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SUFFOLK COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

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LONG ISLAND COMMISSION AQUIFER PROTECTION

IN THE MATTER OF:

GROUNDWATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN

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735 Veterans Memorial Highway

Smithtown, New York 11787

November 30, 2017

Time noted: 6:02 p.m.

Reported by:

GinaMarie DeMarco

1 A P P E A R A N C E S:

2

3 JEFFREY W. SZABO, Vice Chairman

4 Suffolk County Water Authority

5

6 FRANK KOCH

7 Suffolk County Water Authority

8 WALTER DAWYDIAK

9 Suffolk County Department of Health

10

11 MICHAEL WHITE

12 Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer

13 MICHAEL FERRETTI

14 Nassau County Department of Public Works

15

16 DONALD IRWIN

17 Nassau Department County of Health

18 JOHN MILAZZO

19 Counsel for Suffolk County Water Authority

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 (Time noted: 6:02 p.m.)

2 MR. SZABO: Good afternoon, thank you for
3 attending today's public hearing hosted by the Long
4 Island Commission for Aquifer Protection for LICAP.
5 My name is Jeff Szabo and I am the Vice Chairman of
6 LICPA. I'm also the Chief Executive Officer of the
7 Suffolk County Water Authority. Before we get
8 started, I would just ask the folks around the
9 horseshoe here to introduce themselves. Starting
10 with my right.

11 MR. DAWYDIAK: Walter Dawydiak; Suffolk
12 County Health Department.

13 MR. KOCH: Frank Koch; representative for
14 Long Island Water Conference.

15 MR. WHITE: Michael White; representing
16 the Suffolk County Legislator Presiding Officer.

17 MR. FERRETTI: Michael Ferretti; Nassau
18 County Department of Public Works.

19 MR. IRWIN: Donald Irwin; Nassau
20 Department County of Health.

21 MR. SZABO: Thank you.

22 The purpose of these hearings is to elicit
23 public comment on LICAP's draft water Groundwater
24 Resource Management Plan. The draft is available
25 online at LIAquiferCommission.com. And in just a

1 minute I will introduce Steve Colabufo who will give
2 a brief presentation on what the Groundwater
3 Resources Management Plan consists of, as well as an
4 outline some of its key recommendations. A list of
5 the plan's top 15 recommendations is available
6 outside if you haven't picked one up already. You
7 can browse through.

8 Before we begin, I would just like to
9 remind everybody that today's proceedings are
10 designed to form a forum on today's comment on the
11 plan. And that is not a question-and-answer
12 session. Any questions you may have can be
13 submitted electronically by e-mailing to
14 LICAP@SCWA.com or by mail, PO Box 38, care of
15 Suffolk County Water Authority, Oakdale, New York
16 11769.

17 The comments will be addresses as quickly
18 as possible. All comments made today will be
19 brought before the LICAP voting board for
20 consideration during our upcoming general meeting on
21 December 13th at 260 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge.
22 That's the Water Authority's office space. I
23 believe that meeting is at 10:00. At that point
24 it's the hope that the commission will adopt final
25 report of the Groundwater Resources Management Plan.

1 That being said, I wanted to introduce --
2 before we get to the public comment -- I wanted to
3 introduce Steve Colabufo, the Water Authority's
4 Water Resource Manager who will give a summary about
5 the plan by a presentation.

6 MR. COLABUFO: Thanks, Jeff.

7 Can you all hear me out there?

8 My name is Steve Colabufo, I'm the Water
9 Resources Manager, Suffolk County Water Authority.
10 We're here tonight to talk about the whole new LICAP
11 Groundwater Resources Management Plan. This is the
12 second major deliverable from LICAP. Last year we
13 discussed the State of the Aquifer Report. The
14 Groundwater Resource Management Plan is more
15 comprehensive and more forward looking. There's
16 been a culmination of couple of years probably close
17 to three years or more that different people have
18 been involved in LICAP.

