



March 24, 1998

Gerald Klaas
5109 Melvin Drive
Carmichael, CA 95608

Dear Candidate,

On behalf of the California League of Conservation Voters, I would like to invite you to take part in our formal endorsements process for the 1998 Primary Election in SD 06. We hope that the protection of California's environmental health and natural resources is one of the reasons for your political involvement.

The largest and oldest state political action committee for the environment in the country, CLCV regularly endorses and promotes candidates who we determine to be best qualified to protect the environmental quality of the state. In addition, we produce an annual Legislative Scorecard, rating California elected officials on their environmental performance.

The enclosed questionnaire will give you a chance to provide us with your opinions on a variety of issues facing our state. Your answers will provide the basis for determining your level of interest and involvement in environmental issues. In answering, please cite instances of leadership and past positions taken to document your record. We also encourage you to send us any additional materials regarding your campaign or environmental positions that may be relevant to our position.

TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ENDORSEMENT, YOU MUST RETURN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE TO OUR SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE BY 5:00 PM APRIL 3, 1998. You may FAX your responses to 415/896-5580. Upon receipt of acceptable questionnaires we will contact you to schedule a personal interview. We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter. Please call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sarah M. Rose
Political Director

CALIFORNIA LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

655 MISSION ST., STE. 625 — SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103 — (415) 896-5550 / FAX (415) 896-5580

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE/ASSEMBLY PRIMARY ELECTION 1998

CANDIDATE: GERALD KLAAS PHONE 916.322-7057

ADDRESS: 4711 El Camino Ave Suite #222

SEAT: SD 06 CANDIDATE'S SIGNATURE: Gerald J. Klaas

COMMITTEE NAME: _____

COMMITTEE ID#: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CAMPAIGN MANAGER _____ PHONE / _____

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) currently requires development applicants to identify possible adverse environmental impacts of their projects and specifically mitigate those effects. A proposal in the 1997 session of the legislature would require that developers also identify and mitigate for those impacts which disproportionately adversely affect minority and low income populations. Where do you stand on this proposal? Please explain.

Some business groups and their allies assert that environmental regulations cost the California economy jobs and have a negative effect on growth. What is your view of this issue for the state and for your district?

AIR QUALITY

Most existing public health standards for air quality are designed to protect the average adult male. Would you support revising existing ambient air pollution and toxic air contaminant standards to protect infants and children as well as adults, even if the business community argued that compliance with stricter standards would be very costly and gain little in improved health? Please explain.

At least 60% of California's air pollution is caused by mobile sources, such as cars, trucks and buses. What remedies (eg. incentives, programs, regulations) would you propose to reduce the pollution generated by these sources?

There is a proposed initiative for the November ballot to address air quality in California. If passed, the state would provide tax credits equal to the incremental cost for replacement of older diesel engines with newer, cleaner technology. Do you support this initiative?

Measures taken to improve air quality in various regions of California have had the unintended effect of

increasing the pollution exposure of low income communities located near point source emitters such as oil refineries. What is your analysis of this situation?

ENERGY

Should California provide financial incentives and establish statewide standards to ensure continuing support for energy conservation and renewable electric technologies?

TOXICS

A recent report found that the use of pesticides in California has increased 30 percent between 1991 and 1995, and use of cancer-causing pesticides increased 129%. Should the state enact a law mandating significant reductions in the use of cancer-causing pesticides? If you answer in "yes," what techniques should be used to achieve this goal?

What do you consider to be the biggest problem in the area of toxics in your district and what do you propose to do about it?

LAND USE

California's current tax structure has an impact on the development process, including the development of previously undeveloped land, changing transportation demand, impacts on open space and agricultural land, and water use. Do you think California's state government should be involved in land use planning issues? Please explain why or why not, and any specific changes you would recommend.

TRANSPORTATION

What role should the state play in funding and otherwise encouraging public transit, including local bus and rail service and intercity rail service?

