

CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT	
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Smithtown/Long Island	Pam	As you know too many special interest groups are involved with their own interests at the detriment of our childrens education. What are your plans for changing the political culture of local BoE's so that money is going to the programs and tools our children need instead of to the union contracts and pension systems? Currently NY is 34th out of the 50 states-very bad!!! RtfT will not fix it.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Greene,NY	William	I am a retired teacher from Whitney Point Central School District. Their budget is approximately 30 million. If the CPU goes up 2% it wouldn't be unreasonable to assume that WP's budget would go up \$600,000 (2% of 30 Million). A 2% increase in taxes in WP raises about \$120,000. Where do they come up with the rest of the \$480,000? With state aid going down they already laid off 25 staff members this year on top of previous layoffs in earlier years.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mount Pleasant	Marie	Our education system is failing. After being in school for 12 long years our children should have a skill and be able to work if they choose. High school should do more than prepare our kids for college. NYS needs to allow the individual counties to decide what they teach in their schools. What is NYS doing to change the state of education?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn , NYC and Lake Huntington, Sullivan County	Jessica	I would like to know what kind of evidence it will take for you to come out with a BAN on FRACKING? It seems that the thousands of facts and examples showing that fracking cannot be done safely have been inadequate, so please tell us what we need to demonstrate to you for you to do the right thing by banning fracking and protecting New Yorkers, our land, our food, and our water. Please!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Saratoga Springs,NY	Catherine	I'm happy to have the opportunity to ask questions, and feel heard. My nieces and I were up at Niagara Falls a few weeks ago. What a spectacular place! However, we couldn't help noticing the conditions of the facilities. I love New York, and I love the parks here. Tough times, sure. But there has to be something we can do.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Saratoga Springs,NY	Catherine	I'm happy to have the opportunity to ask questions, and feel heard. My nieces and I were up at Niagara Falls a few weeks ago. What a spectacular place! However, we couldn't help noticing the conditions of the facilities. I love New York, and I love the parks here. Tough times, sure. But there has to be something we can do.

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Glenville	Joe	Governor, Good morning. Why have we not heard from either OASAS or OMH commis in regards to the recent flooding. We have individuals in recovery from illicit substances that may relapse and or may begin using substances due to the stress. The same holds true for individuals with mental health concerns. We need both of them to get out there and let these people know we care and can assist them. We need the field office of OASAS to get out there and just listen and make referrals where needed. This especially during national recovery month. We need them to cordinate the recovery community to assist all of our neighbors. Lets make this happen, lets get them out there now to each location and let everyone know we are here to help them!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Here	Nick	Test
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Marcellus	Mary	Dear Sir, Something happened while my son was attending [REDACTED]. He was working with the financial aid office there and for one reason or another--a ball got dropped---his tuition went unpaid when he thought it was paid...and now your Attorney General's collection office is trying to collect from him \$2,500 in penalties in addition to his \$7,500 tuition. He WANTS to pay his tuition bill. He doesn't understand why he is being punished by the system. He is now working out of the country on a cruise ship and delaying his education to earn money to pay this bill. My son is drug-free and hard-working. He wants to return to NEW YORK to be a contributing member of his community and an elementary school teacher in [REDACTED]. He sees plenty of other students getting help from the state to complete their education--please forgive these extra penalties so he can come home. Thank you!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Currently West Orange, NJ but Born in Brooklyn,Raised on LI and 20 year resident of NYC	Liz	Adoptees deserve respect from the state in the form of a copy of their original birth certificate at age eighteen. How can it be that this bill has not yet passed. Please look into this. I am a birthmother who relinquished in 1982 and was never promised confidentiality and was in fact appalled that when my child turned 18 that we were unable to contact each other because of closed records. Look to the work of Elizabeth Samuals and Adam Pertman if you need to understand the nature of this issue.

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Suffolk County	Nicholas	You are doing a great job Gov! I just want to know if you are prepared to go all the way with full gaming in NY without being on Indian Land. We sure need it!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brighton, NY	Dennis	Governor: Thank you for passing the property tax cap. Here in Brighton we have good schools, but it's becoming unaffordable for working families. Are you considering a similar cap on state spending?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Hudson Valley	Nelson	What is your feeling regarding the bill which passed unanimously in the Assembly and by a 60-2 vote in the Senate. Are you going to sign the bill during this session?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Saratoga	Tim	Dear Mr.Cuomo, Lets say H.R 2306 "Ending Federal Marijuana Prohibition Act of 2011" passes both the house and senate, and is signed into Federal law. What would your administrations goals be in regulating the substance and its responsible adult use in New York? Would you tolerate such circumstances coming to be? I just want to get a feel for your position on the current prohibition of marijuana, thanks in advance even though you probably won't answer this,;)
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Windsor-Broome County	Steve	We appreciate all that you have done to get assistance to our area. I am a member of The Windsor Partnership & we are looking to obtain a listing of all flood impacted businesses in Broome County. We'd like to reach-out to them & encourage them to relocate to relatively un-flooded Windsor/eastern Broome County. Can you help the Partnership with this effort?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mount Pleasant	Marie	Govenor, There are schools in our area that teach students that should be in jail for dangerous crimes and yet they can teach them in schools with practicaly no security. Not only that, they pay low wages for their employees. They are exploiting our government and stealing from the people. Some examples: Cedar Knolls & Cottage school. Why are schools like this allowed to operate?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Binghamton	Bob	I am graduating from college this year. What can I do to ensure there is a job for me so i don't have to leave the state to find employment?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Monroe County	Jessie	How can I get involved involved with the regional jobs council that is taking place at the community college?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rochester	Chris	Greetings Governor Cuomo. I am a high school student in Rochester currently considering my options to pursue higher education in the state. I'm very concerned about my ability to pay my way through college. What steps are you taking to make college more accessible and affordable to New York students?