19 For those that you may not know I'll just
20 give a brief background here. LICAP is Long Island
21 Commission for Aquifer Protection. And it's
22 basically a partnership for water resource
23 professionals from Nassau and Suffolk Counties.
24 Includes water suppliers, regulators, government
25 officials, academics and citizens and activist

1 groups that have formed to address the quality and
2 quantity issues facing on the aquifers on an island
3 wide basis, rather than be so region focused or area
4 focused. It was really kind of a regional kind of
5 an island-wide look at water quality and quantity
6 issues facing all of us.

7 It was created through legislation and
8 passed in 2013 by both Nassau and Suffolk
9 legislatures the county. As you see on the bottom
10 of the slide, the website for LICAP is there
11 LIAquiferCommission.com.

12 Within LICAP is every water public
13 supplier providing over 3 million amount of
14 residents with potable water. Nassau and Suffolk
15 County executives as well as well as the Nassau and
16 Suffolk County legislators. We also have people
17 that work in Nassau and Suffolk County Health
18 Departments. With New York State DEC and USGS. So
19 it's a very broad tent. A lot of different people
20 involved in the formulation and the work that LICAP
21 does.

22 There's a bunch of different of logos.
23 This is a collage of the logos of various
24 participants. There's actually a lot more than you
25 see in this page. This is all that can fit on one

1 page. It's a, again, a large number of different
2 agencies of people throughout LICAP.

3 We have nine voting members. Several of
4 which are behind me here. Some representing, again,
5 different aspects of groundwater and government ins
6 Nassau and Suffolk. We have some non-voting members
7 as well from other organizations. Again, relating
8 to groundwater on Long Island.

9 One or the two -- one of the more internal
10 significant structures within LICAP has to do with
11 the two subcommittees. I was Chair of the Water
12 Resources and Infrastructure Subcommittee. Bill
13 Merklin was Chair of the Water Resources and
14 Opportunity Subcommittee. And we each had our own
15 little mission to sort of cover a certain aspect of
16 Long Island groundwater as you can see in the slide
17 here.

18 We began meeting back in late 2014. Those
19 initial meetings were attended by, again, a very
20 wide cross section of Long Island groundwater
21 community. And the attendees at those initial
22 meetings following the adopted law of LICAP
23 responsible for determining the subject matter that
24 was going to be included in management plan. Once
25 we got the idea for input into the plan, two

1 subcommittees divided up the topics based on their
2 mission. One subcommittee, the one I was Chair in
3 wanted a long-term on resource oriented subject
4 matter. Water Resource opportunities Subcommittee
5 focused more on short-termed facilities oriented
6 topics. And subcommittee chairs organized and over
7 saw the programs and teams that created and edited
8 all the reports. There are about 15 reports created
9 over a three year span. Those reports provided the
10 raw material from which this Long Island Groundwater
11 Resources Management Plan was formulated.

12 So again, a combination of about a
13 three-year process. The biggest difference between
14 this Groundwater Resources Management Plan and the
15 other ones that have come before it, is that this
16 was done cooperative efforts from existing -- people
17 who already work within the groundwater community on
18 Long Island. Various branches of government as I
19 have mentioned before.

20 So rather than a consultant doing the work
21 on his own, this was actually done cooperatively by
22 people who already worked within the groundwater
23 industry on Long Island. So it was pretty
24 significant difference on how this plan came about
25 and evolved.

1 So these are the goals for the management
2 plan, providing a clear picture of threats assessing
3 of the adequacy of existing regulations creating an
4 action plan that would -- implementation program a
5 prioritization schedule for recommendations that
6 came about. Also recommended regulatory amendments
7 and legislative actions.

8 It was about 15 to 16 different authors.
9 All the reports. I'm not going to go through
10 slide-by-slide here. Just a shout out to all the
11 members -- kudos for all the hard work they did.
12 Appreciate that.

13 We ended up with 15 different reports. As
14 shown in the next two slides. Again, I'm not going
15 to go through each one. They covered a great
16 variety of groundwater quality and quantity
17 topics -- to Long Island. Including an reactivation
18 of the public supply well system, formally the
19 Jamaica water supply company located in Queens, New
20 York activation a very hot topic as we go forward.

