

# The Legislature of Rockland County



**ALDEN H. WOLFE**  
**Vice Chairman**  
Legislator – District 6

Chair, Environmental Committee

**MINUTES**  
***ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE***  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2012**  
**6:00 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Leg. A. Wolfe, Chair  
Leg. N. Low-Hogan, Vice Chair  
Leg. H. Cornell, Chairwoman  
Leg. C. Carey  
Leg. T. Earl  
Leg. A. Weider

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Leg. F. Sparaco

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Leg. A. Paul      E. Yeger, Esq.  
Hon. C. Coker    A. Beers  
D. Madranero    D. Miller  
P. Bosco        J. Hunderfund  
M. Granierer    L. Seeman  
G. Potanovic

ADOPTION OF MINUTES, MEETING OF DECEMBER 28, 2011

**PULLED**

1. REF. #4374 - REQUESTING THAT THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY PASS BILL A.2206 AND THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE PASS BILL S.5126 – AN ACT ENACTING THE “ROCKLAND BERGEN BI-STATE WATERSHED FLOOD PREVENTION AND PROTECTION ACT” AND CREATING THE ROCKLAND BERGEN BI-STATE RIVER COMMISSION  
**(HON. ALDEN H. WOLFE, LEGISLATURE)**

Chair Wolfe appointed Leg. Nancy Low-Hogan as the Vice Chair of the Environmental Committee.

Legislative Chairwoman Cornell read a statement from Mr. Bob Dillon, a member of the Rockland Water Coalition to be included in the minutes (See attachment).

Leg. Carey stated he felt very strongly that New York State needs to participate in this Commission.

**MOTION TO APPROVE:**  
**WOLFE/CORNELL**

**UNAN**

**ADDED CO-SPONSORS: LEGS. LOW-HOGAN, CORNELL, CAREY, EARL, WIEDER**

2. REF. #9461 - REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND UNITED STATES SENATE PASS H.R. 1084 AND S.587 – THE FRACTURING RESPONSIBILITY AND AWARENESS OF CHEMICALS (FRAC) ACT, AND THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PASS H.R. 1204 – THE BRINGING REDUCTIONS TO ENERGY’S AIRBORNE TOXIC HEALTH EFFECTS (BREATHE) ACT  
**(HON. ALDEN H. WOLFE, LEGISLATURE)**

Leg. Carey requested this subject be brought back to the Committee for further discussion, especially the effects it could have on Rockland County and the job market.

**MOTION TO APPROVE:  
WOLFE /CORNELL**

**UNAN**

**ADDED CO-SPONSORS: LEGS. LOW-HOGAN, CORNELL, CAREY, EARL, WIEDER**

3. REF. #8967 - **DISCUSSION ITEM:** UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE 2012 PROGRAM SIGN-UP  
**(HON. ALDEN H. WOLFE, LEGISLATURE)**

Mr. Joseph Heller, District Conservationist administering USDA’s Resources Conservation Service programs in Orange and Rockland Counties, gave a power point presentation explaining the 2012 conservation program funding. The programs include the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Agricultural Management Assistance Program (AMA), and the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP).

4. REF. #4124 - **DISCUSSION ITEM:** REPORT/UPDATE FROM DAN MILLER ABOUT THE STATUS ON DEVELOPING A WATER POLICY  
**(HON. ALDEN H. WOLFE, LEGISLATURE)**

Dr. Dan Miller, County Hydrologist, made a presentation to the Committee about what the policy might contain and what the Department of Health could do as part of a new policy (see attachment).

Dr. Miller stated the policy will try to ensure there is a proper quantity of water in the County for domestic, commercial and fire protection use, as well as make sure the quality of the water is safe for use. All of the work they intend to do and lay out in the policy is focused on accomplishing those two goals.

Dr. Miller also noted that he did not have specifics to discuss yet but that the Department was teamed with Columbia University and would work through the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. They will thoroughly evaluate the feasibility of multiple water conservation measures.