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rockland County	Kathryn	Do you feel this piece of Legislation should be signed and go into effect? And, how can safety concerns be met?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Westchester County	Kristin	What do you have planned to make the SUNY system the best public university system in the world?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mount Pleasant	Marie	New York has made it very difficult for small business' to stay here. I would like to see less taxation of these business' which creates jobs. Wouldn't you agree?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York	Zamal	Would your administration consider opening a NY Trade Mission (especially to the English Speaking Countries) to the Caribbean in order to increase bilateral trade with NYS and the region; appointing an Oberser to CARICOM would be an asset to the NYS.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	WNY	Margaret	Are you, Gov. Cuomo going to allow Fracking and or the Fracking Fluid filtration in NF,NY. We shouldn't mess with all this fresh water we have in this area. If this Filtration is not useful anymore, close and move parts to another part of State that can use this so called clean filtered water after processing.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Yonker/Westchester County	Tara	Governor Cuomo -- a draft insurance bill, for the second time (first time to you), has been unanimously passed and provided to the governor's office for signature. Why has this bill not been signed and when can we expect it to be signed? The impact upon the economic situation of families and municipalities/school districts alike, together with the undeniable positive impact on our children with autism/autism spectrum disorders, is immeasurable once insurance companies are required to cover treatments for autism spectrum disorders. As a parent of such a child, and a small business owner who struggles everyday with covering medical costs for my child, outside of what my insurance (already expensive) will pay for, I urge you to sign this bill immediately.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Tully, NY	Randall	I own 2 businesses and a home. I have no children. My combined school tax bill is +\$12,000. Why isn't there a tax break for me? Every year I work to pay taxes and never have anything left over, mean while all the teaches have great benefits and new cars !!

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Greater Binghamton / Broome County	Eugene	One employer of 200 in Broome County has announced plans to leave. Another very large private employer (BAE) has been severely impacted. What resources of state government will be used to help us retain our local job base?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rochester	Barbara	We have a two-person business and we trained a person. Could there not be provisions in the Labor law to not only permit, but encourage very small businesses to bring people on, train them and let them form their own businesses without a tax, workers comp, unemployment insurance penalty?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rome	Amanda	Why do people on welfare still get a tax return? Shouldn't they be helping to renew the system that helps them? Why don't they do drug testing for people on welfare? If they can afford their drugs & alcohol they don't need as much help as they are claiming.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rochester	Mike	I am graduating from college this year. What can I do to ensure there is a job for me so i don't have to leave the state to find employment?

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Central New York (I live in Cazenovia, work in Syracuse)	Dolores	<p>I have a long question, sorry. I'm honored to be on the team that is collaborating on the vision statement and strategic plan for community-driven, transformative economic development in Central New York. In seeking to use the DEC sGEIS study on hydrofracking to try and assess the potential economic damage to our agricultural, tourism, winery, transportation, development of renewable energy sources, and other industries if this technology is allowed into our state (in seeming disregard of the documented evidence from 34 other states which have it, and regret it), I have found nothing but rosy (and inflated) projections about jobs & income etc, data produced by the oil & gas industry itself (which your AG is questioning, as are other industry experts who know that the EROI in shale gas is poor). Are any of your other agencies examining the economic costs which will presumably be borne by private citizens/taxpayers as the seemingly inevitable damage to human and animal health as well as property values and existing economic sectors unfolds? Studies show that the jobs 'created' are dangerous, transient, short-term, and often held by out of state workers, who are in many cases bringing crime and violence into previously calm regions. Can NYS truly afford this technology? Isn't it wiser to ban it entirely, esp since the gas produced is being sold in Europe, not being used for American "energy independence." In addition, the environmental review and comment period is supposed to precede regulations, but in this case both are happening at the same time. I feel that this kind of recklessness threatens public safety. Isn't government about protecting the public good? By ignoring previous comments on the first EIS, does NYS run the risk of being sued for criminal negligence by its own citizens?</p>
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Canandaigua	Jennifer	<p>Why frack with my future? Fracking won't bring jobs to NYS, as gas companies bring their own experienced workers. How will polluted waters help the tourism/agriculture based economy of upstate New York and the Finger Lakes Region? How will polluting/over drawing our precious water help New York state health wise, economically, socially or other wise?</p>
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Plattekill, New York (Although a Wallkill Post Office 12589)	Kenneth	<p>Since we met at the New Paltz during your campaign, and still Attorney General at the time. What have you done lately to relieve to burden done by those deceptive practices you extold then, and have you signed the petition to Forgive Student Loan Debt as a Means of Economic Stimulus by supporting H.Res 365 and the efforts of Rep. Hansen Clarke with respect to student loan forgiveness.</p>

