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### **Statement on Release of Preliminary State Energy Plan**

New York, NY/August 10, 2009 – In conjunction with today’s release of a preliminary state energy plan by Governor David A. Paterson, Arthur “Jerry” Kremer, former Chairman of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee and Chairman of the New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance (New York AREA), issued the following statement.

“Governor Paterson’s preliminary state energy plan is an important step towards securing our energy future and maintaining our state’s quality-of-life. We applaud the Governor and his staff for their efforts and leadership.

“While energy efficiency and conservation should be vital components of any credible energy plan, New York also needs safe, reliable baseload power to meet our growing energy demands. This is why the final plan should also support the establishment of a comprehensive, fuel-neutral power plant siting law.

“New York needs to keep and expand its use of clean baseload sources, particularly nuclear and hydro, which account for 53 percent of our electricity portfolio. Of particular importance, the Indian Point Energy Center, which supplies approximately 10 percent of the state’s power and is in the midst of applying for license renewal should be part of New York’s energy future.

“These measures will help New York keep and attract jobs, while making energy more affordable and reliable.

“New York AREA will remain engaged in this important public dialogue over the coming weeks, and looks forward to working with the Governor’s office towards a final state energy plan.”

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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. For additional information visit: [www.area-alliance.org](http://www.area-alliance.org).