

1259 Dryden Road
Ithaca, NY 14850
April 6, 2005

Governor George Pataki
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Pataki,

While I was pleased to see that the state legislature had passed a budget, or reasonable parts of a budget on time this year, I was deeply disturbed to find this language in S.3669/A.6843:

to provide for the transfer of moneys from the New York state energy research and development authority (Part M);

31 S 2. Commencing with the 2006-2007 state fiscal year, and each fiscal
32 year thereafter, the governor shall, in his or her executive budget, as
33 submitted pursuant to article VII of the state constitution, provide
34 appropriations for currently non-appropriated moneys received by the New
35 York state energy research and development authority, under the direct
36 oversight of the department of public service, related to assessments,
37 collected for the purpose of funding public policy energy programs.

NYSERDA is one of the brighter aspects of New York State government, and I've written about it repeatedly at Living in Dryden, with their involvement in projects from a rebate for work done on my own house to a solar panel project at Dryden High School to upcoming design and implementation work for energy efficiency in our eventual new Town Hall. While I would support broad reform of authority governance, this feels too much like a reach for the checkbook for me to be comfortable with it.

I hope that you will veto this provision and work with the legislature to ensure that this provision does not appear in future budgets.

Sincerely,

Simon St.Laurent
<http://livingindryden.org>