

Good morning, thank you for allowing us the time to share our thoughts with you today. My name is Jody Timms, I'm a 22 year resident of Fairfax and a member of MCERA, having retired from the County in 2011.

I held three positions with the County over 11 years, Administrative Services Manager for Community Development, then Chief of Women's Health Services and finally, Clinical Affairs Manager for Health & Human Services. As a retiree, I appreciate very much your role in ensuring the future of my pension.

Most of us present today are members of the international organization 350.org, and many of us are also Steering Committee members of the local group 350Marin. In case you are not familiar with 350, the number refers to the upper limit of the amount of carbon dioxide it is safe to have in the atmosphere, 350 ppm. Unfortunately we are now over 400 ppm.

Personally I stand before you as co-chair, with my 18 year old son, of the Invest Wisely Campaign of 350Marin and we here today to urge you to invest all future contributions to and earnings of the MCERA pension fund in clean energy technologies. We would also ask that over the next five years you divest all current holdings in the fossil fuel industry.

We are familiar with MCERA's "Statement of Investment Policy Regarding Divestment." It is well known that MCERA does not take social or political stands when it comes to investing. We also clearly understand it is your fiduciary duty to maximize return and minimize risk. We are here to talk about risk, climate risk, what PricewaterhouseCooper refers to as the "Mother of all risks."

Subsequent speakers will address various aspects of climate risk. The one I want to mention briefly, as a physician assistant for over 36 years and a mental health provider, is the risk to public health that climate change poses. If we continue with business as usual you will see retiree health care costs skyrocket further.

Human health is strongly linked to the health of the Earth and we are already seeing an alarming increase in respiratory diseases, as well as cardiovascular and infectious diseases, cancer rates, mental health and psychological damage due to the stress and anxiety caused by extreme weather events, and other effects of climate change. I will leave a handout for you with further details.

As you no doubt know, the City and County of San Francisco voted to divest from fossil fuels and their retirement board is considering the matter. It is under consideration by CalPERS and CalSTRS, and the UC Regents will be taking up divestment on September 18th. Stanford University recently voted to divest from coal, perhaps upon the news that The New York State pension fund has lost more than \$100 million on its U.S. coal stocks over the last three years.

My doctoral studies emphasized, among many things, the importance of research and critical thinking. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, IPCC, which many would say is rather conservative, we have perhaps 15 years to do something about climate change. I cannot, in good conscience, remain silent.

Finally, 350Marin would ask that this issue of wise investment in clean energy and divestment from fossil fuels be brought before your Investment Committee tomorrow. We ask that you schedule in the very near future an hour long educational session for yourselves and for the community as the San Francisco Employees Retirement System did on June 18th 2014 during which time financial experts can present additional information about climate risk.

350Marin is available to help set this up. I would also encourage the board to ask each of your consultant candidates for their views on fossil free investing.

I hope that each of you can receive the research, the information and the concern we are presenting today, without defensiveness. And I can only hope that you, that we, act in time, for humanity's future. Thank you so much."