LWVDE Climate Change Position

The League of Women Voters of Delaware supports an aggressive and comprehensive energy use/climate change plan for Delaware. Some key points that should be included:

- Accelerate bringing new green businesses, jobs and industries to Delaware, and investigate emerging energy technologies.
- Set targets and a timetable for reducing Delaware’s total greenhouse gas emissions.
- Plan for extensive adaptation measures at all levels of government for climate change impacts that cannot be avoided—especially sea level rise.
- Support public education and outreach; expand renewable energy and climate change in Delaware curriculum standards.
- As Delaware calculates energy costs, full life cycle analyses* with all externalities** must be included.
- Social and economic justice must be considered in implementing energy and climate change policy.

*Life cycle analysis is a technique to assess environmental impacts associated with all the stages of a product’s life from cradle-to-grave (i.e., from raw material extraction through materials processing, manufacture, distribution, use repair and maintenance, and disposal or recycling).

**Energy externalities are external costs and benefits—health, environmental, security, and infrastructure—associated with the production, distribution, and consumption of energy that are not, or may not be fully incorporated into the market price.