Dear Environment New York Members,

New Yorkers know a good idea when they hear one, whether it’s protecting our drinking water from drilling or restoring Long Island Sound. With your support, we are making a real difference—good idea by good idea, victory by victory.

The problems facing our environment can be daunting. Oil and gas companies are racing to drill in the region that supplies millions of New Yorkers with clean drinking water; runoff pollution is creating a dead zone in Long Island Sound that can extend up to 180 square miles each summer; the largest oil spill in world history caused untold damage to the fragile ecosystems of the Gulf. The forces arrayed against us are equally daunting: Big Oil, gas companies, utilities, chemical companies and their ilk.

But in the face of these challenges, our staff and members continue to make a difference. In this past year alone we helped get cleaner cars on the road that will reduce our oil consumption, save families money and limit global warming pollution. We pushed the state Senate to pass a moratorium on gas drilling near New York City’s drinking water. And we pressed the U.S. Senate to move on legislation to protect and restore Long Island Sound and other waterways across the country.

In each of these cases, good ideas ultimately prevailed—but it took hard work. Our staff researched solutions, released reports to the media, reached out to thousands of citizens across the state, and built broad coalitions. And that work was only possible because of your support.

We’ve made real progress this past year, but we need to keep chipping away at the problems plaguing our environment. Your long-term support gives me the confidence that together we at Environment New York will continue to be successful in the years to come.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
**Stopping Global Warming**

**New York paves the way for clean cars victory**

In 2010, Environment New York and our allies helped win historic clean cars rules—and defend them against attack.

President Obama announced strong fuel efficiency standards in May that require cars to go further on a tank of gas, mirroring a state law that New York passed in 2005. By 2016, the new rules could cut U.S. gasoline consumption by over 11 billion gallons per year and reduce global warming pollution by 108 million tons annually.

Those rules came under attack when Sen. Lisa Murkowski introduced a measure, dubbed the “Dirty Air Act,” to block the federal government’s ability to regulate global warming pollution. We urged our online activists to call the offices of New York Sens. Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand in protest. Both senators voted against the measure, helping to ensure its 47-to-53 defeat.
Our Drinking Water

Urged by activists, state Senate voted to halt drilling

This summer, Environment New York helped convince the New York State Senate to pass a temporary moratorium on gas drilling—a critical step toward permanently protecting our drinking water.

New Yorkers have long enjoyed some of the cleanest drinking water in the country. That’s largely because for years the state has protected the land surrounding New York City’s water supply in the Catskills and upstate New York—protecting our drinking water from industrial pollution, agricultural runoff, sewage and other hazards.

But this year oil and gas companies intensified their push to drill in the protected areas that provide 9 million New Yorkers with drinking water. With this critical resource under attack, Environment New York and our members sprang into action.

Drilling can cause methane to leak into nearby wells, making tap water flammable.
Drilling poses toxic threat to drinking water

Halliburton and other energy companies now hold leases to drill natural gas deposits in upstate New York. The process involves highly toxic chemicals and gases that can find their way into local water supplies. It also generates millions of gallons of wastewater, which can contaminate our water supply with toxic chemicals linked to cancer and birth defects. Flammable methane gas can wind up in wells and groundwater, in some cases causing nearby residents’ tap water to catch fire. In neighboring Pennsylvania, drilling pollution contaminated the drinking water supply of 325,000 people in the Pittsburgh area in 2008.

Citizen action made the difference in Senate vote

In December, Environment New York launched a campaign to spread public awareness of this threat and rally citizens and policy-makers against drilling near our water supply.

We spoke with more than 45,000 people in dozens of communities across the state, from Ithaca to Westchester County to the Upper West Side, and thousands of them joined our call to protect New York’s drinking water from drilling. Thousands of people signed postcards and petitions urging state officials to ban drilling near our drinking water.

When a temporary drilling moratorium came up in the state Senate, we helped New Yorkers call their senators to urge them to support the measure. After a tough fight, the Senate successfully passed the moratorium by a stunning 48-9 bipartisan vote. The moratorium would put a stop to drilling in New York until May 2011, buying time for our next governor to pass a comprehensive solution for protecting our drinking water permanently.
Our Great Waters

**Congress targeted to protect Long Island Sound**

Environment New York helped win a victory for Long Island Sound this June, when a key Senate committee approved a bill that would inject new funds and energy into efforts to restore the Sound.

From swimming at Rye Beach to sailing along the coast, Long Island Sound is part of our natural heritage and part of the legacy that we want our kids to enjoy. But the health of the Sound is at risk, and lately, efforts to protect it have fallen short.