21 We also describe a couple of initiatives
22 that have been either completed or at least started
23 while LICAP was initiated or as LICAP began. So
24 WaterTraq and USGS has form a Long Island study were
25 either completed or underway since LICAP has begun.

1 So we have 10 different sections of the
2 plan. The first five are more or less a list of
3 existing condition and programs. The executive
4 summary includes the top 15 recommendations. Jeff
5 mentioned they are out there in the lobby if you
6 want to take a look and see what they are. Better
7 that than rather read the whole report to find what
8 the major recommendations are. We put them in the
9 beginning section.

10 The last couple of sections are more
11 forward looking. Management, implementation
12 opportunities, moving forward. Certainly we have an
13 acknowledgment section where we acknowledge the
14 authors and their hard work and the references they
15 utilized to complete their reports. And all of the
16 individual reports are available in the Appendix.
17 So if you do find a subject you're interested in,
18 you read the full report.

19 So we ended up with a lot of
20 recommendations from each of the reports. They were
21 voted on -- not voted on. Ranked by LICAP voting
22 members in this A, B, C fashion. Some were
23 eliminated all together and some were combined if
24 they were similar recommendations in other reports.

25 So these are the top 15 recommendations

1 that you have in front of you. They're in no
2 particular order. So number one here is not the
3 first. They're all just -- in no particular order.
4 It's kind of A-list of recommendations.

5 So like I said, the full reports will be
6 available in the Appendix and also on the LICAP
7 website. The final draft will be available for
8 comment until next Friday, I believe. And as Jeff
9 mentioned, we will adopt the plan Wednesday,
10 December 13th.

11 You can submit comments many ways on the
12 web, by e-mail, by phone, or by old fashion mail at
13 the addresses and numbers you see here. And next
14 couple months we'll see the completion of the State
15 of the Aquifer Report and we will continue to budget
16 based on funding potentially receiving from New York
17 State. Depending on how much money is received we
18 will try utilize that leverage it for data for use
19 of the WaterTraq and sustainability study.

20 And that's basically it. Just a real
21 quick synopsis of the plan.

22 So we can open up to public comment at the
23 time. Just thought I make it short and sweet here.

24 MR. SZABO: Thank you, Steve. In
25 particular I just want to call attention to the

1 effort from the last several years of Steve
2 Colabufo. He's done a fantastic job. Not only
3 managing the subcommittees, but putting together and
4 spending -- how many hours -- hundreds of hours if
5 not more. Putting the draft together. Take
6 different chapters and putting it into one
7 comprehensive report that we could all comment on
8 and certainly share with the public. So you've done
9 a great job. We do appreciate you, Steve.

10 MR. COLABUFO: Thank you.

11 MR. SZABO: I also want to thank the
12 members of the commission who are up here. Who over
13 last several years have spent countless hours
14 volunteering, contributing to LICAP's success.

15 That being said, I have a card here from
16 Mike Kauffman. Mr. Kauffman, will you come up at
17 this time. Thank you.

18 MR. KAUFFMAN: Thank you very much. My
19 name is Michael Kauffman. I'm a resident of the
20 village of Nissequogue. I am vice chairman of the
21 council in environmental quality in Suffolk County.
22 I run the EIS process. And I've been doing that for
23 about -- longer than I actually want to admit. I'm
24 also a member of the Suffolk County Planning
25 Commission. I'm representing villages under 5,000

1 population.

2 I'm going to try and look at this from a
3 planning prospective given the large withdrawals of
4 water from magothy aquifer where most of the wells
5 are right now, the large population clusters in the
6 western part of Suffolk County, and for the giant
7 new projects that are coming in in the western part
8 of Suffolk. Clearly the western aquifers are being
9 stressed and they're going to be stressed for the
10 future.

11 We're seeing right now drops in the water
12 table in Nassau. And they're pretty extreme due to
13 the large population in limited areas that have
14 infrastructure regarding the sewers. And everyone
15 knows what's going on in Nassau. It's not a shot at
16 Nassau or anything like that. That's simple the way
17 it is. The water tables have dropped. The streams
18 have dried up to a very great degree. The lakes are
19 basically being stressed. So we see that impacts
20 are possible for a large water withdrawals and
21 they're not theoretical.

