

## ABOUT COMPTROLLER DiNAPOLI



Comptroller DiNapoli has been a strong advocate for New York's environment during his more than two decades in public service. As a former Assemblyman from Long Island, he championed a number of legislative initiatives, including the Pine Barrens Protection Act, the ban on the gasoline additive MTBE, the establishment of the Brownfields Cleanup Program, the enactment of the Pesticide Neighbor Notification Act and numerous other measures to improve the quality of the State's drinking water.

As the former chair of the New York State Assembly Committee on Environmental Conservation, DiNapoli brings an unprecedented level of environmental expertise to the Comptroller's Office. This first-of-its-kind environmental webcast is the product of his dedicated effort to bring awareness of environmental issues to the people of New York State.

On September 13, 2007, Comptroller DiNapoli signed an Executive Order on Energy and the Environment (available at [www.osc.state.ny.us/press/releases/sept07/091307.htm](http://www.osc.state.ny.us/press/releases/sept07/091307.htm)) to make the New York State Office of the State Comptroller a model of sustainability.

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353 Hamilton Street, Albany, NY 12210 [www.eany.org](http://www.eany.org)
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- Natural Resources Defense Council**  
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011 [www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org)
- The Nature Conservancy**  
195 New Karner Road, Suite 200, Albany, NY 12205 [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org)
- New York League of Conservation Voters**  
30 Broad Street, 30th Floor, New York, NY 10004 [www.nylcv.org](http://www.nylcv.org)
- New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)**  
107 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210 [www.nypirg.org](http://www.nypirg.org)
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**  
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233 [www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)
- New York State United Teachers (NYSUT)**  
800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110 [www.nysut.org](http://www.nysut.org)
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353 Hamilton Street, Albany, NY 12210 [www.atlantic.sierraclub.org](http://www.atlantic.sierraclub.org)
- Sustainable South Bronx**  
890 Garrison Avenue, 4th Floor, Bronx, NY 10474 [www.ssbx.org](http://www.ssbx.org)
- United Puerto Rican Organization of Sunset Park (UPROSE)**  
166A 22nd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11232 <http://uprose.org>
- We Act for Environmental Justice**  
271 West 125th Street, Suite 308, New York, NY 10027 [www.weact.org](http://www.weact.org)

**THOMAS P. DiNAPOLI**  
NEW YORK STATE COMPTROLLER  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
**PACE LAW SCHOOL**

## COMPTROLLER'S ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY WEBCAST



April 7, 2008  
1:00 – 2:30 PM

*“Working together is the key to identifying long-term, sustainable solutions that curb greenhouse gas emissions and lower energy costs.”*

Thomas P. DiNapoli  
State Comptroller

For more information on Comptroller DiNapoli's Green Initiative, visit  
[www.osc.state.ny.us/green](http://www.osc.state.ny.us/green)

## AGENDA

- I. Role of the Office of the State Comptroller
  - What do we do?
  - How have we gone green?
- II. Panel Discussion
  - What are the most significant environmental issues facing New York State?
  - How can the Comptroller help?
  - Other thoughts and recommendations
- III. Question and Answer Session
  - Questions from live and web audiences for the Comptroller and environmental experts

## ABOUT THE COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

As the center of government fiscal accountability in New York State, the Office of the State Comptroller audits government operations and issues reports on State finances.

In its audits of State agencies, local governments and school districts, the Comptroller's Office makes sure these entities comply with State laws, such as using cleaning products that do not harm people or the environment, as well as a host of other issues.

As sole trustee of the New York State Common Retirement Fund, Comptroller DiNapoli invests pension fund dollars in companies whose products solve environmental problems while earning attractive returns for the pension fund.

The Comptroller also administers the New York Environmental Protection and Oil Spill Compensation Fund, which settles damage claims resulting from oil spills.

## Guest Speakers

### **Marcia Bystryn**

Executive Director, New York League of Conservation Voters  
[mbystryn@nylcv.org](mailto:mbystryn@nylcv.org) [www.nylcv.org](http://www.nylcv.org)

Marcia Bystryn joined the New York League of Conservation Voters as Executive Director in June 1999. Prior to this, she served as the Senior Business Manager for Economic Development and Senior Corporate Policy Manager for the Environment at The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, where she focused on the revitalization of the port and the many interwoven environmental issues. She also served as the Assistant Commissioner for Recycling at New York City's Department of Sanitation, where she integrated a comprehensive recycling program as part of the City's solid waste management policy, and was Deputy Director of the Twentieth Century Fund, now the Century Foundation.

