

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.