Chair Wolfe said that the data received from the students would help find a method of conservation worth implementing. Legislative Chairwoman Cornell said that utilizing these students was going to be very helpful because they would work very hard and come up with useful research.

Leg. Low-Hogan stated they should look into other water policies from around the State to see if there was anything we could use for Rockland’s policy, noting that we would put our own stamp on what the main issues that have to be addressed.

Chair Wolfe suggested that anyone with any ideas or concerns should follow up with the Committee, either at a future meeting on the topic, or write, call or e-mail them. He also explained that this is the first of many meetings, today we are just trying to frame things a little bit and let the public know what direction we are heading in.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: 7:10 PM**  
**EARL/CAREY**

**UNAN**

“The Rockland County Legislature is committed to full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To that end, the Legislature is committed to creating an accessible environment for all. To request accommodations that you may require, please call Damaris Alvarez at 845-638-5248 (845-708-7899 for TTY/TDD). Please request these accommodations three (3) days in advance so that we can seek to meet your needs.”

ENV020112.MIN.SED

Re: Rockland County Legislature's Environmental Committee Agenda 2/01/12

Dear Legislator Wolfe,

As you know, in 2009 the Rockland County Legislature unanimously adopted a resolution supporting the Rockland Bergen Bi-State River Commission. Hopefully on this attempt the NYS Legislature will pass the bill and Governor Cuomo will sign it into Law.

With regard to development of a County of Rockland Water Policy:

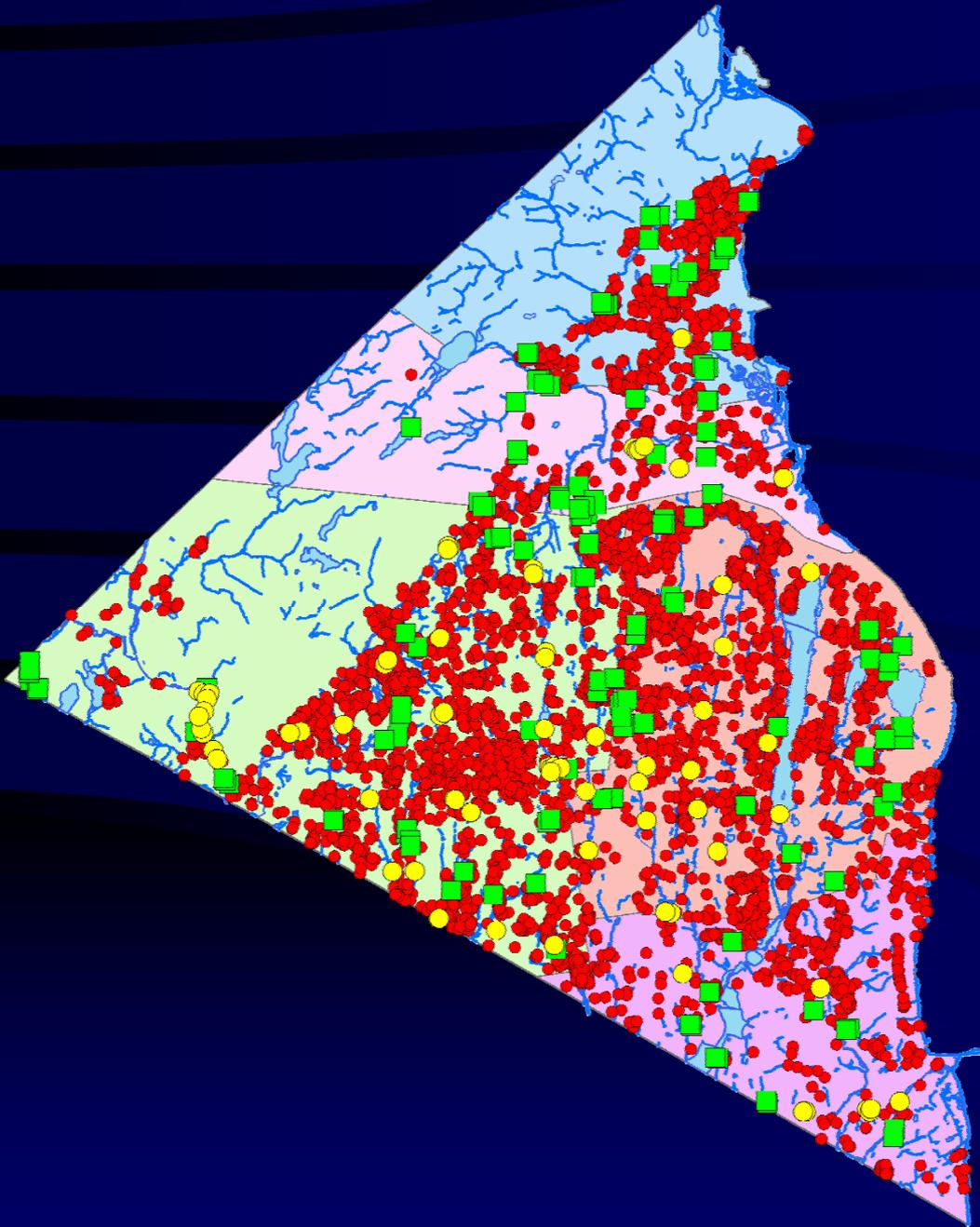
The Rockland County Comprehensive Plan, adopted nearly a year ago, calls for the development of a County of Rockland Water Policy. The Rockland Coalition for Sustainable Water and others have expressed the desire to be partners in that process. However, until now there has been no public involvement in the process.

