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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Statement from the New York City **Department of Environmental Protection** Regarding Reduction of Funding for USGS **Stream Gauges**

DEP currently provides funding to the USGS for an extensive network of approximately 100 stream gauges within and outside of DEP's watershed area. The gauges assist in the operation of the water supply and in the maintenance of necessary reservoir release flows. A small number also provide stream flow and flood forecasting data to the National Weather Service.

As a result of the need to reduce expenditures during this difficult economic time, DEP is reviewing all aspects of its budget, including the support it provides for the gauging network. The results of this analysis indicate that many of the gauges no longer serve the purpose for which they were originally intended. DEP is discontinuing its support for 22 gauges this fiscal year, and will continue to support 74 gauges into 2010. Any reductions in funding will not impact our ability to operate the water supply or to meet our reservoir release obligations.

Of the 22 gauges for which funding will no longer be available this year, only two are National Weather Service flood forecast sites.

- ▶ Status of all USGS Stream Gauges Sorted by County
- ▶ Map of Stream Gauge Locations (West of Hudson)
- ▶ Map of Stream Gauge Locations (East of Hudson)

#### MORE INFORMATION

09-02

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