22 I mean, we're seeing it -- from my
23 perspective in the county right next door. And the
24 lines between the counties is simple that, a line on
25 a map. The aquifers are connected and I'm very

1 worried about Western Suffolk. Western Suffolk is
2 facing depletion issues right now. The Water
3 Authority in every EIS that I see says that they can
4 supply the project, and indeed they have a very
5 large network of piping and they have a lot of
6 resources. They do have a lot of underground water
7 that they can tap into. They always talk about the
8 cones of impact on the aquifers will be limited.

9 But there are impacts right now. We are seeing it.

10 One project I know, for example, will
11 lower the aquifer for several miles from the actual
12 project. By up to a foot. That's a pretty good
13 depletion.

14 So we also have another problem which
15 recharge is declining this county as special ground
16 water protect areas aren't built over. And as
17 frankly we are more and more urbanized.

18 For example, Smithtown at the four
19 corners, Constantine Plaza, there's a Home Depot
20 over there, a Costco, there's a Target. A few other
21 stores over there. It's sitting right on top of a
22 SGPA. It basically was permitted because the stores
23 over there actually don't give off many pollutants.
24 However, there are problems in that the water that
25 is caught over is latent hydrocarbons and that's all

1 going in the catch basins. Not flowing away or
2 anything. It's getting recharged with the SGPA.
3 But it's dirty water. So we have a lot of problems
4 out there.

5 And I'm what I'm looking at is how we
6 restore the equilibrium. And this is will, if you
7 will the planning I've been doing for 30 years in my
8 home village and head of my home town Smithtown, et
9 cetera. And also now as a regional official for the
10 county of Suffolk. This is where I want to give
11 some actual recommendations.

12 I think we would need to limit the
13 building and impacts on the SGPAs. We can't have
14 anymore of this. Catch basins will ameliorate the
15 impact by total capture.

16 There was a project I worked on a couple
17 of months ago, which I'm not happy about. And
18 basically "it was paved to go over most of paradise"
19 if you will, to quote Joni Mitchell. I don't go
20 back that far, but I do know the song. And
21 basically the concept was basins would catch
22 everything. And that the water would be recharged.
23 Well, it's all concrete. It's all cars. It's going
24 to be latent with hydrocarbon. It's going to be
25 latent with what I technically call schmautz.

1 MR. MILAZZO: Can you spell that for the
2 record.

3 MR. KAUFFMAN: S-C-H-M-A-U-T-Z. But he's
4 heard me say this word before. But basically it's
5 polluted water and we really need to basically
6 protect these areas. There's a lot of rules and
7 regulations out there. Not of them have really been
8 made binding. And frankly, a lot of towns just
9 don't abide by them.

10 There also should be no more acceptance of
11 site specific EISs that are larger projects. That
12 look at the water and basically say, "Okay. The
13 water can be supplied. We don't think we're going
14 to do anything." The problem is when you're looking
15 at site specific EISs you're ignoring the regional
16 impact.

17 Look at, say, Route 25 in Nassau -- you
18 look at Route 25 in Suffolk, the road network is
19 overwhelmed by the accumulative impact of each
20 little project which always is described as
21 inconsequential by the traffic engineers. You could
22 have a road that's already plugged up and I
23 guarantee you an applicant, and I know I've
24 representative developers, I know what they do.
25 I'll probably have problem for saying it, but you

1 can get an engineer to say, "Oh, it's not going to
2 have much of an impact." You have to have a
3 regional plan such as you guys are developing with
4 some teeth in it to make sure that the
5 recommendations of an EIS are not forgotten. That
6 these impacts are not going to be forgotten.

7 I like recommendation number 12 that you
8 guys have over here. "Require DEC and County Health
9 to review and provide comment on municipal for
10 applications." I actually testified before the
11 assembly health committee recently about a similar
12 issue in that -- has teeth in it in the municipal
13 planning process. Which everyone always ignores.
14 And problem is it doesn't get looked at.
15 Recommendation 12 sort fills that gap. And I'm
16 very, very happy to see that.

