

LI Water Best in the Nation

Local Water Suppliers Continuously Monitor Water Quality

Long Island Water Conference Chairman Ken Claus reaffirmed today that Long Island's water suppliers are continuing to effectively monitor the Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) spills to ensure that they do not impact our drinking water supply. Speaking after the release of a report last week by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) which uncovered 32 undetected petroleum spills, Chairman Claus highlighted the success local suppliers have had in protecting our drinking wells.

"Long Island's water suppliers have been effectively monitoring for MTBE for the past ten years," said Claus. "Residents should rest assured that they will continue to receive the highest quality drinking water."

Added to gasoline in the 1990's MTBE was officially banned in New York State in 2004 because of the potential to contaminate the groundwater. Water suppliers constantly sample their wells on a quarterly basis and test for the presence MTBE. If anything is detected above the New York State drinking water standards, treatment is immediately initiated or the well is taken out of service.

Water suppliers have worked in conjunction with the New York State DEC to monitor known MTBE plumes, which could also impact local wells.

"The LIWC would like to thank the New York State DEC for continued support and assistance to local water suppliers," added Chair Claus.

Residents with concerns are encouraged to contact their local water suppliers.