

*To the Editor:*

*The League of Women Voters of San Luis Obispo County has studied water issues in our county since 1969. As our population has grown and water usage patterns have changed from dry farming to more irrigated acreage, we have consistently supported policies and actions that provide for the protection and efficient management of our water resources. We have encouraged conservation and the maintenance of high standards of environmental quality in our water supply. The current crisis with the Paso Robles groundwater basin reminds us that water is a precious resource that must be protected and conserved.*

*We urge our county leadership to act quickly to prevent any additional strain on the water supply in the Paso Robles area, while also working in good faith with all stakeholders to develop longer term solutions to the problem. Such long-term solutions must implement the countywide Master Water Plan and include effective monitoring of groundwater usage and recharge to ensure the proper management of water resources for the future.*