”, or positively to be “excluded” from the new position. “No consensus” is also an option, indicated by leaving the corresponding line blank. Local Leagues are invited to contribute other items if they find the given list incomplete.

The local consensus meetings are scheduled for:

LWV Los Alamos	October 1, 2009
LWV of Santa Fe County	October 21, 2009
LWV of Central New Mexico	November 10, 12, 16 and 18, 2009
LWV of Greater Las Cruces	January 11, 2010

A recorder will be assigned to compile the consensus results for each meeting. Based on these results, a proposed position will be compiled and presented for consideration by the state board in March 2010.