Stakeholders concerned about water issues ranging from water supply and water quality to flood control expect to be included in developing a County Water Policy. To that end I respectfully request that public workshop meetings, similar to those used to develop the Rockland County Comprehensive Plan, be organized so that the public can actively participate in developing Rockland County's water policy.

Bob Dillon

Link: **08/06/09 - County Legislators Encourage State Legislature to Enact Legislation to Form Rockland Bergen Bi-State River Commission**

# Rockland County Water Supply



December 2011

# Draft RCDOH Water Policy

- Identifies Fundamental Goals necessary to Protect Public Health
  - Ensure an adequate quantity of water for domestic, commercial, and fire protection
  - Ensure that the quality of water available is safe to use for its intended purpose

# Draft RCDOH Water Policy (Cont.)

- Identifies Functional Categories of Work that RCDOH does/will do to achieve goals
  - Regulatory Enforcement
    - NYS Sanitary Code
    - Rockland County Sanitary Code
    - Rockland County Laws
  - Technical Assistance
    - Users of Water (residential, commercial, industrial)
    - Public Water Suppliers
    - Federal & State Agencies
    - Local Municipalities

# Functional Categories (Cont.)

## – Scientific Investigation

- Evaluation of Rockland's fundamental water resources
- Public water supply and demand monitoring
- Maintain knowledge base to support provision of technical support

# Functional Categories (Cont.)

## – Public Education

- Help residents make the best use of available resources
- Prevent residents from unknowingly contributing to degradation of surface and/or ground water resources
- Provide educational resources to complement (or to try to avoid) regulatory enforcement.

