While this is an improvement over previous efforts (2002), it still has room for much improvement. In particular, there is no long term strategy for the replacement of ALL unsustainable forms of electricity generation with renewable means - particularly onshore wind, offshore wind, tidal (Long Island Sound), run-of river hydro, biomass combustion (wood), and for short-term use/electrical energy storage, pumped hydroelectricity storage and easy to burn biomass fuels (methanol, ethanol, ammonia). The use of renewable electricity top produce hydrogen which can then be used to reduce renewable carbon dioxide (alcohols, methane) and nitrogen (ammonia) should also be addressed. As renewable electric! ity supplies are built up, gas, coal and nukes need to be shut down - and there is no schedule for that, either. The key to large scale renewable electricity generation is utilizing its major benefits - STABLE, PREDICTABLE and REASONABLE prices which are openly arrived at. Setting renewable energy prices by fixing these to volatile and fluctuating fossil fuel prices is LUNACY as this negates price stability and predictability. The resulting unsustainable prices will require massive infusions of taxpayer aid, and in the current NY fiscal situation, that is not viable. A feed-In law (Ontario, Germany, Spain) will allow a rapid implementation of renewable electricity faster than can be done with subsidies and quotas - and at no taxpayer expense, either. Finally, there is the matter of a completely unwarranted reliance on INCREASED supplies of natural gas - and supposedly at cheap prices, no less. North America has long since surpassed its peak natural gas production (2001 (U.S.) to 2004 (Canada), and gas production costs are going upwards at approximately 10%/yr, even though current prices are unsustainably low. Once the current round of supply destruction has been completed, (late 2009-mid 2010), prices will rebound rapidly, with bad economic consequences. Natural gas should not be relied upon in the least - whether North American or imported via LNG tankers. A plan to wean residential housing from natural gas heat needs to be developed ASAP. Natural gas is not needed for electricity production - this should be done via wind turbines/tidal turbines, run-of-river turbines and pumped hydro storage. Gas should be treated as a precious commodity, not wasted trying to keep current electricity prices low. As for transportation, a rapid increase in electrically powered mass transit, coupled with removal of ex-urban/sub-urban transportation subsidies (= roads for gasoline powered cars) should be implemented. In addition, bio-fuels from crops (fermentation) and cellulose (via pyrolysis/Fischer-Tropsch synthesis) using renewable ammonia (electricity -> hydrogen -> ammonia) to fertilize these crops should be encouraged by higher taxes on petroleum fuels (increasing at predictable rates/no taxes on renewables. Most of the gasoline/diesel tax should be used to lower fares on mass transit and also construct more mass transit. All
new housing should be built with passive solar design, where possible, and existing homes/apartments need to be insulated ASAP. Finally, do the right thing and either ban the incandescent bulb this year, or tax it out of existence by the end of 2010. [TEXT EXTRACTED]