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Contact: Kathryn Phillips (916) 893-8494 (mobile) or Kathryn.Phillips@sierraclub.org

Sierra Club California Releases List of Necessary Characteristics for California's Next Governor

Sacramento, CA—The next governor should have five key characteristics to be an effective leader on important environmental issues, according to a document released by Sierra Club California on Sunday.

The document was released with a monthly [“Letter from Sacramento”](#) to Sierra Club California supporters and members from Kathryn Phillips, the organization’s director. The [document](#) was prepared to outline “what we need now, at this point in history, to make sure this state continues to make progress on environmental policy, and the social justice that is a foundation of that progress,” Phillips wrote.

The five key characteristics outlined in the document can be summarized as:

- Being independent of the oil industry;
- Being independent of the tobacco and e-cigarette industry;
- Being committed to the environment as a whole and to public health;
- Being committed to social and environmental equity; and
- Being devoted to transparency, access and consultation with the range of environmental and environmental justice organizations that represent Californians.

Sierra Club California’s volunteer leaders make endorsements in statewide and legislative races. The endorsement committee responsible for making a gubernatorial endorsement will include the five characteristics in its consideration.

“Our volunteers put a lot of effort into the endorsement process,” Phillips said. “This year, given how important California’s role has become to the nation for leadership on the environment, it made sense to lay out in advance what some of the overall characteristics are that the endorsement committee will be looking for in candidates. We hope it helps candidates now as they think about who they are willing to accept campaign funds from and how they’ll operate if elected.”

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Sierra Club California is the legislative and regulatory advocacy arm of the 13 Sierra Club chapters in California, representing more than 400,000 members and supporters statewide.