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York City (Brooklyn)	Zamal	Can the Administration "Department of Health" set up a special committee to address this issue of Diabetes/Obesity especially in the minority community? Nearly 1.8 million New York residents have diabetes. As many as 4.2 million is estimated to have pre-diabetes. Diabetes is estimated to cost NYS 12.9 billion annual, including an excess of 8.7 billion. Almost 1 in 10 people in Brooklyn report having diabetes. "Diabetes disproportionately affects low-income neighborhoods citywide; 11% of residents in low-income neighborhoods have diabetes, compared to only 6% of residents in higher-income communities. Diabetes deaths in Brooklyn have shot up 42% over the past 15 years, statistics from the city Department of Health and Mental Hygiene show.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse, NY	Shannon	Do you intend to allow the EPA to complete their report on hydrofracking and follow their advice? The implications of allowing hydrofracking to take place is immense on the well being of NYS citizens and it concerns me.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	cheektowaga	John	hello governor, tell me please how to you plan to bring jobs back to once was the greatest state in the nation.second part of the question, how will ny yorkers come to the grips that the american dream has gone and how can you being the governor convince us it will come back.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Macedon	David	There is a notion amongst many NYers that American businesses don't want to locate in NY because of our taxes and regulations. Can you help shed some light on this? If that notion is accurate, what fundamental actions can be done by our leaders to attract businesses or industries to NY?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany	Patty	Why do you threaten to lay off State workers and yet profess jobs for NY? Why are some allowed to hold on to provisional titles for years and never have to take a test to advance? Why don't you chop the fat within and let others keep their jobs?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	utica, new york - mohawk valley	Lorraine	Governor, I was so impressed with your 9/11 remembrance event at Mohawk Valley Community College. Where else across the state did other events take place that day.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island	Brian	You have been Asked By Sen. Lanza to visit the Arthur Kill Facility. Can you look us in the eye and tell us why?????

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Halfmoon- Saratoga County	Danielle	I just wanted to know why the Attorney General's Office did nothing to the Town of Halfmoon after I handed them a case of abuse of power, collusion and corruption. Why is it that everyone says they will stop corruption in small towns and politics but then you all turn your backs on us. I just would like an answer.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Halfmoon- Saratoga County	Danielle	I just wanted to know why the Attorney General's Office did nothing to the Town of Halfmoon after I handed them a case of abuse of power, collusion and corruption. Why is it that everyone says they will stop corruption in small towns and politics but then you all turn your backs on us. I just would like an answer.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Finger Lakes	Anne	How can you possibly think that hydrofracking should be carried out in New York State, when there is abundant evidence that it fouls groundwater, causes earthquakes, carries too large a carbon footprint, destroys fragile road infrastructure, will destroy the tourism industry along the Marcellus Shale (home of most of New York's wineries) and benefits no one but the gas companies?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Finger Lakes	Anne	What are you doing to promote a renewable energy infrastructure in New York State?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Finger Lakes	Anne	Why are you accepting special interest money from the gas companies to promote hydrofracking in New York State? Why are you prohibiting hydrofracking near water sources for New York City and Syracuse, but not in the rest of the state? Where I live, most of the population gets their water from wells -- won't hydrofracking put these individual water sources in danger?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Zachary	Is pension reform for state employees going to be necessary for budget solvency?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Sauquoit,ny	James	What is your position on hydrofracking?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Zachary	What does it say about New York that so much of our military and so few of our elected officials come from the lowest classes?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Troy, NY / Capital District	Laura	How can someone obtain a ticket to see President Clinton speak on Tuesday, 9-27-2011? Thank you!

