

URGENT! PUBLIC ALERT

DCC, Inc. notes, with serious concern, NYCDEP's stated intention to cease funding its share of operating costs for 30 of 96 unmanned stream gages that monitor stream flow on a real-time basis into their reservoir systems; read articles "NYC's plan to close river gauges worries local officials, businesses" and "Federal lawmakers want stream gages kept open". (www.recordonline.com)

The complete list of the various stream gages that are scheduled to cease reporting may be found by visiting ny.water.usgs.gov, article "**Important--New York Streamgages May Be Shut Down**". Of concern specifically to DCC, Inc. is the gage at Lexington, 3 gages on the Bataviakill and one at Toad Hollow all of which serve to monitor stream flow into the Schoharie Reservoir. At the Gilboa Dam, in March, 2006, then Deputy Mayor, Dan Doctoroff stated that NYC desired to be a "good neighbor" to those residing near its reservoirs and we are certain he is a man of good faith and intentions.

People both in and out of the West of Hudson watershed who are host or donor communities to NYCDEP and provide it with pure, wholesome **FREE** water should not be denied all available information on the stream flow going into NYCDEP reservoirs, especially when the cost of funding gages is so reasonable as reported in above linked articles. If you own a high hazard dam, the sharing of the cost of operating and monitoring gages on your water sources should be viewed simply as a "cost of doing business". If the "City" is unwilling to foot its share of the bill, then perhaps the NYS Legislature should pass a bill and the Governor should sign it compelling the City to do so. As big as NYCity is, or thinks it is, it is still a part of and subject to NYS Law.

DCC, Inc. encourages all who read this **alert** to express their support for having NYCDEP continue to fund their fair share of operating costs of the gages they intend to close, not only in the Schoharie Watershed, but in all the streams contributing to their reservoir systems. You can do this by contacting your local, state and federal representatives; link on this site. They are all, to our knowledge, supporting the continued funding of the USGS gages in question, but we're sure they will welcome your support. We suggest you go to; nyc.gov/html/mail/html/maildep.html-"Send a message to Steve Lawitts, Acting Commissioner Department of Environmental Protection".