



June 3, 2003

Hon. Carl Marcellino
Senator
New York State Senate
250 Townsend Square
Oyster Bay, NY 11771

Dear Senator Marcellino:

We are writing to thank you for sponsoring S.3003 / A.6950 (The Healthy, Safe and Energy Efficient Outdoor Lighting Act) and urge you to work toward getting this legislation passed and signed into law.

The recent Draft Citizens Energy Plan for Long Island, compiled by the Sustainable Energy Alliance and endorsed by SAFE and more than 30 civic, government, environmental, health, and faith-based groups has recommended similar measures to abate light pollution. We are delighted to see our proposal now becoming law in New York State.

This legislation can be expected to not only result in darker night skies over New York but will also go a long way in eliminating unnecessarily wasteful energy consumption. As you know, misdirected, excessive, or energy inefficient outdoor lighting requires power plants to produce more electricity that would otherwise not be generated, causing unnecessary air pollution and resulting negative impacts on our environment and public health.

Sensible lighting practices and the use of technologically advanced outdoor lighting fixtures is long overdue. Obviously, the replacement of outdated fixtures over time, as stipulated by S. 3003, will conserve energy and improve night sky visibility. Furthermore, municipalities will benefit from the a model comprehensive lighting ordinance, as will the residents of New York State from the distribution of an informational pamphlet by their utilities.

We thank you and all co-sponsors of this important bill and hope that the New York State Legislature will adopt the bill and that Governor Pataki will sign it into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Whitley". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kathleen Whitley
Executive Director