

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

John Ceretto
Assemblyman 138th District



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Date: July 5, 2011

Mr. Garry L. Brown, Chairman
New York State Public Service Commission
Empire State Plaza
Agency Bldg. 3
Albany, New York 12223-1350

Dear Chairman Brown,

I am writing to strongly encourage you to allow the Conservation Incentive Program (CIP) to continue in its current form and not deprive the residents of Niagara Falls and Niagara County of this worthy program.

As you know, the Public Service Commission approved Year One of the CIP in 2007. Since then, partnering organizations, including the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), have administered the \$10 million-a-year CIP, which was designed to conserve energy and reduce participating customer bills. The PSC renewed the CIP for a fourth year, beginning December 1, 2010.

Chairman, this program is essential to the residents of Niagara Falls and its outlying towns. It is a program that should be emulated, not abandoned. If advocacy groups in other counties wish to have a similar program, let them work with National Fuel or another company to administer it, not seek to damage assistance here in Niagara Falls.

The Conservation Incentive Program is needed in Niagara County, and as a State we should not encourage cities to be pitted against each other. If groups are successful at redirecting this program from one city to another, I fear this brand of micro-regionalism will become the norm and will be a detriment to all.

I urge you to allow the Conservation Incentive Program to continue to operate in Niagara County in order to provide Niagara County residents with lower power costs, while helping to reduce our region's energy consumption.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John D. Ceretto".

John D. Ceretto
Member of New York State Assembly
District 138