October 23, 2008

Energy Planning Board
Energy Plan Comments
NYSERDA
17 Columbus Circle
Albany, NY 12204-6399

Dear Energy Planning Board:

I write to you this evening to share my thoughts concerning New Yorkers need for renewable energy and energy conservation.

The events of the past few months have highlighted the need for fiscal responsibility not just by governments and corporations but also by the everyday man-on-the street. While much of the talk has rightly focused on housing and the financial markets, there remains much to be discussed regarding energy. As I am sure you are well aware energy is the most consumed commodity in the world and behind water it is the most consumed resource. Therefore, this nation, this state and every individual within must demand that every reasonable effort is made to source new, renewable and fiscally responsible energy resources.

It seems logical to me that with the large investments that have been made in New York’s power infrastructure that as a state we must consider not a 180 degree change in course but rather a measured mingling of energy production capacities. An energy production mix seems to be a good start towards changing the economics of energy production and distribution in New York. Offshore wind power and large scale solar are two specific ideas that must be vetted and pursued. (I believe Florida Light and Power (FLP) considered doing just such a wind project off Long Island not long ago.)

Governor Paterson has given NYSERDA a mandate and more importantly an outline for moving ahead on the energy independence front via the State Energy Plan. I look forward to reading and what the Energy Planning Board presents under the State Energy Plan and how you plan to enact those ideas. The time to act is now. I would love to hear back from your office regarding your position on wind and solar power as is relates to providing for New York’s energy needs.

Best regards,

Michael S. Carrington