WATER

There is increasing evidence that the environmental health of our watersheds, wetlands, and ground water basins and the land use in these areas has dramatic impacts on the quality and safety of our drinking water. Runoff from farms, pastures, timberland, factories and cities adds excessive organic matter, toxic chemicals, and disease causing organisms to our state's drinking water sources. Traditional treatment has fallen short of addressing some of these contaminants and created harmful by products that have been linked to cancer and miscarriages. What do you see as the most serious challenges to ensuring drinking water quality? What policies or programs would you support to both restore the health of our drinking water sources and protect drinking water quality?

California is currently involved in a stakeholder process called CalFed to find a way to fix the San Francisco Bay Delta, and provide a continued source of clean and reliable water for all of California. How would you address the challenges to the Bay Delta system?

SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING

While in general, material recycling has been demonstrated to be more cost effective than material disposal,

sometimes the market scrap value for recycled material is insufficient to offset the cost of collecting and processing that material for recycling. In these instances, what should manufacturers responsibility for recycling be?

Give examples of waste reduction or recycling policies that you have or would in the future support.

FORESTRY

What reforms will you support for state forestry laws to provide greater protection for old growth forests, watershed functions and plant and animal species? How do you propose to deal with potential short term industry job loss as a result of reforms or long term job loss due to over harvesting?

The Federal Endangered Species Act currently protects all six virgin ancient redwood groves encompassed by Northern California's Headwaters Forest. The state and federal governments have negotiated an agreement to purchase 7500 acres of Headwaters Forest at a cost of \$380 million, more money than was spent on all state and federal land acquisitions combined last year. Do you support appropriating California's \$130 million share of the Headwaters purchase if the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), which is a required element of the Headwaters Agreement, allows Pacific Lumber to destroy any or all of the groves that would not be purchased by the state and federal governments? Would you support the state appropriation if the HCP allowed Pacific Lumber to destroy other habitat that was critical to the survival of endangered species such as the marbled murrelet and the coho salmon?

WETLANDS

California has lost an alarming amount of wetlands to development. Over 90% of all wetland in California has been lost, and 95% wetlands in the Central Valley have been destroyed. Given the importance of wetlands to water quality, endangered species and migratory birds, what will be your policy on protection of the remaining wetlands?

STATE PARKS

The state park system has faced chronic funding problems in the past. In fact, there have been times when proposals have been floated to sell some of our parks. How do you proposed to deal with funding for park acquisition, management and maintenance? What future do you envision for California parks?

COASTAL/MARINE

Several of California's marine fisheries have been depleted because of habitat degradation, over fishing and pollution, yet the state has no comprehensive system to protect the long term sustainability of our marine resources. Would you support overhauling our existing piecemeal marine resources management program to provide integrated long term protection for California's marine resources? What other steps would you take?

California's coastal management program is one of the strongest in the nation. The Coastal Commission oversees the implementation of this program. Do you support the appointment of commissioners who adhere to Coastal Act policies?

WILDLIFE

What would you do to address the loss of our native plant and animal species? How would you prioritize protection of California's biological diversity? How do you balance protecting species and habitat while

encouraging economic growth? Please explain.

GENERAL

Would you support a revision of the California tax system which would replace the sales tax with a "pollution" tax. Products or services which pollute or consume natural resources would cost a little more than they do now. The overall amount of tax revenue generated for the state would be the same under this new system. Would you generally favor or oppose such a proposal? Please explain.

Do you believe that environmental laws protecting public health should be strengthened? What if it would make certain business practices more expensive?

Please explain and rank the three most urgent environmental issues in your district. Where do you stand on these issues?

CAMPAIGN

What issues do you intend to emphasize in this election in order of their importance to your campaign?

Who are your major individual and group supporters?

How much do you expect to spend in your campaign? What are the key elements of your campaign strategy?

Please provide a list of endorsements.