



April 1, 2011

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the 2011 Watershed Protection Program Summary and Assessment Report. The report provides an in-depth analysis of the City's comprehensive drinking water quality protection efforts that have been in place since the early 1990s. The report marks the midway point through the most recent Filtration Avoidance Determination (FAD) and includes details about the success of our major watershed protection initiatives. It also marks the beginning of planning for the next phase of watershed protection, which will culminate in the issuance in 2012 of revised program commitments under the City's Filtration Avoidance Determination.

It is no exaggeration to say that New York City would not be what it is today without its water supply. An engineering marvel, the City's water supply system reliably delivers more than one billion gallons of high quality drinking water to more than nine million New Yorkers every day, including one million residents upstate in Westchester, Putnam, Ulster and Orange counties. Today, DEP's watershed program is often cited as an international model for a sustainable approach to water quality protection. This collaborative program relies on the dedication and hard work of not just the people at DEP, but partner organizations, local officials, state and federal agencies and stakeholder groups across the region.

Maintaining our unfiltered water supply has been and will continue to be a major priority for DEP. Earlier this year, Mayor Bloomberg and I launched Strategy 2011-2014, a strategic plan that includes 100 specific initiatives to achieve the agency's core mission—most notably a clean water supply that remains the envy of the nation. To do so requires substantial investments well into the future, and Mayor Bloomberg has consistently supported DEP's efforts to become one of the foremost water utilities in the world by committing the resources necessary to implement infrastructure improvements and protection programs. While DEP can already point to significant achievements, our strategic plan recognizes that there is substantially more to do. I encourage you to read more about it at [www.nyc.gov/dep](http://www.nyc.gov/dep).

With your support, and the partnership of our many committed stakeholders, we look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts. Though a challenge, protecting our water supply is a legacy that we can all be proud of. Together, we will protect that legacy far into the future.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Caswell F. Holloway', written over a printed name.

Caswell F. Holloway

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