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Lake Placid	Carol	Why would anyone who wants to bequeath a life-sustaining world to future generations, promote hydrofarccking which poisons the air, kills plant and animal life, sickens humans, drains all the clean water and leaves a toxic cocktail in its stead, and causes seismic instability?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	North Greenbush/Capital District	Cathy	As a school teacher, how is our district going to cover the rising pension costs within the confines of the mandated tax cap?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Utica,NY	John	What are you doing to help create more jobs in the Mohawk Valley?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	lower hudson valley	Mike	I commend your efforts on trying to close Indian Point. Are there any updates?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Columbia County	Russ	Health groups this week released a report showing that the State's tobacco prevention program is seriously iunderfunded, and, as a result, more kids are smoking and fewer adults are quitting. The program's budget has been cut 50% over the last three years. Will you restore funding to its previous level so that NYS can become the healthiest state in the nation?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mohawk Valley	Alice	Congratulations on the Regional Economic Councils, they have been very engaged. Will future funding after the initial round be awarded in the same manner? I would hope that this would be a long term commitment to local decisions.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	LONG ISLAND, North fork	Susan	Could you live and support a home on \$697.00 per month ? ...as a life time employed resident of Suffolk County,forced to stay home to care for a sick child, I became disabled 5 years post my last employment... therefore I am not eligible for SSD. I was defaulted to SSI. That's how much SSI allots for me. Food stamps were recently reduced due to a recalculated policy. With cereal close to \$5.00 a box,and milk \$4.00 a gallon, when can we expect some common sense to be applied to the cost of living here on long island? We have had no COLA's IN YEARS! I am not asking for a beach front condo, but would like to occassionally afford a Pizza and not depend on food pantries.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	macedo NY	Dale	This still sits in the assembly. You want to help protect the children of NY. Have you even looked at this bill yet. I wouldn't know because you have yet to respond to me. Bill no. A.7015-B . You can get all the information you need from Senators Mike Nozzolio and Joe Griffo. A response would be really nice. Dale.... A New York Voter

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Poughkeepsie	Elsie	What is your stance on hydrofracking and water safety?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Tonawanda	Jim	Why did you feel marriage equity was such a priority and what can be done to expand marriage equity nation wide?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Getzville, New York	Connie	How will the regional council benefit Western New York?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Smithtown	Chris	Whats your plan for keeping young people on Long Island.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Troy NY	Danielle	What will happen to the state workers and state provided services if the PEF contract vote fails?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mohawk Valley	Edward	Will the State of NY provide any tax incentives for small businesses next year?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	troy	Chuck	How are you going to force independent redistricting onto the legislature, given we are only eight months from petitions going out?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	rensselaer county	Karen & Chet	<p>Wondering what next steps are for the flood victims. There are people who are now homeless. Where do they go? You, and our state and federal representatives did SUCH a wonderful job in the first week or so. We were down in Schoharie on Monday and I think people are shell-shocked. Volunteerism has done a great job, and people are appearing from all communities. How can the government help NOW..... we saw no power trucks and one highway vehicle from Middleburg to Schohare. Unless we could rip out walls and floors, there was nothing we could do. This is OUR KATRINA and no one seems to understand that although the storm sort of missed the coast, it has DEVASTATED this area. We were on one street ([REDACTED] in Schoharie) where we have a good friend who went to help for many days for ONE person. Of the 12+ homes, only 3 are salvageable. It was totally desolate. We concentrate on population areas and forget about our farmers. Schoharie Valley is such a beautiful place, a 500 yr flood is horrible, we've lost so much and we need to HELP as a state and federal government should. We are NOT in this area but love our neighboring counties, so question is what are next steps . Been in personal contact with Paul Tonko and Ron Canestrari.....thanks for anything you can do</p>
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	west islip suffolk county	Jacqueline	So what exactly are you going to do to make help the residents and business owners of Long Island have a power company that is more concerned with our welfare and keeping power affordable and being there more effeciently when there is an emergency?

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Holtsville	Daniel	What is your plan to encourage smart growth throughout the state and reduce suburban sprawl?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Defrestville	Sue	[REDACTED] I have a son who dropped out of high school years ago. (he is now 29) He also never pursued a drivers licences or permit. He recently applied to take his GED and because he does not have a photo ID, he was denied. In order to obtain a license, permit, or any other type of ID through DMV you need points. All of which he does not have to show other then a SS# and birth certificate. This is not good enough for DMV. My question to you is can NYS make things a bit easier for those who do not follow the "normal" course, in getting a photo id? He desperately wants to get a job. It makes me very angry to know that my son, was denied a chance to improve himself all because he does not have a photo ID. Thank you very much.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Olivia	While New Yorkers have experienced much success on furthering civil rights through marriage equality, The Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act, or GENDA (S02873) did not pass the Senate in 2011. What are you going to do to see to it that this important protection passes our legislature?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Buffalo	Ryann	Niagara Falls State Park is a gem. This summer, the park staff began work on sprucing it up. How will you assist in that effort to restore this historic park?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York City	Rebecca	How do you plan to stimulate the economy and decrease our rate of unemployment?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany	Kevin	Governor Cuomo, what are your future plans for High Speed Rail?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York City	Rebecca	How do you plan to stimulate the economy and decrease our rate of unemployment?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Victor, NY	Michael	Governor Cuomo- There is a bill that sits stalled in Local Government in both the Assembly and Senate, S-2454 Alesi & A-3194 Morelle. This bill will add a yearly cost-of-living adjustment to the disability benefits received by total permanent disabled volunteer firefighters who are trying to help raise their families on a current disability benefit of \$400.00 per week.If by some miricle these bills ever pass favoribly out of committee and come before you for your signature, will you sign this bill into law?

