



New York Water Environment Association, Inc.

The Water Quality Management Professionals

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80TH ANNUAL MEETING
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February 4-6, 2008



17 July 2007

The Honorable Eliot Spitzer
Executive Chamber
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

RE: The Environmental Protection Fund Enhancement Act
(A.8339 Sweeney/S. 5304 Marcellino)

Dear Governor Spitzer:

On behalf of the 2,300 members of the New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA), we write to urge you to sign into law the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) Enhancement Act. This legislation, which was passed in both Houses during the 2007 Legislative Session, would increase the EPF to \$300 million by 2009. The increase in funding that would be provided over the next two years as a result of this legislation is critical for programs that protect our land, air and water.

Of particular interest to NYWEA is the much needed funding for wastewater infrastructure and this legislation could help offset the costs for municipal wastewater improvement projects.

This ongoing investment in New York's environment, funded by Real Estate Transfer Tax revenue, will yield short and long-term dividends to New York's taxpayers by helping to ensure clean air and water and by protecting the State's natural assets that attract businesses, tourists and residents looking for a high quality of life. We appreciate your commitment to protecting the people and environmental issues we are faced with in the 21st Century, and urge you to continue your support by signing this legislation into law.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Lauro
President

/Judith Enck
Senator Charles Schumer