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## 2016 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire

### CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate Name: Michaëlle Solages

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

Website: [MichaëlleSolages.com](http://MichaëlleSolages.com)

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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.

As an Assembly member, I work to preserve our connection with the environment by promoting smart growth initiatives. I am an outspoken supporter of integrating the principles of smart growth with green building for neighborhood designs. As a young professional, I want to live in an area where I can also work and enjoy the environmental beauty of Nassau County. New York State needs to look toward the renewable energy sector and pass promotional policies that will promote green jobs. Investing in the clean-energy industry will result in clean-energy circulating into other areas like transit.



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

My fellow Assembly members and I are committed to protecting New York's environment for future generations. In the 2016-2017 budget, the legislature supported an increase to the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF).

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

Extreme weather events and climate changes are more common. Future extreme weather events will also be compounded by the rise in sea level. In the Northeast, the rise in sea level is expected to exceed the global average. I supported legislation that encourages advance planning for extreme weather events. The legislation also encourages taking into consideration the effects of climate change.

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

Families should be safe in their own homes and not have to worry about the effects of chemicals in everyday household goods. Studies have shown that chemical flame retardants can have negative health effects, especially in young children. In addition, these same retardants have proven to be ineffective during a fire. As the Chair of the subcommittee on Child Product Safety, I supported legislation that created comprehensive policies that protect the health of families. I look forward to the State Legislature enacting a bill to prohibit the use of chemical flame retardants in residential upholstered furniture.



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

Through our advocacy, the State will expand the deployment of solar energy through outreach and by providing targeted funding towards schools and their surrounding communities through the Community Solar NY program. I support ensuring that comparable renewable portfolio goals apply to state agency procurement. The State needs to strengthen and expand the State's Renewable Portfolio Standard goals.

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

Population studies continue to show that people are leaving New York in large numbers and municipalities are struggling to cope. If we desire a sustainable future, New York State needs to commit itself to regional planning efforts that create new jobs. In addition, it is necessary to focus on drawing in new high-skilled, high-tech industry growth in order to fund our great services and assets that will attract young people.