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Buffalo	John	Governor, I realize there have been a series of natural disasters that have impacted on New York State, as well as the death of the beloved Governor Carey. These certainly merit your full attention and focus. And I commend you for that. However, several Bills have been sent to your office for signature and no action has been taken. It is difficult for those of us who advocated and fought obstacles to get legislation see little or no action from your office. Thank you.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	WNY	Debra	My daughter, a band teacher was laid off in [REDACTED], NY a tenured teacher of almost 11 years, when are you going to return that funding to education and tax the millionaires? Many themselves say, if that is what they have to do it's ok..
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Capital Region	Meghan	With the difficult economic struggles this state has faced in the last several years, it has become increasingly difficult for young people to afford a higher education. What can your administration do to make college more accessible to young people in New York State?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	rensselaer county	Karen & Chet	Wondering what next steps are for the flood victims. There are people who are now homeless. Where do they go? You, and our state and federal representatives did SUCH a wonderful job in the first week or so. We were down in Schoharie on Monday and I think people are shell-shocked. Volunteerism has done a great job, and people are appearing from all communities. How can the government help NOW..... we saw no power trucks and one highway vehicle from Middleburg to Schoharie. Unless we could rip out walls and floors, there was nothing we could do. This is OUR KATRINA and no one seems to understand that although the storm sort of missed the coast, it has DEVASTATED this area. We were on one street ([REDACTED] in Schoharie) where we have a good friend who went to help for many days for ONE person. Of the 12+ homes, only 3 are salvageable. It was totally desolate. We concentrate on population areas and forget about our farmers. Schoharie Valley is such a beautiful place, a 500 yr flood is horrible, we've lost so much and we need to HELP as a state and federal government should. We are NOT in this area but love our neighboring counties, so question is what are next steps. Been in personal contact with Paul Tonko and Ron Canestrari.....thanks for anything you can do
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Poughkeepsie, NY	Jonathan	With the new census data from 2010 and redistricting on the horizon for the 2012 elections, what role will you play in this process? Will redistricting be via a bipartisan commission or will it be done by the state legislature? What would you personally like the redistricting process to look like?

