

The Michigan League of Conservation Voters

“Charting the Governors Race”

In order to provide you with a quick, yet comprehensive, guide to the choices in the both the Republican and Democratic Gubernatorial Primaries on August 3rd, we selected a range of issues that are most integral to the protection and proper stewardship of our State’s incredible natural resources.

We wanted to answer one simple question: How do the candidates compare to each other on the important environmental issues facing Michigan?

The following judgments of candidates’ positions were drawn from a combination of sources, but most notably the Candidates Forum hosted by the [Michigan LCV Education Fund on May 12th](#) and the candidates’ own websites and platforms. Also, when appropriate, we let their prior actions and voting records do the talking.

For the detailed analysis with citations, please visit www.michiganlcv.org/compare

	Mike Bouchard (R) Oakland County Sheriff, former State Senator	Mike Cox (R) Attorney General	Pete Hoekstra (R) U.S. Representative	Tom George (R) State Senator	Rick Snyder (R) Businessman	Virg Bernero (D) Lansing Mayor, former State Senator	Andy Dillon (D) State Representative (House Speaker)
MLCV Lifetime Score	n/a	n/a	10%	39%	n/a	87%	76%
Campaign Website	www.bouchardforgovernor.com	mikecox2010.com	hoekstraforgovernor.com	www.georgeforgovernor.com	www.rickformichigan.com	www.votevirg.com	www.andydillon.com
General Platform	Blueprint for Prosperity	Putting Michigan Back to Work: The First Steps	J.O.B.S	Tom George's Plan to Fix Michigan	Reinvent Michigan: Rick's 10 Point Plan	Issues	Renewing the Michigan Dream

Energy

Alternative Energy	Support	Support	Opposed	Opposed	Support	Support	Support
10% Renewable Energy by 2015	No mention*	No mention	Oppose	Oppose	Unclear*	Support	Support
New Coal Plants	No mention	Support	Support	Support	Support	Unclear	Support
Nuclear Power	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support	Unclear	No mention

	Mike Bouchard (R)	Mike Cox (R)	Pete Hoekstra (R)	Tom George (R)	Rick Snyder (R)	Virg Bernero (D)	Andy Dillon (D)	2
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Clean Energy Job Creation	No mention	Unclear	Opposed	Unclear	Support	Support	Support	

Water

State Level Wetland Protection	No mention	No mention	No mention	Support	Support	Support	No mention	
Offshore Wind	No mention	No mention	Unclear	Oppose	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	
Great Lakes Water Protections	Oppose	Support	Unclear	Unclear	Support	Support	Support	
Inland water extraction protections	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Support	Support	
Protecting the Great Lakes from Asian Carp	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support	
Ban Drilling in the Great Lakes	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support	

Land

Ban Exploring of UP Mining	No mention	No mention	Unclear	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	No mention	
Ban Oil/Natural Gas extraction	No mention	No mention	Oppose	Oppose	Oppose	Support	No mention	
Smart Growth	Oppose	Support	No mention	Support	Support	Support	Support	

Other Important Environmental Issues

Full Funding for Environmental Agencies	Oppose	No mention	Unclear	No mention	Support	No mention	No mention	
Full Funding for Pure Michigan Ad	No mention	Support	No mention	Oppose	Support	Support	Support	

	Mike Bouchard (R)	Mike Cox (R)	Pete Hoekstra (R)	Tom George (R)	Rick Snyder (R)	Virg Bernero (D)	Andy Dillon (D)	3
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Campaign								
Toxic Cleanup and Prevention	Oppose	Support	Support	Unclear	Support	Support	Support	
Safer Children's Products	No mention	No mention	No mention	No mention	Support	Support	No mention	
Full Funding for State Parks	Support	Unclear	Unclear	Support	Support	No mention	No mention	
Stricter CAFO (Factory Farm) Standards	No mention	Unclear	Unclear	No mention	No mention	Support	Unclear	
Environmental Justice	No mention	Unclear	Opposed	Unclear	Support	Support	Support	

Contact the Candidates

Contact Information	Mike Bouchard contact form	contact@mikecox2010.com	tellpete@hoekstraforgovernor.com	Tom George contact form	Rick Snyder contact form	virg@votevirg.com	Andy Dillon contact form
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* **What's the deal with "unclear" and "no mention"?** Wherever possible, a solid position is noted as either "support" or "oppose." However, when a candidate's actions on an issue were ambiguous or contradictory, there was no attempt made to declare a position for them or put words in their mouth; in that case, it is simply listed that their stance is "unclear." When there is a "no mention," it is to signify that the candidate's platform does not specifically reference the issue in question. Although we employed a thorough list of public sources and documents in researching this chart, a "no mention" is not meant to imply that a candidate does not have opinion on a subject. In these instances, we encourage you to directly email the candidates to ask them to clarify their thoughts on the particular matter of interest to you. Their campaign email addresses can be found at the bottom of the chart.

- Updated, July 22, 2010.