

**STATEMENT OF
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER HARRY SZARPANSKI
AT THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE COLLEGE POINT COMMUNITY**

Good Evening. My name is Harry Szarpanski. I am the Assistant Commissioner for the Bureau of Long Term Export at the New York City Department of Sanitation. I welcome the opportunity to appear before you tonight. I am joined by Walter Czwartacky and Vaughan Arnold of my staff and Dan Harkin, Joyce Mariani and Susan Raila from Henningson, Durham & Richardson Architecture & Engineering, P.C. or HDR. HDR is the firm that was responsible for preparing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement which is the subject of tonight's hearing. Representatives of the firm of Ecology and Environment, who helped organize this meeting, are also here tonight.

As you may know, in October 2004, the Department of Sanitation issued a New York City Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan for the next twenty years. As required, the New SWMP, as we refer to it, has been submitted as a draft to the City Council. The New SWMP is proposed to replace the current SWMP and must be approved by the Council before it can be submitted to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for final approval.

The New SWMP plans for the management of all of the solid waste generated in the City over the next twenty years and is supported by a Draft

(Over)

Environmental Impact Statement or Draft EIS on which we will take comments this evening.

My comments tonight will be brief. I will make a short power point presentation before the public portion of the meeting begins. Copies of my statement and presentation will be available at the end of the meeting.

Because the real focus of this public hearing will be your comments, if you plan to make a statement for the record, please take a moment to fill out a speaker sign up sheet and submit it to the individuals sitting at the front table. You will then be assigned a number and I will call your name when it is your turn to speak. Note that elected officials, who may be attending many meetings on behalf of their constituents on any given night, will have an opportunity to speak first. We are interested to make a complete record of your comments. Please state your name clearly and slowly for the stenographer.

So that we can hear everyone who wants to speak, we ask that you keep your statement to three minutes. If you do not wish to speak, but would like to provide us with written comments, please complete a comment card that we have provided for your use. Thank you for coming. I will now begin my short power-point presentation.