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracus	Alexander	Making government more efficient will save taxpayers money. Simple, noncontroversial, commonsense reforms will be key to this effort. What is the current status of the SAGE commission and what efforts would you like to see it make to right-size government?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brunswick	Daniel	I need a reply from your legal council from the medicaid Fraud unit on my brother A [REDACTED] investigation into video's showing his RN contaminating his stage four wound, this investigation started in [REDACTED] and nothing has been done about this to date, please tell me why they are now ignoring my request for a written decision on there investigation.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	West Islip	Chris	Now that many regents exams are going to be eliminated, what are you going to do to measure student performance?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Elizabeth	Do you anticipate having to borrow any additional money from the federal government to subsidize the unemployment insurance fund? If so, how much?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Port Jefferson Station/Long Island	Arona	Considering the overall lack of state revenue, how will the state pay for regulation of hydraulic-fracturing?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brunswick	Daniel	please tell me why your legal council from the Medicaid Fraud Unit is ignoring my request for a written decision into there 18 month old investigation on my brothers bad healthcare by a visiting RN, that video tapes showed the RN contaminating my brothers stage four wound.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Matt	What are you going to do to make the budget process more open and accessible to citizens?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Buffalo, NY	Deanna	I enjoyed the NY Remembers display at the Burchfield Penny Art Center in Buffalo. How many more locations are there around the state and why did you feel it was important to do these displays?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	sullivan county	Jill	My family and most families in rural upstate NY, on the shale, rely on private unfiltered water wells. I have read part of the NYS DEC SGEIS Draft regulations and the set backs from water wells and water sources seem arbitrary, taken from other states regs with very different geologies, and not at all protective of the health and safety of New Yorks private water supplies. How can you be assured that these measures will keep us safe, especially when we can see the unmitigated disaters that are occuring in neighboring Pennsylvania?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bronson, new york	Joe	What is the governor's view on Obamacare and how does he think it will affect New Yorkers?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Mary	Governor, I am study to be a special education teacher. What are you going to do to help parents advocate for their children and ensure they are provided with the necessary resources in the classroom?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	bronx	Tashel	Do you predict a raise on commercial property and business taxes ? Have you allotted funds for local neighborhoods to improve the fasad , safety, and wellbeing of areas where small business' are dominant? While areas such as harlem are being invested in to improve the health of its local community, how will you enforce keeping the stronger areas in tact? Will there be a stronger enforcement on safety around school areas , for example waters place methodone clinic leaves the surrounding area flooded with rehab patients while there is a highschool and many elemenTry schools nearby. How can this be prevented in the future.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	bronx	Tashel	Do you predict a raise on commercial property and business taxes ? Have you allotted funds for local neighborhoods to improve the fasad , safety, and wellbeing of areas where small business' are dominant? While areas such as harlem are being invested in to improve the health of its local community, how will you enforce keeping the stronger areas in tact? Will there be a stronger enforcement on safety around school areas , for example waters place methodone clinic leaves the surrounding area flooded with rehab patients while there is a highschool and many elemenTry schools nearby. How can this be prevented in the future.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Stony Brook Long Island	Kirk	Because of the buddy system among the incumbents of both parties in the state legislature there is almost never any change in districts or office holders offer for more than 30 years. Will you pledge to veto any attempt by the legislature to perpetuate this system and instead insist on an independent redistricting board?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	rochester ny	Anita	will thre be another extension?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bronx	Frank	Gov. Cuomo, It's well known that LGBT youth are disproportionately the victims of bullying and in-school harassment. The Dignity For All Students Act would require various actions to be taken to help reduce this fact and make schools safer for ALL students. If the Dignity For All Students Act was passed by the senate and assembly, would you be willing to sign it? Furthermore, would you be willing to actively lobby the legislature for it as you did with gay marriage?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Pavilion	Doug	I did not like the CSEA Contract and how about having a early buy out next year I been working the State for 30 years and my wife need me at home because she is dsable and by having home I cant take care of her and with my pension I can, but cannot leave because have to wait at 55 an I'am 51 now. So please look into for me and other the same situation
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rome, NY	Stephen	I'd still like to know how you came to the conclusion that Oneida Correctional Facility was to be put on the closure list. What information did you use to make that decision? It's pretty clear to everyone in the area that it was done to punish Senator Valesky. So, I want you to prove that it was a viable choice and not politically motivated. You act like a dictator and bully, and I dare you to answer my question with facts, not blanket statements. Good luck.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Kingston, New York	Jeanette	Governor are you going to support the Legislation being proposed for the State take over of Medicaid costs to Counties.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Vestal/Broome County	Suzanne	Can you please explain how the \$16 million grant to put unemployed individuals back to work as part of the flood recovery will work. Can you give an estimate of how many people will be employed in Broome County as a result of this grant?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Cleveland, NY	Raymond	How can you possibly deny benefits to the retirees who worked their entire careers with the promise of health benefits for life? What is the next step, if any? Are we just supposed to wither away to solve the problem? Will there be a new OTB setup in the near future to fund our benefits for those of us who don't die waiting?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Vestal/Broome County	Suzanne	Can you please explain how the \$8 million rebate for people that lost major appliances in the floods from Tropical Storm Lee works?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island, NY	Gregory	Governor, Why would you support those who are paid by the taxpayer and commit crimes against the taxpayer? Is it acceptable to you that a public sector worker should keep his or her pension if that have worked for the taxpayer for 20 years and then decide to commit a crime against the taxpayer? Why did you support this bill? Specifically: A.5744-A Abbate -- Provides that a member with at least 20 years of creditable police or fire service in the retirement system shall not be precluded from any rights Same as S.5653 RULES COM