17 I would advise strengthening that to make
18 it go to a coordinated review so that a town or
19 another municipal cannot necessarily ignore that.
20 I've seen unfortunately this kind of stuff happen,
21 where comments are submitted and the town or village
22 wants to go forth anyway and they just throw the
23 comments out.

24 So site specific EIS is the kind of ignore
25 the overall issues, the regional issues, the

1 regional -- they cannot any longer be ignored. We
2 have problems out here. We're seeing -- Walter --
3 pardon me, Mr. Dawydiak was part of the team in
4 Suffolk County that noticed that we were having
5 nitrogen problems. Nitrogen infiltration into the
6 magothy from all of our construction and everyone
7 living around here over the last 40, 50 years.

8 We're starting to lose our aquifers unless
9 something happens. And that's one of the reasons
10 why you gentlemen were organized.

11 This thing needs teeth and it needs to be
12 looked at in a regional way. And again, as someone
13 who looks at this stuff regionally, sitting on
14 regional boards, I think it is critical and I've
15 looked at some of the recommendations. I'm like
16 what I'm seeing. They need to need to be really,
17 really pushed.

18 Finally, as on the side, you have on here
19 recommendations 5 and 11, "established guidelines
20 for the use of water by geothermal systems and
21 notification for a public water supplier before a
22 system comes in."

23 I wrote the master code for the county and
24 a number of towns have adopted it for geothermal.
25 And one of the recommendations that we had in there

1 or one of the rules that we had in there, was a
2 notification of the public water supplier.
3 Guidelines since you have that's a critical element
4 that we did not really look at. These systems all
5 use different amounts of water. As such, there's
6 one facility out on the Eastend, I would say the
7 name, that uses a enormous amount of water. It's an
8 older system and it pumps the water away.

9 It may be that you want to use closed
10 systems or something like that, or have a preference
11 for that. Geothermal is a very, very efficient way
12 of dealing with heating and cooling. It needs to be
13 regulated, if you will. Just as other regional
14 project need to be done.

15 To the extent the industry is trying to go
16 forward, you need to -- as you guys say, establish
17 the guidelines. And I think that's a very, very
18 good thing. That's all I have to say.

19 Thank you very much.

20 MR. SZABO: Thank you very much for your
21 comments.

22 Our next speaker is Rob Carpenter from the
23 Long Island Farm Bureau.

24 MR. CARPENTER: Thank you very much. I
25 appreciate the opportunity to speak on your report.

1 Before I began, I actually did read the report cover
2 to cover, every word and I have to say I'm very
3 impressed by the thought and the length of time you
4 all put into this. And I congratulate you and the
5 authors of the report.

6 I did bring hard copies of my statement
7 that I would like to distribute if it's possible for
8 you to have for the record. But I do want to read
9 it into the record, if that's okay.

10 My name is Rob Carpenter. I'm the
11 administrative director of Long Island Farm Bureau.
12 The Long Island Farm Bureau is a membership
13 association representing over 3,000 farmer,
14 fishermen, agribusiness people, and individuals
15 interested in a rural quality of life here on Long
16 Island.

17 We anticipate the many of hours it took of
18 hard work and dedication to comply this report and
19 make recommendations. The agricultural industry
20 feels there are a few points and recommendations
21 that need to be addressed before your report is
22 finalized and we are here to assist with comments to
23 better inform the users of this information so they
24 have correct and factual information for future
25 decisions.

1 As you state, in multiple sections of your
2 report, Suffolk County remains one of the largest
3 agricultural producing counties in terms of sales of
4 product in New York State with over \$240 millions in
5 annual sales. To our credit, municipalities across
6 the county have invested hundreds of millions of
7 dollars to preserve working farmland from
8 development so that farmers will have land to farm
9 in perpetuity and produce the food and fiber
10 necessary to feed our citizens today and into the
11 future.

12 As a water user, we are disappointed that
13 agriculture did not have a seat at the table to
14 present our industry's perspective and give guidance
15 to the committee on the positive projects the
16 industry is working on to ensure good stewardship of
17 the land and water for future generations, nor were
18 we asked to advise the group on our issues and
19 concerns.

