

Press



Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Legislator Cornell Addressed State Bar Environmental Law Committee on Water Strategies and Sustainability

New City, NY (May 7, 2015) – Rockland County Legislator Harriet Cornell was invited by the NYS Bar Association Environmental Law Committee on Legislation to join a panel discussion on actions needed to ensure sustainable water resources in the 21st century in New York State. The discussion took place at the Association's annual Legislative Forum held in Albany on May 6, 2015.

Cornell and panel members explored topics such as: laws, energy policy, conservation goals, and regional water planning and wastewater infrastructure. The panel included Sandra Allen, Director of Policy and Planning, NYS Environmental Facilities Corp., William Janeway, Executive Director of Adirondack Council, and Commissioner Joseph Coffee, Albany Department of Water and Water Supply.

Cornell is the Chairwoman of the Legislature's Environmental Committee and the Rockland County Task Force on Water Resources Management - a nineteen-member task force formed to develop a comprehensive water policy for Rockland County. The Task Force, which includes representation from the Executive and Legislative branches of county government, designated county departments, town and village government, school, business and scientific communities, and United Water NY, was formed in the wake of the ruling by the NYS Public Service Commission (PSC) that halted the proposal by United Water NY to build a desalination plant on the Hudson River in North Rockland, a major victory for Rockland and its ratepayers. Cornell and many Rocklanders feared that the desalination process would cause water rates to soar as the process depends heavily on electricity and would result in irreparable harm to the river's environment and species, successfully lobbied the PSC to reject the United Water proposal.

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