

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ALBUQUERQUE/BERNALILLO COUNTY

## QUESTIONS FOR LWV/ABC VOTERS' GUIDE NOVEMBER 7, 2006 GENERAL ELECTION

### Public Regulation Commission

1. What specific experience have you had in the fields of health care, health insurance, renewable energy, telecommunications or Internet technologies? (50 words)

I installed New Mexico's first net metered solar array and helped draft and pass the PRC's first net metering ruling. When I ran for Governor, I sponsored a workshop on universal health insurance and have followed the issue closely. I've also been discussing telecommunications issues with activists and Internet providers.

2. As a PRC Commissioner what is your role in overseeing the departments you are regulating? (50 words)

As one of five PRC Commissioners I would hear rate cases and complaints, and formulate new rulings regarding the business activities of insurance, electricity, natural gas and telecommunications corporations in New Mexico. I see my role as representing ratepayers' interests, rather than those of these large corporations.

3. With the increased exposure of unethical behavior in government, what would you propose to make the Commissioners and the public officials under the control of the PRC more accountable to the general public? (50 words)

I'm running on public financing in this election because I believe it is important to take money out of politics. I'd open the PRC to public involvement through easy internet access, among other things, and use funds earmarked for corporate oversight for an independent legal structure representing only consumer interests.

4. Since its inception in 1999 what actions of the PRC have most benefited the people of New Mexico and what actions have been the most detrimental? What would you change and why? (50 words)

Renewable energy standards and guidelines for the major utilities have helped New Mexicans. Insurance, electricity, natural gas, and telecommunications are non-discretionary purchases. Public involvement and knowledge of the PRC's role in regulating these areas must be greatly expanded to ensure a more powerful public voice in regard to corporate power.