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Contact: Paul Steidler
917-612-3594 or 212-683-1203
steidler@area-alliance.org

Energy Coalition: Common Sense, Multiple Studies Augur for Indian Point's Continued Operation

New York, NY/July 7, 2011 – In this morning's *The New York Times*, a prominent story discussed the findings of a nationally renowned consulting firm, Charles River Associates, which is preparing a report for the City of New York and found there would be severe economic and environmental consequences to closing Indian Point. The story can be found at: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/07/nyregion/dirtier-air-and-higher-costs-may-follow-indian-point-closing.html?src=recg>.

This afternoon, a group of state officials took issue with the Times' characterization of the report, which has yet to be publicly released.

Paul Steidler, Director of Communications for the New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance, issued the following statement on this matter.

“For the past decade, a wide array of respected, independent studies have documented that there would be severe economic and environmental consequences to closing Indian Point. This includes a 2006, taxpayer-funded report from the National Academy of Sciences, on whose panel sat current NYSERDA President and CEO Francis J. Murray, Jr.

You don't need an economics or environmental science Ph.D. to figure out that if you close Indian Point – the non-toxic emitting source of 25 percent of the City's power – we are going to have some big problems.

“Which communities are they planning to propose the placement of four to five new fossil-fuel-burning plants that they blithely claim will be easy to build? And why would you remove Indian Point from the grid, specifically in light of its enviable record of safety, along with its many benefits for both the economy and the environment?”

“Cooler heads must prevail on Indian Point or we risk future brownouts and power disruptions, the likes of which this City has never seen. The public also deserves the right to see the findings of the full Charles River Associates report as soon as it is completed. Ultimately business and labor leaders throughout New York expect it to demonstrate that our economic recovery and environmental future depend on the continued operation of Indian Point, which provides enough power for up to two million homes. This power is indispensable”

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About New York AREA: Founded in November 2003, the New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance (New York AREA) is a diverse group of more than 150 business, labor, and community groups whose mission and purpose is to ensure that New York has an ample and reliable electricity supply, and economic prosperity for years to come. New York AREA helps to educate policy makers, businesses, and the general public regarding the necessity and importance of safe, low-cost and reliable electricity. Entergy, the operator of Indian Point, is a member of New York AREA. For additional information visit: www.area-alliance.org.

347 Fifth Avenue, Suite 508 • New York, NY 10016 • 212.683.1203 • Fax: 212-683-8481



info@area-alliance.org • www.area-alliance.org