Fortunately, this year we had a unique opportunity to protect the Sound, as Congress considered legislation that would give Long Island Sound restoration efforts a much-needed shot in the arm. In March 2010, New York Sens. Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand joined their colleagues from Connecticut to sponsor the Long Island Sound Restoration and Stewardship Act, which

> “Kayaking in the marshes of Long Island Sound provided me with some of the best moments of my life.”

~ Tom Spota IV, Environment New York member
Dead zones, sewage, pollution—and a plan to fix it

Too much sewage is dumped into the Sound every year, too many beaches close down each summer, too much pollution runs off from overdevelopment, and too much of the Sound’s natural habitat is threatened. With a dead zone extending across as much as 180 square miles of the Sound during the summer, we could not afford to wait another year to restore Long Island Sound.

Environment New York applauded our senators for spearheading this important legislation to protect and restore the Sound, and launched an effort to build public support.

Building community support for the Sound

In an effort to mobilize support for the bill, we put out a call to our online activists, urging them to take action to encourage their representatives to back the legislation. Members sent in photos and stories about why they love Long Island Sound. As part of our effort, we collected thousands of petition signatures urging members of Congress to support efforts to restore Long Island Sound to health.

Before a key Senate committee voted on the bill, our staff wrote and released “America’s Great Waters,” a report highlighting the threats facing the Sound, and the steps needed to protect it. On June 30, the committee advanced the bill, bringing the promise of Long Island Sound restoration within reach.
As BP’s oil spill disaster unfolded in the Gulf of Mexico this summer, Environment New York and our allies mobilized nearly half a million people to oppose new drilling off America’s coasts. Our activists and staff helped hold the line against expanded offshore drilling, and built support to restore the Gulf and hold BP accountable for the damage it caused.

In late April, we watched in horror as BP’s Deepwater Horizon rig exploded in the Gulf of Mexico, killing 11 workers and unleashing the worst oil spill in U.S. history. BP was unable to stop the leak until July. The well released more than 200 million gallons of oil, coating beaches from Louisiana to Florida and devastating pelicans, porpoises, sea turtles and other wildlife. The disaster caused billions of dollars in losses and upended the livelihoods of thousands of fishermen, shrimpers and tourism workers.

Save America’s Shores

After spill, 400,000 stood strong against new drilling

Margie Alt, director of our national federation, at a press conference on the Gulf spill; protesters push BP to take responsibility for cleanup; the spill in the Gulf.
In response to this tragedy, Environment New York launched a campaign to ensure that oil companies like BP are held accountable for damage they cause, to pass tough new rules for offshore drilling, and to permanently protect America’s waters.

Our staff and members mobilized to make these goals a reality. Margie Alt, the executive director of our national federation, joined Sens. Robert Menendez (NJ) and Bill Nelson (FL) to call for an end to the cap on oil companies’ liability for spills. Heather Emmert, our federal field organizer in the Gulf, kept tabs on BP throughout the crisis and countered their assurances at hearings. When the oil industry touted economic arguments for more drilling, our Federal Oceans Advocate Mike Gravitz showed that clean coastal waters create far more jobs than drilling does.

Our members pitched in, hosting “Gumbo for the Gulf” fundraisers to support our lobbying efforts and Gulf cleanup. Renowned Louisiana chefs John Besh and Susan Spicer contributed recipes, and chef and author Anthony Bourdain promoted the events.

**Citizen action held the line against new drilling**

Our staff spoke to more than 80,000 people across the country and sent e-mails to thousands more about the threat of expanded drilling. In June, Environment New York and our allies submitted more than 400,000 petition signatures urging the president not to expand offshore drilling.

The fight is far from over, but our efforts have begun to pay off. The Obama administration cancelled drilling leases off the coast of Virginia, and on Sept. 30, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced strict new safety requirements for offshore drilling.
Financial Information
Charts reflect combined financial information for the environmental work conducted by Environment New York and Environment New York’s citizen outreach programs.

FY10 Income
- Citizen Contributions 100%

FY10 Expenses
- Program 70%
  - Fundraising 27%
  - Administrative 1%

FY10 Programs
- Clean Water 51%
- Clean Energy Future 42%
- Stopping Global Warming 5%
- Preservation 3%

Building a greener future
Environment New York Citizen Lobby gratefully accept bequests, beneficiary designations of IRAs and life insurance, and gifts of securities to support our work. Your gift will assure that we can continue to protect New York’s air, water and open spaces for future generations. For more information, call 1-800-841-7299 or e-mail plannedgiving@EnvironmentNewYork.org.
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