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## DEPUTY MAYOR HOLLOWAY ANNOUNCES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO BUILD NEW SOLAR AND WIND POWER FACILITIES

State-of-the-Art Power Stations at Fresh Kills in Staten Island Could Run 6,000 Homes, Doubling City's Current Renewable Energy Capacity

Project Advances PlaNYC Initiatives to Support Renewable Energy Development and Cut Carbon Emissions

Deputy Mayor Cas Holloway, New York City Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Carter Strickland and New York City Economic Development Corporation President Seth W. Pinsky today announced the release of a Request for Proposals to design, construct, install and operate solar and wind power facilities at Fresh Kills on Staten Island. Approximately 75 acres of land are available for lease and have the potential to be developed into large-scale facilities that could generate up to 20 megawatts of renewable energy – enough to power roughly 6,000 homes. The project would more than double the City's current renewable energy capacity. Fostering the market for renewable energy and reducing carbon emissions are two initiatives of *PlaNYC*, Mayor Bloomberg's sustainability blueprint for New York City.

"New York City needs energy to keep it running, and we want that power to be reliable, clean, and affordable," said Deputy Mayor Holloway. "This RFP does all of those things and, if successful, will more than double the renewable energy capacity in the City. Renewable energy is the most sustainable kind, and under Mayor Bloomberg's leadership we're maximizing the use of City assets to develop as much capacity as possible."

"Given that open space is at a premium in New York City, capped landfills offer unique potential for utility-scale solar and wind power," said Commissioner Strickland. "During the hottest summer days, we can help reduce local air pollutants by cutting our reliance on more traditional power by driving the development of renewable energy sources. With this RFP, we are taking a critical step toward a greener, greater City."

"We are pleased to be partnering with Deputy Mayor Holloway and DEP Commissioner Strickland in an effort to bring wind and solar power to Staten Island," said New York City Economic Development Corporation President Pinsky. "The creation of new renewable energy opportunities will help build the City's green economy, not only leading to job creation and economic investment, but also ensuring the sustainability of our City." "The long-awaited opportunity to create wind and solar renewable energy at Fresh Kills has finally arrived, and I would like to personally thank Mayor Bloomberg and Commissioner Strickland for bringing this exciting initiative one step closer to reality," said Staten Island Borough President James P. Molinaro. "With the Mayor's track record for emphasizing state-ofthe-art, renewable energy projects in New York City, Fresh Kills will surely be a model for how renewable energy can be realized in the largest city in America. Once again, I thank the City of New York and I look forward to welcoming the successful bidders."

"One of the biggest challenges our nation is facing is how to meet the rising demand for more energy, while ensuring new energy supplies will create jobs and help the environment. With these new clean-energy facilities, New York City is leading by example," said Marcia Bystryn, President of the New York League of Conservation Voters. "The location for this project – at what was once the largest landfill in the world – is also a powerful testament to the environmental renaissance that is taking place at Fresh Kills. Hats off to Staten Island's elected leaders and to Mayor Bloomberg for their sustained commitment to a cleaner, healthier New York City."

"Clean energy projects like this one put us on a path to a future with healthy air and economic growth – in New York City and mega-cities around the world," said Andrew Darrell, New York Regional Director of the Environmental Defense Fund. "It's great that a landfill like Fresh Kills is helping to lead the transition from polluting power to competitive renewable energy."

"To achieve our goals for clean energy, we must demonstrate that large-scale renewable installations can be developed within dense urban settings," said Ashok Gupta, Director of Programs for the Natural Resources Defense Council. "This RFP is an opportunity to gather world class proposals and to make Fresh Kills Landfill in New York City a proving ground."

In addition to bringing carbon-free electricity to New York City, solar and wind power will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and local pollutants. During the hottest summer days, demand for electricity forces the activation of inefficient in-city "peaker" plants, some of which burn heavy fuel oil. The solar and wind facilities at Fresh Kills will reduce the need for peak generation at these facilities, and help to meet the *PlaNYC* goal of a 30 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

Fresh Kills spans 2,200 acres on the western shore of Staten Island and served as the City's principal solid waste landfill until 2001. In 2006, the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation began work to develop Freshkills Park, which will incorporate the solar and wind power installations outlined in the Request for Proposals. The use of capped municipal landfills to develop renewable energy facilities was outlined in *PlaNYC*, Mayor Bloomberg's unprecedented program to prepare the City for more residents, strengthen the economy, combat climate change, and enhance the quality of life for all New Yorkers. The Request for Proposals is available on the New York City Economic Development Corporation website at <u>www.nycedc.com/rfp</u>. Responses are due on a rolling basis to be reviewed at each submission deadline. Submission dates are May 24, 2012, August 15, 2012, November 15, 2012, and a final submission date of February 15, 2013.

<u>New York City Economic Development Corporation</u> is the City's primary vehicle for promoting economic growth in each of the five boroughs. NYCEDC's mission is to stimulate growth through expansion and redevelopment programs that encourage investment, generate prosperity and strengthen the City's competitive position. NYCEDC serves as an advocate to the business community by building relationships with companies that allow them to take advantage of New York City's many opportunities.

DEP manages the City's water supply, providing more than one billion gallons of water each day to more than nine million residents, including eight million in New York City. The water is delivered from a watershed that extends more than 125 miles from the City, comprising 19 reservoirs and three controlled lakes. Approximately 7,000 miles of water mains, tunnels and aqueducts bring water to homes and businesses throughout the five boroughs, and 7,400 miles of sewer lines and 95 pump stations take wastewater to 14 in-city treatment plants. DEP employs nearly 6,000 employees, including almost 1,000 in the upstate watershed. DEP has a robust capital program, with a planned \$13.2 billion in investments over the next 10 years that creates up to 3,000 construction-related jobs per year.

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