20 The first recommendation we are going to
21 make to you is if there are any proposed regulations
22 or recommendation put affecting farmers that an
23 agricultural subcommittee be formed with farmers and
24 industry support groups, in order that they were
25 able to review and comment on the proposals. With

1 almost 40,000 acres of farmland in production, water
2 quality and quantity are essential to the survival
3 of the industry.

4 Furthermore, if any regulations or
5 recommendations are proposed, we ask that new data
6 compilation and testing are done to ensure the most
7 up to date information is used as opposed to
8 historical data that has changed or is outdated.

9 We also take great exception at the
10 editorialized comments in the farming sections. And
11 I'll page reference page 56 an further on in the
12 report. We find it unfortunate that the authors
13 chose to paint a specific picture of agriculture
14 instead of reporting facts. Comments such as,
15 "unfortunate by-product of farming is the need to
16 kill or control pests and nuisance vegetation using
17 pesticides, et cetera." We feel do not belong in
18 this report as written, and need to be corrected
19 before it is finalized, so as not to influence the
20 user of this information. It is a necessity that
21 farmers have the ability to protect their crops from
22 the crop failure, and ensure that they are able to
23 produce the quality product that the market demands.

24 Contrary to most peoples' opinions,
25 farmers only use products if necessary and in

1 accordance with the label use as per EPA
2 recommendations. That's on page 50.

3 Since you have brought up concerns
4 regarding agricultural production, we would like to
5 see added to this report, the positive steps farmer
6 have taken to be better stewards of their land and
7 water. Our industry has been a leader over the last
8 15 years or longer in instituting programs to this
9 effect. We would ask this report be modified to
10 credit farmers for their efforts.

11 Some examples of our initiatives include
12 but are not limited to the following: Development
13 of a comprehensive updated agricultural plan through
14 Suffolk County which passed the Suffolk County
15 legislature in April of 2016, unanimously. And I
16 know that Steve Colabufo worked on that with us to a
17 great extent. I thank Steve for his effort as well
18 as representatives from some of the organizations
19 here.

20 We've secured funding over \$1 millions to
21 date in the Environmental Protection Fund to help
22 farmers write and implement certified nutrient
23 management plans and provide staffing to do so along
24 with possible funding to assist farmers in
25 implementation of those plans.

1 Work with Cornell University to utilize
2 the Integrated Pest Management Program to reduce
3 pesticide use on farms. I believe that we were one
4 of the first industries to do so.

5 With Suffolk County's leadership received
6 their Regional Conservation Partnership Program
7 grant of over 1.2 million to help protect the water
8 in the Peconic Bay Watershed.

9 Additionally, we've secured hundreds of
10 thousands of funding to replace and modernize
11 outdated fuel tanks on farms. And with that I would
12 like to personally thank Mr. Dawydiak and his staff
13 for all of the help that they've given us over the
14 years. We truly appreciate your support.

15 Through the Soil and Water Conservation
16 Service work with farmer on better irrigation design
17 and implementation to conserve water. We've
18 obtained funding to institute a spray pad collection
19 system to prevent contamination of groundwater.
20 Those are just some of the things that we've been
21 working on.

22 The agricultural community was also
23 pleased to be a leading industry in the Long Island
24 Pesticide Pollution Prevention Strategy and with
25 guidance of scientist and Cooperative Extension

1 worked hard to educate farmers in better ways to
2 utilize products and develop best management
3 practices for Imidacloprid, Atrazine, and Metalaxyl,
4 the first three products reviewed by the pesticide
5 plan. Farmers have also cooperated with the Suffolk
6 County Department of Health Services to have test
7 monitoring wells installed on some farms to get a
8 true and accurate picture of water quality.

9 We would also like to recommend that your
10 language regarding the Community Preservation Fund
11 be modified in two ways. The first, being the CPF
12 or the 2 percent transfer tax was not about open
13 space. The top priority is Farmland Preservation
14 and remains so today. Open space preservation and
15 farmland preservation remain two separate and
16 distinct programs. Additionally, last year voters
17 approved using up to 20 percent of CPF funds to
18 allow for water quality improvements projects. We
19 would like to highlight that included in language is
20 this language is ability for those funds to be
21 utilized for agricultural environmental management
22 programs as well. And that's referenced on page 50
23 and 164 of the report.

