

THOMAS P. DiNAPOLI
STATE COMPTROLLER



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STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER

EXECUTIVE ORDER

ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS, pollution emanating from State and local government operations and properties, businesses, farms and residences contribute to the degradation of New York State's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, public health, safety and environmental quality are threatened by climate change due to human-related emissions of carbon dioxide and other pollutants; and

WHEREAS, New York State government has adopted laws and regulations setting requirements and goals for reduction of harmful pollutants; and

WHEREAS, Environmental Conservation Law section 28-0101 declares that it is the policy of the State of New York to promote affordable and cost effective methods to reduce energy and resource consumption, reduce pollution and waste and eliminate the use of hazardous substances and the generation of such substances in order to conserve, improve and protect New York's environment and natural resources; enhance the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and increase the economic competitiveness of New York businesses; and

WHEREAS, Energy Law section 3-101 states it is the policy of the State to encourage energy conservation and to promote the development and wise use of indigenous energy sources, including renewable energy sources, and Energy Law section 3-103 provides that "every agency of the state shall conduct its affairs so as to conform to the state energy policy" expressed in section 3-101; and

WHEREAS, many of New York's citizens have indicated a strong willingness to take steps to prevent negative impacts on the environment by reducing non-sustainable uses of natural resources and emission of pollutants in their daily activities; and

WHEREAS, by managing operations so that required inputs do not exceed the replacement capacity of the environment and emissions do not exceed the assimilation capacity of the environment, State agencies can become more environmentally sustainable and reduce their contribution to environmental pollution; and

WHEREAS, environmental health, public health, economic health and quality of life are inextricably linked; and

WHEREAS, by acting in a sustainable manner the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) can make a significant contribution to the quality of life for all New Yorkers, while also serving as a model for other State agencies, local governments, businesses and residents,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas P. DiNapoli, Comptroller of the State of New York, in consideration of the aforementioned, do hereby order that OSC become a model of sustainability, by taking appropriate and necessary actions:

1. To operate facilities and work processes within OSC, consistent with efficient performance of OSC functions and duties, and to the extent authorized by law, according to the following principles of sustainability: a) conserve natural resources through efficient use; b) reduce harmful emissions to the environment; c) purchase products and services that conserve natural resources and reduce harmful emissions; and d) encourage an effective and efficient workforce by providing a healthy work environment.
2. To incorporate long-range environmental planning in daily operations of OSC through the creation of an OSC Sustainability Team comprised of representatives of all key divisions. This team will comprehensively review operations and develop plans and programs to continually improve performance toward achieving sustainability, provide for training and outreach to all OSC employees on sustainability in the workplace and report annually to the Comptroller on progress and accomplishments. To facilitate the team's work, OSC will audit its use of energy, consumption of paper and other natural resources, purchasing practices and generation of solid and hazardous waste. Based on these audits, strategies will be identified to increase efficiencies, reduce harmful emissions to the environment and reduce waste generation.
3. To use the audit and research capacity of OSC to improve compliance with applicable environmental and energy requirements by State agencies, local governments, and public authorities and to use OSC resources to assist such entities in reducing their long term operating costs and their impact on the environment through the efficient use of energy and natural resources, the reduction of waste and the procurement of environmentally preferable products consistent with law.

Thomas P. DiNapoli
Comptroller, State of New York
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