



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF AMHERST SUPPORTS:

ARTICLE 39: CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND PROGRAM

Article 39 proposes that the Town of Amherst call upon the Massachusetts Legislature and the United States Congress to implement a carbon fee and dividend program. This program would place a steadily rising fee on carbon-based fuels, returning most of the fees collected to households and businesses.

The League holds that the current energy and production mix, especially the dependence on fossil fuels, is unsustainable in the long term, and damaging to the environment and to human health in the short term. The League supports: major efforts, including increased public education, to decrease energy use through conservation measures and increased efficiency of energy use; increased use of renewable and “green” energy sources, especially wind and solar; and improvements to the electric grid to accommodate intermittent electric power sources; appropriate and sustained incentives at all levels of government to achieve these goals.

The League also supports the national Climate Action Plan; in support of that Plan, the League supports “putting a price on carbon” to complement the regulatory effort.

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President, LWVA

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The League of Women Voters of Amherst is a non-partisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League comments on individual Town Meeting warrant articles when these articles are relevant to published local, state, or national positions. League positions are established only after League members study issues and there is general agreement, or consensus, among members.