24 With regard to recommendations, we
25 wholeheartedly agree that sole responsibility for

1 oversight of and the power to regulate our aquifer,
2 should remain with the New York State Department of
3 Health and New York State Department of
4 Environmental Conservation.

5 We are opposed to any mandatory programs,
6 especially unfunded mandates. We also believe that
7 careful consideration should be given to any
8 recommendation that jeopardizes private property
9 rights such as density reduction without just
10 compensation.

11 In closing, we would like to formally ask
12 that the following be added to the end of the report
13 under recommendations to help with water quality
14 improvements and protections:

15 Number one, additional funding for
16 farmland preservation should be a top priority of
17 the State and County. The explanation behind this
18 is there are many benefits to having preserved
19 farmland and priority should be given to more
20 preservation in the future. Among the many benefits
21 include no additional costs to taxpayers for
22 maintenance. Farmers not only maintain the land,
23 removing the burden from taxpayers, but pay taxes on
24 the land.

25 As well, farmland is a great way for

1 aquifer recharge areas to been maintained.
2 Especially on the Northfork where I know the water
3 supply is threatened.

4 Other benefits include the continued
5 production of crops, jobs, wildlife, habitat, an
6 rural character.

7 Additionally, farmland is currently being
8 looked at as a means to recharge grey water. While
9 this is in its preliminary stages, there could be
10 possibilities for certain crops.

11 Number two, any water quality or quantity
12 regulations or measures for conservation should take
13 into account actions already implemented industry.

14 This recommendation will ensure that any
15 industry that has already worked to be a better
16 steward of water will not be further restricted by
17 sweeping recommendations.

18 And as side note, we've seen that in the
19 Susquehanna River basin where New York was one of
20 the leaders in implementing stewardship practices
21 and when the Federal Government came in and said,
22 "Okay. Everybody has to cut an additional 20
23 percent," New York had already gotten down below
24 their quota and was forced to do even more.

25 Long Island Farm Bureau remains committed

1 to assisting LICAP in their efforts. We thank you
2 for the opportunity to present and remain available
3 to answer questions you might have. And assist I
4 would be interested in presenting to you or bringing
5 some farmers in, if you're interested, in hearing
6 from us and the things that we're doing. So we
7 remain at your disposal. Thank you very much.

8 MR. SZABO: Thank you, Mr. Carpenter.

9 I don't have any additional cards. Is
10 there anyone in the audience that would like to
11 speak before the commission?

12 [No response.]

13 MR. SZABO: Okay. It's 6:34. Why don't
14 we recess for 15 minutes.

15 MR. MILAZZO: That's fine. And then if
16 there's no additional people. I would recommend
17 closing the hearing for today. Well, we're not
18 going to close the hearing, we'll just continue it
19 next Tuesday in Nassau County at 3:00 and another
20 hearing at 6:00. And it will continuing one more
21 time Wednesday night in Riverhead. And then we'll
22 close it after Riverhead's hearing. And we'll
23 discuss whether we want to close it at that time or
24 receive written comment and keeping it open. We'll
25 have more options at that time.

1 MR. SZABO: Okay. So now we'll take a 10
2 minute recess.

3 (Whereupon, a recess was taken at this
4 time.)

5 MR. SZABO: Back on the record. It's been
6 about 10 minutes and we're going to adjourn for
7 today. And resume Tuesday at the Peter J. Schmitt
8 Legislator at 3:00 p.m. 3:00 to 5:00 session. So
9 we'll take additional comments at that time. Thank
10 you everyone for coming and we'll see you Tuesday.
11 Goodnight.

12 (Time noted: 6:42 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, GINAMARIE DeMARCO, a shorthand reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of New York, do hereby certify:

That the witness whose testimony is herein before set forth was duly sworn by me, and the forgoing transcript is true and accurate record of the testimony given by such witness.

I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.



GINAMARIE DeMARCO