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Tonawanda	Philip	See Buffalo News 9/23/2011. It's bad enough this industry gets subsidized. It's bad enough that fracking has the potential for contaminating ground/well water. It's bad enough that the industry lobbyists have considered their toxic chemicals secret formulas with proprietary rights. It's bad enough the industry lobbyists have won to get this industry off the EPA restrictions and Pure Waters Act. Now this industry has the gall to dump their secret formula residue into the public's water treatment plants. WHY? This secret formula toxic dumping is putting communities with water treatment plants in harm's way and endangering human/animal life. Why should the taxpayers have to take on this expense? Why doesn't the industry process and treat it's own secret formula waste? Does this have the potential of a Love Canal Public Health catastrophe?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Hudson Valley	Vivian	As we have witnessed the destruction of Hurricane Irene how can you RISK permitting Hydro-fracking in New York with the possibility of leaked/flooded frack chemicals getting into ALL our watersheds?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Hudson Valley	Vivian	As we have witnessed the destruction of Hurricane Irene how can you RISK permitting Hydro-fracking in New York with the possibility of leaked/flooded frack chemicals getting into ALL our watersheds?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Hudson Valley	Vivian	The form is just resetting back to empty.. no acknowledgment that the submission went thru..
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Port Ewen	Dan	Hello Governor, What are you going to do, that will give me cause to stay in New York State vs. a state that does not impose such a high cost of living due to taxation? Why do we subsidise so many unions by forgiving their income tax? NYS will be #1 with regard to tax burden when Christie get's his act together. What are you doing that will have an immediate and profound affect that convinces me NYS is the place to stay?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Yonkers	Cristina	Yonkers will be getting a new mayor and 3 new council members this November, are you willing and able to work with Yonkers' new administration to once and for all end the underfunding of school aid to the Yonkers school district by the state?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island	Frank	There are many people at this facility that are getting laid off because there are no jobs to accomodate them. One is a young single mother. Others simply can't afford to travel from Staten Island to Westchester or Dutchess Counties every day in order to keep their job or health benefits. You have been asked by elected official Senator Lanza to tour Arthur Kill Correctional Facility before it closes and to this date you have yet to give him an answer. Would you give him an answer and would you be willing to tour this facility with Mr. Lanza and face these Officers and jest tell them why?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Millerton	Brianne	Thank you, Thank you, THANKS SO MUCH!!!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Howard beach Queens New York	Linda	Why did you veto the bill? Did your buddy Larry Schwartz have anything to do with your decision? The fact that he was in upper management of OTB and was one of inept executives who knew nothing about racing but was given a job because of political friendship. The retirees were promised these health benefits when they began working for NYC OTB. My husband worked for 36 years and retired almost 3 years ago. I worked for them for 8 1/2 years. We have a daughter in college. Answers please.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Shannon, 17	I just wanted to know how you feel knowing that you have taken away health insurance plans from not only my family, but from all of the people who have spent their lives working for OTB. My dad has spent 37 years working for OTB and paying into this plan. Now because of your decision I am unable to attend a university that have had in my thoughts for many years because my family is no longer able to afford it. My mom has recently taken up a job a bus company to just pay for the health insurance and we are barely making ends meet. I heard her pray every night for this bill to pass and it has taken a large emotional toll on my family and I. Compared to other OTB workers we are lucky and I know that but I'm sending this to you just to make sure you know the affect that your decision has had and I hope you keep it in your thoughts and take the time to read this.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Woodstock, NY	William	Water is more important for life than oil or gas. The science is not proven fracking safe, on the contrary it has proven unsafe in many instances. Why would you put corporate profits over peoples lives when it comes to this issue when regulation can not account for human error?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Nassau/Capital District	Bonnie	As Attorney General Governor Cuomo updated and released the report, Smoke Gets in Your Lungs. Why has the Attorney General's Office NOT followed up on its 2005 petition with other States to the EPA and filed a lawsuit for failure to enforce the Clean Air Act since the 2005 and 2008 Smoke Gets in Your Lungs reports are so damning. The regulations the EPA did on wood stoves in the 1990s left a huge loophole in the definition excluding now up to 260 appliances including wood boilers. The 2005 AG report had data with emissions of up to 269 grams per hour but EPA holds Wood Stoves to 4.1 g/hr. How can this be? DEC has done a terrible job on behalf of rural NYers. Many children can not go out in their yards and play because despite DEC telling manufacturers they don't meet NYS laws in 2003 the sales of highly polluting boilers continued. When are you Governor going to issue an Executive Order and stop the injustice to rural NYers? The States of Washington and Oregon have had Emission Standards requiring ALL residential bio-mass to meet the wood stove standard and thereby closed the EPA loophole. WHY are NYers suffering? WHY does DEC ignore complaints and not get the Legislature to pass an Emission Standard? It is a disgrace. Children deserve clean air. Nearly 1 in 11 NYers have asthma. Failure to act now and for over 20 years costs NY much in Health Care. What Governor are you going to do about this? An update to the 1970s laws (part 211 and Part 227 is long overdue and would save scarce DEC staff resources to be allocated to other areas of protecting the environment. Children deserve good responsive government.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	NYC-- lower Manhattan	Joy	Hi, what is the possibility of the Unemployment benefits being extended like they were when economic downturn began? What is possibility of having the COBRA subsidy resumed? I realize this was a federally subsidized program, but what if anything could NYS do for those paying exorbitant COBRA health insurance premiums-- with no other viable options due to being slightly over the less expensive program guidelines. What jobs can be created for those in the social service sector-- especially those working on behalf of the elderly population (case management, not home care aides) since they are growing by leaps and bounds. PPrograms have been cut and thus people like myself have limited employment opps.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ardasley/Lower Hudson Valley	Andy	With Republicans in Congress making drastic cutbacks to financial aide hurting college and graduate students. What can you and New York State do to preserve much needed tuition assistance programs like TAP that so many students need and depend in tough economic times? Thanks for your consideration.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Livingston County	Jeff	Do you support bill #S1438, known as "The Adoptee Bill of Rights?" What steps will you take to ensure this bill goes through committee and makes it to the floor of the legislature for a full vote?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	alpine/el cajon, ca	Don	dear govenor cuomo; i would love to move back to Long Island and New York State. except the rents are to high, and if you bad credit; you need double the security. please make New York affordable again so that I and millions of other New Yorkers can come home. Sincerely, [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York City	Corinne	Will legislation will be put in place to ban flow back fluids from hydrofracking from being processed at regular wastewater facilities? And will you honor your campaign promise of making government more accessible by holding at least 20 public hearings around the state on hydrofracking with at least a months advance notice so that people can arrange their schedules so that they can attend the hearings if they want to?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Senca County	John	With all the illegal Banking and other Financial Institutions actions that have been discussed ad infinitum without any real action, I would like to know if you support Mr Schneiderman's investigations of the Financial Cartel? If not, why not?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Los Angeles CA	Stephanie	I'm originally from Buffalo NY, currently living in Los Angeles, but hoping to make the move back to Buffalo if I can find employment. What are you doing to create more jobs in WNY to make this move back to my home town more attractive to people like me who had to leave to find work after college? And secondly, since I moved to Los Angeles I have been working in the Film & Television industry and while many shows are shot in NYC, don't you think it's about time we work on building up the film community in WNY? With the scenery that WNY has to offer, such as Niagara Falls, the film/TV industry should be natural fit for the area. What can you do to support the industry in WNY?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Suzanne	The current system for finding low income senior housing is really tedious. Many times I call the management offices of the developments and they say the waiting list is closed and they have no knowledge of when it will be re-opened. It is almost impossible to even get an application form. I want to find a place for my elderly mother that is closer to where I live but it has been really difficult to do that past couple of years. Why isn't there some type of website where people can go to register to be notified when a wait list has been opened for low income senior housing? That would be much less tedious than having to call up each management office only to be given the runaround time and time again. Thanks!

