

DAVID A. PATERSON
GOVERNOR



ALEXANDER B. GRANNIS
COMMISSIONER

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12233-1010

SEP 03 2010

Ms. Deborah Goldberg
Earthjustice
156 William Street
Suite 800
New York, NY 10038-5326

Dear Ms. Goldberg:

As you may know, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has the authority to require reporting of the chemical constituents contained in cleansing products sold in the state. Due to increased public interest in such information, I have decided to begin the process of implementing the Department's authority to require manufacturers of domestic and commercial household cleansing products distributed, sold or offered for sale in the state to disclose the ingredients of their products in accordance with Section 35-0107 of the New York Environmental Conservation Law and Section 659.6 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations (see <http://www.dec.ny.gov/regs/4617.html>).

I have asked my staff to convene stakeholders to address the issues associated with disclosure and design that best serves the needs of all New Yorkers. I would like to invite you to be a part of this effort. Our aim is to determine the content, format and logistics of cleansing product ingredient disclosure.

The first meeting will be held on October 6, 2010 at DEC's headquarters at 625 Broadway, Albany, New York in Room 629 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The goal of the meeting is to identify the issues and concerns related to disclosure and begin to identify options and solutions for moving forward. Stakeholders expected to attend this meeting include state officials, cleansing product manufacturers, and representatives of environmental non-government organizations. A detailed agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting that will include an overview of DEC's legal authority and the key issues associated with disclosure, the sharing of stakeholder interests and concerns in relation to disclosure, and an in-depth discussion of issues related to the content, format and logistics of disclosure.

Please RSVP to Sharon Ricci at saricci@gw.dec.state.ny.us or (518) 402-8560 to confirm your attendance at the first stakeholder meeting and ensure that you are entered in our security system. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Resa Dimino, Special Assistant in the Commissioner's Policy Office, at radimino@gw.dec.state.ny.us or (518) 408-0517. I look forward to seeing you in October.

Sincerely,



Alexander B. Grannis