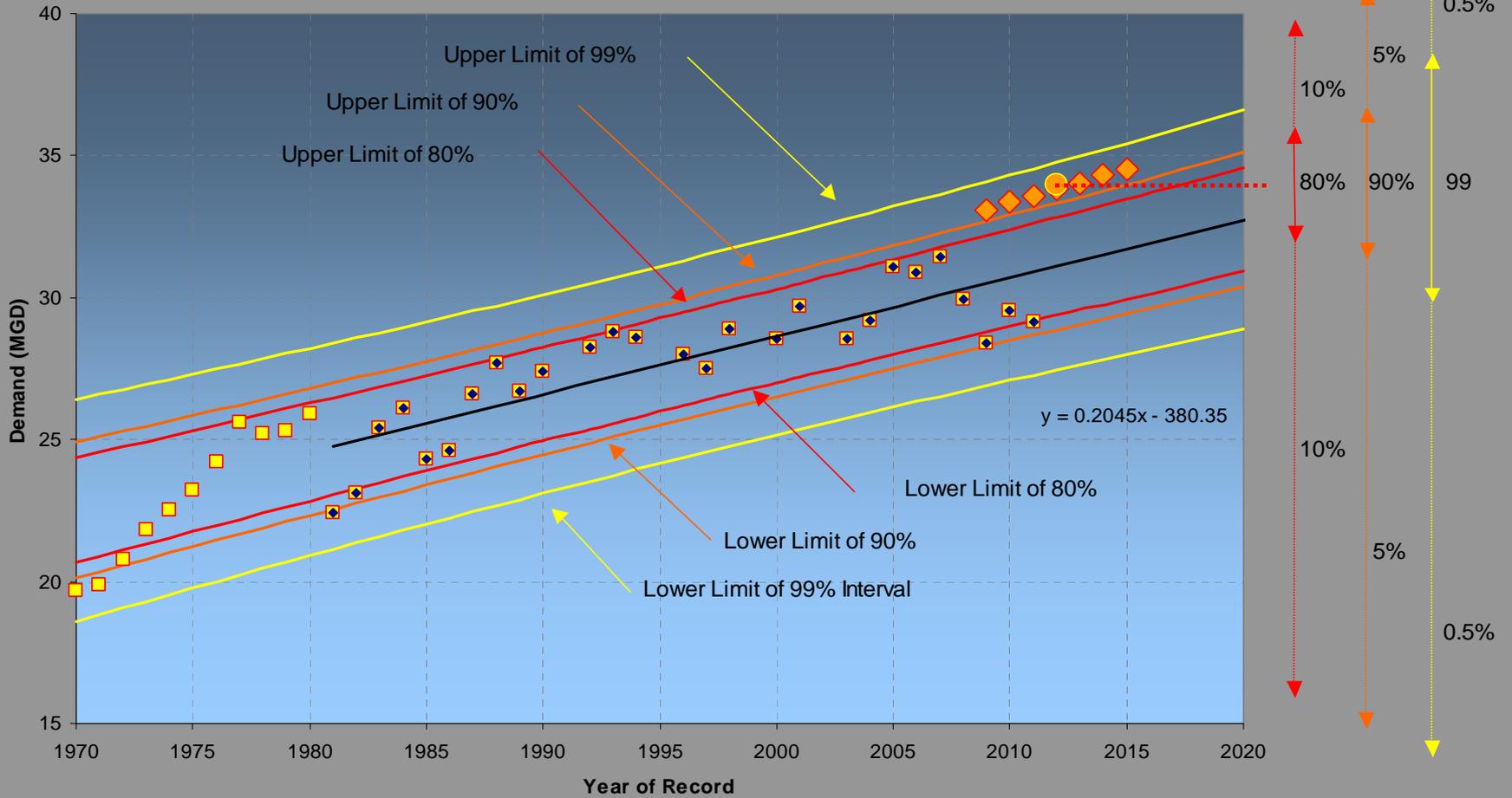
# Water Conservation

- RCDOH recently initiated a study of water conservation practices that may be applicable to Rockland County
  - Collaborating with Columbia University
    - Senior Workshop for Sustainable Development Majors
    - Mentored by Stuart Braman of CU's Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory
  - Goal is to thoroughly evaluate the feasibility of multiple conservation measures
    - Local Applicability
    - Cost (implementation, enforcement, economic impacts)
    - Efficacy/Cost Savings

