

March 8, 2011

President William Lee and District Directors

Marina Coast Water District (MCWD)  
11 Reservation Road  
Marina, CA 93933-2001

Dear President and Directors,

The League of Women Voters United States has this policy position:

The League believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation in government and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.

The League further promotes sunshine policies whereby government deliberations are made conveniently accessible to the public.

Marina Coast Water District has now received CPUC approval to proceed with the Regional Desal project, along with California American Water and Monterey County Water resources Agency. MCWD volunteered to play a pivotal leadership role in the regional water supply.

While the MCWD board meetings are held in a location convenient their its constituents, the deliberations about the regional water supply will affect a much greater population.

Many local government agencies currently contract with Access Monterey Peninsula, Channel 25, to tape their public meetings for live and delayed transmission to the public. Those supporting transparency this way include the Cities of Marina, Seaside, Monterey and Pacific Grove. Others include Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, Monterey County Board of Supervisors and Transportation Agency of Monterey County.

Through such broadcasts, the Marina Coast Water District can provide routine transparency of its public deliberations to those affected by its decisions.

Thank you for considering this suggestion.

Sincerely yours,