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## 2016 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire

### CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate Name: Andrew D. Hevesi

Office Sought (district if applicable): New York State Assembly, District 28

Website: <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Andrew-Hevesi/>

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1. Please share your accomplishments or experiences that indicate your commitment to advancing a pro-environment agenda. These experiences may be professional or personal.

One of the greatest accomplishments as a member of the NYS Assembly Energy Committee during my tenure in the assembly has been the development of the New York Generation Attribute Tracking System (NYGATS), based upon the bill I authored, A06114, which called for the development of a generation attribute certification and tracking system by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).

New York State is moving closer to a market system in which energy is bought and sold through a certificate mechanism. It is crucially important to track the creation of the energy generated, as well as when this energy is bought and sold in the market place to ensure the credibility of the generation attribute certificate market.

NYGATS employs a web-based certificate tracking program which records information about the electricity generated, imported, and consumed in New York State. The tracking system will issue, track, and manage energy attribute certificates and renewable energy certificates (RECs) through the use of individualized serial numbers, ensuring appropriate electricity conservation through reporting

emissions data. This program will prevent the double-counting of certificates, generate public reports, and also records an auditable history of all transactions made within the system.

NYGATS users can also trade, retire, or substantiate the ownership of these Certificates in order to support compliance or voluntary energy claims. Parties who can register for accounts include generators, energy service companies, aggregators, green power marketers, and consumers. NYGATS is being launched in two phases; Phase 1 for Account Holder and Project Registration and Phase 2 for Certificate Creation. During Phase 1, all users of NYGATS are required to register their projects or accounts. During Phase 2, certificates will be created and available for generation back to January 1, 2016. Users may also register for a free NYGATS Account Registration and User Training Webinar on April 26 or May 2.

I am proud that the energy generation attribute tracking system, that my office wrote into law, is coming online. As New York, and the country, moves toward a market based system to stimulate renewable energy generation, it is imperative New York State has the infrastructure necessary to successfully monitor the sale and trade of this commodity.

Please indicate your level of commitment to, and if applicable your recent personal and professional activity with respect to, the following issues:

(To ensure your responses address the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please review [NYLCV's 2016 State Policy Agenda](#))

2. Ensuring adequate funding for the environmental agencies and programs

I continue to have the highest level of commitment for ensuring adequate funding for environmental agencies and programs.

3. Addressing the causes and effects of climate change (e.g., clean energy and emission controls)

I continue to have the highest level of commitment to address the causes and effects of climate change.

4. Protecting the health of New Yorkers and their communities (e.g., toxics, air quality, food quality and security)

I continue to have the highest level of commitment to protect the health of New Yorkers and our communities through monitoring and reducing toxins in the air, and improving air quality, food quality, and security.

5. Conserving and protecting natural resources (e.g., water, open spaces, habitat, organic recycling)

I continue to have the highest level of commitment to protecting our State's natural resources.

6. Investing in better, smarter infrastructure (e.g., transportation, electrical grid, green infrastructure, smart growth, rail transport of crude oil)

I continue to have the highest level of commitment towards investing in better, smarter infrastructure.