# Water Conservation

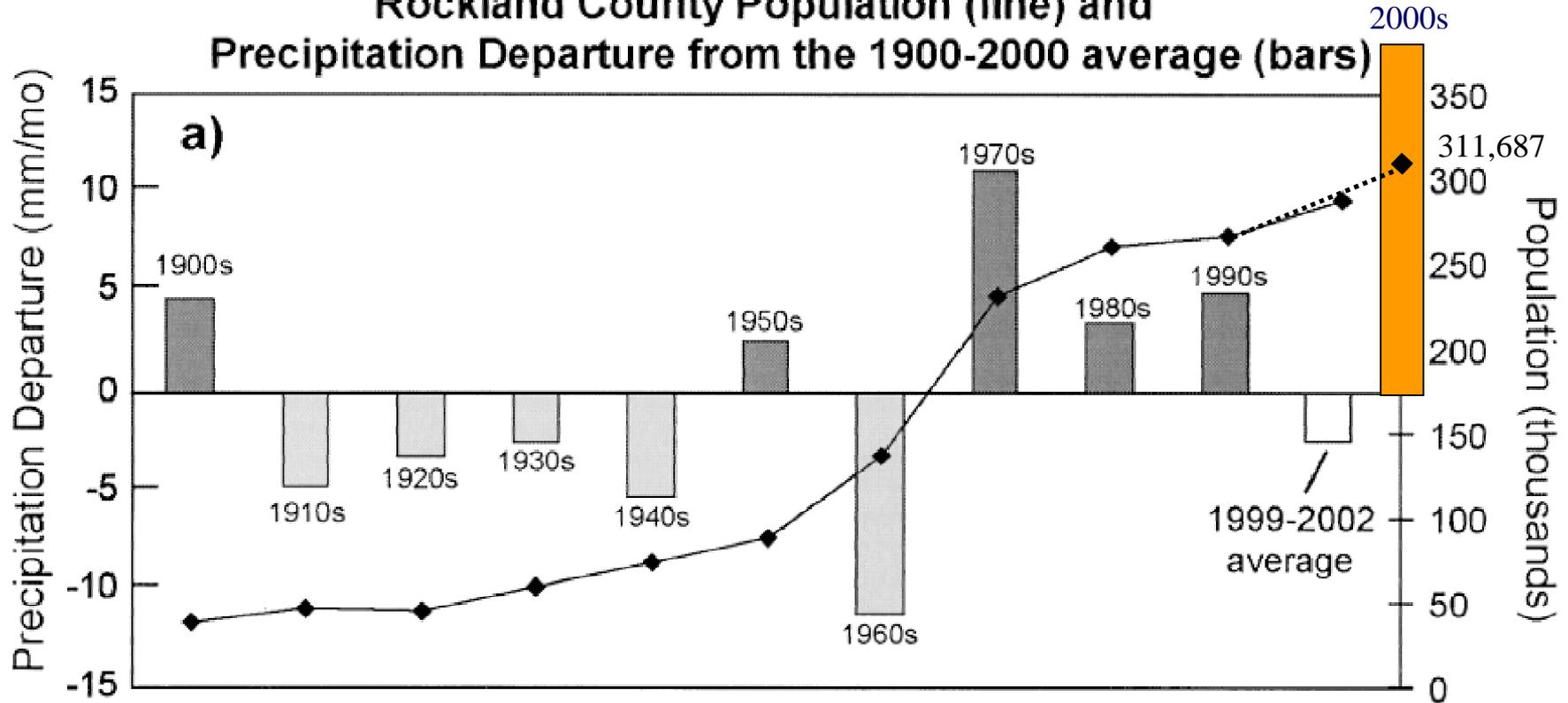
- Team will use Alliance for Water Efficiency Model to organize evaluation
- Data sources:
  - Literature, e.g., case studies
  - UWNY DEIS,
  - Surveys (if determined necessary)
- RCDOH will participate in several classes throughout semester

