

Solano County Green Party

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Novato Referendum Endorsement and Fund-Raising Letter of Appeal Green Party

To the Green Party of California:

A battle is now raging in the bayside community of Novato over the privatization of a new \$90 million dollar, Novato Sanitary District (NSD) wastewater treatment plant. The NSD Board of Directors disregarded the protests of community activists, environmentalists, and Bay and Wetland watchdog groups, including: Food and Water Watch and California Healthy Communities Network/Tides Center, and entered into a 5-year operations and maintenance agreement with French-based water conglomerate, Veolia Water West in September 2009.

Veolia has a terrible environment record, including posting the fourth worst spill record in the state at the Veolia-operated City of Richmond sewer plant, according to the State Water Resources Control Board's Statewide Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reduction Program's 2009 Compliance Report (available upon request). Last month, Veolia paid \$2 million to settle a dispute over contract violations with the City of Richmond. **Green Party activist and Richmond Mayor Gayle McLaughlin has shown her opposition to Veolia and has endorsed Novato's No on Measure F**. We need to stop Veolia's take over in Novato now!

Veolia Contract Referendum Certified - Veolia Fights Back

In October 2009, California Healthy Communities Network and a Novato citizens committee submitted over 4,000 signatures, qualifying "NO on Measure F" for the June 8 primary ballot. Veolia responded to this community opposition by dumping over \$38,000 in contributions to support the incumbent NSD Board members in the November 2009 board election. Our allies were successful in winning one of the three board seats and have worked hard at building local support since that election. Veolia is now bankrolling the campaign to gain community support for their plant contract through their PR and political consultants.

We Need Your Help

As Treasurer of the Solano County Green Party and Chair of California Healthy Community Network's (Cal HCN) Advisory Committee, I am seeking your County's endorsement and support for this critical Bay Area referendum battle. We have three weeks remaining before the absentee ballots are mailed and 52 percent of Novato's voters cast absentee ballots! <u>Our support can make a difference in this election.</u>

You can make contributions to the **No On Measure F** campaign by signing the enclosed endorsement form and making a financial contribution to: <u>California Healthy Communities</u> <u>Network/Tides Center</u>, P.O. Box 1353, Martinez, CA 94553. For more information, go to the campaign website at <u>www.NovatoFLOW.org</u> or <u>www.SaveOurSewerDistrict.org</u> or give me a call at (415) 902-3395.

Sincerely,

Joe Feller Treasurer, Solano County Green Party