



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saturday, June 28, 2014

Contact: Charlotte Jameson, 919-215-7133, or charlotte@michiganlcv.org

**Community Joins Michigan LCV to Open its Ypsilanti Field Office, Launch
Grassroots Campaign in Support of Common Sense Limits on Air Pollution, More
Clean Energy**

YPSILANTI --- Michigan League of Conservation Voters officially opened the doors of its Ypsilanti field office today to launch a statewide grassroots campaign in support of Michigan's transition from coal to clean energy. Michigan LCV's Ypsilanti team welcomed elected officials, grassroots organizers, volunteers and the Washtenaw County community to learn more about their goals to connect thousands of local citizens with opportunities to take action in support of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recent proposal to limit carbon pollution from power plants for the first time.

"Celebrating Michigan LCV's new field office in Ypsilanti with a party for the community was the perfect way to kick off the grassroots work we are taking on in Washtenaw County this summer," said Lauren Else, Regional Field Director for Michigan LCV in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. "Our team is fired up and ready to connect local citizens with opportunities to tell our elected officials that limiting air pollution and using more renewable energy is critical to the future of the Great Lakes state."

Carbon pollution from coal-fired power plants contains toxic chemicals like mercury that pollute Michigan's air, water and fisheries and it can contribute to respiratory illnesses like asthma. Michigan's burgeoning clean energy sector continues to set our state on a course toward achieving the EPA's carbon reduction goals, but strong statewide energy policy to further that progress is needed this year before Michigan's clean energy goals expire in 2015. Michigan LCV's grassroots campaign will engage local volunteers and ensure that elected officials hear from thousands of Michiganders who support less air pollution and more renewable energy.

"I am proud to support Michigan LCV's program because I know that we have a huge opportunity to take action to curb climate change, but we don't have much time," said Greg Webster, local volunteer for Michigan LCV. "We need to send a clear message to our elected officials that we are ready for less carbon pollution and more clean energy. It's our responsibility to protect Michigan for future generations and that means taking action today."

Michigan LCV's Ypsilanti office opening was complemented by three additional field office openings in Muskegon, Kalamazoo and Lansing.

"Michigan's elected officials should see new limits on carbon pollution as an opportunity to accelerate Michigan's transition from coal to clean, renewable energy and pass energy legislation this year that sets

that course,” said Lisa Wozniak, Executive Director for Michigan LCV. “Right now, we have an incredible opportunity for progress, and Michigan LCV has an energized team of grassroots organizers and volunteers ready to work non-stop to make sure the pressure is on our elected officials to make that happen.”

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Michigan League of Conservation Voters is the leading non-partisan political voice for protecting Michigan's land, air and water. Visit our website: <http://www.michiganlcv.org>.