## Average Demand Analysis 80%, 90% and 99% Confidence Intervals



■ 1970 to 2010	◆ 1981 to 2010	— Upper80
— Lower80	— Upper90	— Lower90
— Upper99	— Lower99	◆ Average Supply Commitment
● December 2011 PSC Report	— Linear (1981 to 2010)	

**Rockland County Population (line) and  
Precipitation Departure from the 1900-2000 average (bars)**

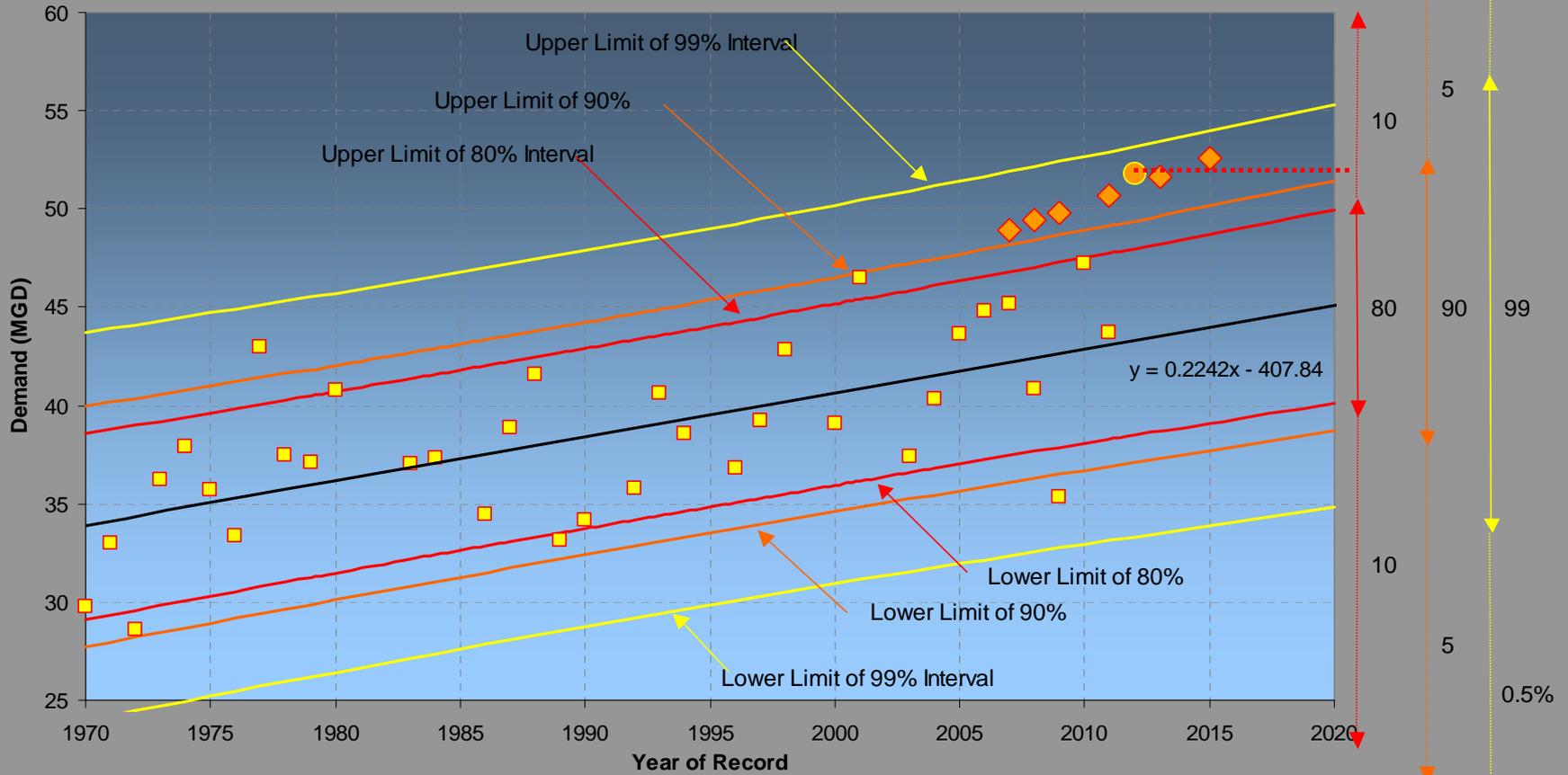


2000s bar represents average monthly rainfall at Lake DeForest from 2000 through 2009. Population datum is from the 2010 census.

## 2011 Average Supply & Demand

<b>UWNY's Projected Annual Additional Average Day Demand (MGD)</b>	<b>0.3000</b>
<b>UWNY's Total Projected Average Day Demand (MGD)</b>	<b>33.4000</b>
Includes Projected Annual Additional Average Demand	
<b>UWNY's Current Average Day Supply Capacity (MGD)</b>	
UWNY's Total Average Day Supply Capacity on January 1, 2011 (MGD)	33.9000
Average Capacity Added Since January 1, 2011 (MGD)	0.0000
<b>Total</b>	<b>33.9000</b>
<b>Average Capacity Available for Development in 2011</b>	<b>0.8000</b>
Current Average Supply Capacity - (Total Projected Average Demand <sup>1</sup> -Projected Additional Average Demand) 1Or actual average demand if higher than projected	
<b>Available Average Capacity Allocated to Approved Projects (Post-January 1)</b>	
Highview Hills	0.0286
Hyenga Lake	0.0161
United Hospice	0.0011
New York Sports Club	0.0127
Bush Lane Phase 2	0.1459
Ridgelineview	0.0029
622 Route 303	0.0120
Stony Point Fire House	0.0000
<b>Total (Through December 31, 2011)</b>	<b>0.2193</b>
<b>Balance Available for New Development Projects</b>	<b>0.5807</b>

