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TESTIMONY OF JONATHAN DICKINSON, SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR ON SUSTAINABILITY MAYOR'S OFFICE OF LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOVEMBER 28, 2007

<u>INTRO 20-A</u>: A LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, IN RELATION TO REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

Good morning Chairman Gennaro and members of the Committee on Environmental Protection. I am Jonathan Dickinson, Senior Policy Advisor on Sustainability in the Mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability. Thank you for inviting me to testify on Intro 20-A, which will set citywide and city government greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets and require the completion of annual greenhouse gas emissions inventories.

The Administration has made significant strides toward reducing the city's greenhouse gas emissions over the last year. In early April, Mayor Bloomberg released the city's first-ever comprehensive greenhouse gas inventory, detailing the levels and sources of greenhouse gas emissions citywide and for city government operations, and setting the benchmark from which the city's carbon reduction strategies are based. Shortly after this, on Earth Day, the Mayor released PlaNYC, which details how the city plans to achieve its 30 percent reduction in citywide greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Most recently, on October 22, Mayor Bloomberg signed Executive Order 109, which requires the City to implement programs designed to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent over the next ten years. In the beginning of December, the administration will provide details about the allocation of \$80 million in Fiscal Year '08 to fund energy efficiency projects.

Conducting accurate and regular assessments of greenhouse gas emissions will allow the city to track its progress toward achieving the carbon reduction goals it has already established. Administration and Council staff worked together to develop this legislation, which will require the city to produce this important information on an annual basis and will help to ensure that the city reaches its greenhouse gas reduction goals in the future. Thank you for taking this action and for your leadership, and I urge your favorable vote today.