



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MICHIGAN

EDUCATING AND ADVOCATING FOR RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

Ms. Annette Switzer, Acting Permit Section Supervisor  
MDEQ, Air Quality Division  
P.O. Box 30260  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7760

January 28, 2016

Re: Permit No. 118-15 and 122-15

Dear Ms. Switzer,

The League of Women Voters of Michigan opposes the Marathon Petroleum Company's permit request which would increase pollution emissions while producing a lower sulfur gasoline product. The League is very concerned about the impact this decision will have on the health and well-being of the community, which includes many of our members.

While we support measures which would reduce vehicular pollution through cleaner burning fuel, it is not reasonable to impose additional risk to one community using a greater good argument as your Department seems to do. If the end result of PSD regulations net additional emissions, then more must be done. This business is one of the largest contributors to the listing of this area as "non-attainment" by the EPA. The additional load of sulfur dioxide to the air in this request seems to be going in the wrong direction.

Your fact sheet indicates that the emissions are not expected to cause harm to anyone. The evidence issued by the Detroit Health Department would indicate otherwise. Detroit residents already suffer from asthma in greater numbers from the rest of the state. The Health Department also says that more pollution in already polluted places has a disproportionately worse effect on health than the same pollution elsewhere. Does the computer model you are using allow for this?

The League of Women Voters supports the maximum protection of public health and the environment. The Department of Environmental Quality's role seems to have become complicated with the additional task of assuring business growth. Our organization supports your responsibility to regulate and reduce toxic air pollutants. A moratorium on additional pollution emissions until the air reaches attainment standards would provide the incentives the League supports to accelerate pollution control.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this permit request by expanding the comment period.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Karandjeff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judy Karandjeff, President  
League of Women Voters of Michigan