## Peak Demand Analysis 80%, 90% and 99% Confidence Intervals



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Historical Maximum Day Demand</li> <li><span style="color: red;">—</span> Lower80</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">—</span> Lower90</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">—</span> Lower99</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">●</span> December 2011 PSC Report</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">—</span> Upper80</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">—</span> Upper90</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">—</span> Upper99</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">◆</span> Peak Supply Commitment</li> <li><span style="color: black;">—</span> Linear (Historical Maximum Day Demand)</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

## 2011 Peak Supply & Demand

<b>UWNY's Projected Annual Additional Peak Demand (MGD)</b>	<b>0.4000</b>
<b>UWNY's Total Projected Peak Demand (MGD)</b>	<b>49.7000</b>
Includes Projected Annual Additional Peak Demand	
<b>UWNY's Current Peak Supply Capacity (MGD)</b>	
UWNY's Total Peak Supply Capacity on January 1, 2011 (MGD)	51.4400
Peak Capacity Added Since January 1, 2011 (MGD)	0.0000
<b>Total</b>	<b>51.4400</b>
<b>Peak Capacity Available for Development in 2011</b>	<b>2.1400</b>
Current Peak Supply Capacity - (Total Projected Peak Demand <sup>1</sup> -Projected Annual Additional Peak Demand)	
<sup>1</sup> Or actual peak demand if higher than projected	
<b>Available Peak Capacity Allocated to Approved Projects (Post-January 1)</b>	
Highview Hills	0.0446
Hyenga Lake	0.0321
United Hospice	0.0023
New York Sports Club	0.0203
Bush Lane Phase 2	0.2335
Ridgelineview	0.0047
622 Route 303	0.0240
Stony Point Fire House	0.0000
<b>Total (Through December 31, 2011)</b>	<b>0.3615</b>
<b>Balance Available for New Development Projects</b>	<b>1.7785</b>