



Media Release

Monroe County Democratic Caucus

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County Democrats Call for MCWA Audit Committee

Rochester, New York – August 13, 2007. As the evidence of misdeeds mount, Democrats in the Monroe County Legislature today called for the establishment of an audit committee of the Monroe County Legislature to investigate the scandal-ridden Water Authority. Democrats hope to bring an end the year-long “wait and see” approach the Republican Majority has taken to the MCWA scandal.

“The legislature has an obligation to the people of Monroe County to get to the bottom of this scandal and to make sure it never happens again,” said **Legislator Steve Eckel (D-Rochester)**. “Simply because a former Monroe County GOP chairman and legislature president is involved does not mean that the legislators should take a hands-off stance. Failure to investigate is partisan politics at its worst and dereliction of duty.”

The committee would draw its authority from Section C2-6(c)5 of the Monroe County Charter and would be charged with conducting a detailed and public inquiry into the allegations contained in the New York State Comptroller’s report “Monroe County Water Authority: Potential Conflict of Interest.” Unlike the MCWA board which has no bi-partisan representation, the Audit Committee would consist of three members of the majority party of the Monroe County Legislature and three members of the minority party. The Audit Committee would also be charged with reviewing the Water Authority’s current policies and procedures to determine if adequate reforms have been implemented.

The legislation will come before the Monroe County Legislature’s Ways and Means Committee Wednesday, August 22nd.

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