### **Honorable Pete Grannis**

Commissioner, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)  
[www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)

While he has been DEC Commissioner for only one year, Pete Grannis' environmental leadership spans decades. As a State Assembly Member from Manhattan's Upper East Side, Mr. Grannis was well known for his proactive and forward-thinking environmental vision. From fighting to clean up long-festering toxic waste sites and reduce damaging acid rain to championing groundbreaking laws to increase recycling and protect residents from dangerous secondhand cigarette smoke, his thirty-two year tenure in Albany was marked by significant environmental victories. Commissioner Grannis' impressive legislative accomplishments have been recognized by numerous environmental, health and consumer organizations. In addition, Commissioner Grannis serves as Chairman of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

### **Laura Haight**

Senior Environmental Associate, New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG)  
[laurahaight@gmail.com](mailto:laurahaight@gmail.com) [www.nypirg.org](http://www.nypirg.org)

Laura Haight is Senior Environmental Associate with NYPIRG in Albany, where she directs advocacy on solid waste, toxics, pesticides, and clean air and energy. NYPIRG is New York's largest consumer and environmental advocacy organization, with more than 20 offices across the State. Prior to joining NYPIRG's staff in 1999, Ms. Haight held positions in several other nonprofit environmental groups in New York, including Clearwater, Scenic Hudson and Environmental Advocates. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in American History and Literature from Harvard University and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Studies from the Bard College Graduate School of Environmental Studies.

### **Robert Moore**

Executive Director, Environmental Advocates of New York  
[rmoore@eany.org](mailto:rmoore@eany.org) [www.eany.org](http://www.eany.org)

Prior to joining Environmental Advocates of New York in 2004, Rob Moore served as the Lake Champlain Lakekeeper for the Conservation Law Foundation's Vermont Advocacy Center. Before that, he led Prairie Rivers Network in Illinois. Under his leadership, Prairie Rivers Network rose to prominence as one of the country's most respected statewide river conservation groups. For these efforts, Mr. Moore was recognized by the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Clean Water Network as one of "30 Clean Water Heroes of the Past 30 Years." He is a nationally

recognized expert on the federal Clean Water Act and its application to local and statewide pollution problems. Mr. Moore has a Master's degree in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of Illinois and a Bachelor's degree in Physics from Illinois State University.

### **Professor Nicholas A. Robinson**

Gilbert & Sarah Kerlin Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law, Pace University School of Law  
[nrobinson@pace.edu](mailto:nrobinson@pace.edu) [www.law.pace.edu](http://www.law.pace.edu)

Nicholas A. Robinson founded Pace's program in environmental legal education in 1978. From 1972 to 1992, he served on the U.S. Delegation to the environmental law negotiations with the USSR. He served as Legal Advisor and Chair of the Commission on Environmental Law for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources from 1996 to 2004, and currently serves on the Environmental Advisory Council to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. He led the development of environmental law teaching in 15 Asian nations for the Asian Development Bank and founded the world's first consortium of law schools with environmental law programs. From 1983 to 1985, Professor Robinson served as General Counsel to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Under Governor Carey, he organized and chaired the New York State Freshwater Wetlands Appeals Board and chaired the Environmental Advisory Board to Governor Mario Cuomo. Professor Robinson also chaired and incorporated the State's Greenway Heritage Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley.

### **Peggy Shepard**

Executive Director, We Act for Environmental Justice (WE ACT)  
[peggy@weact.org](mailto:peggy@weact.org) [www.weact.org](http://www.weact.org)

Peggy Shepard is Executive Director and co-founder of West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc. Founded in 1988, WE ACT was New York's first environmental justice organization created to improve environmental health and quality of life in communities of color. A recipient of the 10th Annual Heinz Award for the Environment, Ms. Shepard is a former Democratic District Leader, who represented West Harlem from 1985 to 1993, and served as President of the National Women's Political Caucus – Manhattan from 1993 to 1997. From 2001 to 2003, Ms. Shepard served as the first female chair of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and is co-chair of the Northeast Environmental Justice Network.

### **Margaret Seymour**

Pace Law Student, President of the Pace Environmental Law Society  
[ms08740w@pace.edu](mailto:ms08740w@pace.edu) [www.law.pace.edu](http://www.law.pace.edu)

Margaret Seymour is a full-time, second-year student at Pace Law School. Prior to law school, she worked for almost two decades in solid waste reduction in New Hampshire: first as the manager of a local landfill and recycling center, then as the solid waster planner for a regional planning commission, and finally as the Executive Director of a small private nonprofit organization that worked on recycling and waste reduction projects statewide. Ms. Seymour is the president of the Pace Environmental Law Society, an associate candidate on the Pace Environmental Law Review and is working two days a week in the New York Attorney General's Environmental Protection Bureau this spring as an Environmental Law Extern.