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Manhattan	Danielle	What is your plan for promoting mass transit?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Webster, N.Y.	Charles	Why did you veto the fireworks bill when fireworks are legal in 46 other states? There is too much regulation by government for things that should be common sense and not legislative issues.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Dave	Since the NYC DEP and other unbiased sources have stated that the NYC water tunnels will not withstand fracking, and need at least a 7-mile (but more like at least 10 mile) buffer as a precaution against underground migration of toxins, why are you ignoring all scientifically-based, public health precautions and trying to open up NY State to fracking?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Camillus	Gary	Will the governor sign S3510-B A5502-B into law? (Anti-Mandatory Mail Order Bill (S.3510-B A.5202-B) which passed both the NYS Senate and Assembly). Thank you.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Fredonia, Western New York	Erik	What do you believe the next fight will be for students fighting for more money in SUNY schools?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse/northside	Chris	Will you be signing the AntiMandatory Mail Order Bill soon? I am asking this for my patients who would like to have the choice to come to their local pharmacy. I have been a pharmacist for 25 years,and a owner for 2,in area where I grew up.I would like to continue to take care of my patients and my community.Please consider signing this bill.Thank You.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	buffalo, ny	Ruth	<p>Why are HUD subsidized landlords still allowed to collect taxpayer funded rents without penalty while they shirk their legal contracts requiring them to provide safe living conditions for nonsmoking tenants? If landlords continue to violate their leases and refuse to protect their endangered tenants then they should be penalized and fined to pay for the resulting health care costs instead of the taxpayers/tenants. "Landlord tobacco health insurance" fees should also be developed to cover all implementation and future health care costs. These fees should be taken out of their guaranteed taxpayer subsidized rents. HUD landlords are allowed to choose whether or not to implement nonsmoking policies, despite HUD's repeated notices encouraging landlords to implement non-smoking policies based on the '06 Surgeon General's Report. Thus the most vulnerable nonsmoking populations of disabled, elderly, and low income tenants are forced against their will to live in units contaminated with 2nd hand smoke that endanger their health and safety. These populations' health care costs are paid by taxpayer funded Medicare and Medicaid. Annual health care costs in NY from 2nd hand smoke are about \$263 million; while citizens' state /federal taxes to cover smoking caused government costs are \$6.3 billion (\$894/household). Nonsmoking tenants bear the health consequences and taxpayers bear the double financial costs (sick tenants' health care costs as well as their rents) while landlords become wealthier. Please change this! Consider developing legislation to force landlords receiving HUD assistance to provide safe living conditions for nonsmokers or pay the resulting smoking-caused costs.</p>
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	North Country	Devi	<p>Is there anything being done to insure those who claim their business is WBE is authentically WBE? Also, what is planned by NYS to track if procurements are being appropriately placed with WBE?</p>
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	lanaster ny	Ron	<p>What is the big deal with taking away my ezpass? It counts for less than one percent of the revenue that the authority make. I will not have anything to show for the 20+ years I put into this job. You should sign into law that the ezpass violators can get fined; because that's is where the authority losses tons of money.</p>
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Hudson Valley	Joan	<p>How do you decide which bills to sign and which to veto?</p>
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	North Branch Sullivan County	Victoria	<p>They had to stop Fracking in an area in Arkansas due to a higher incidence of Earthquakes. New York sits on a fault line, how can you believe that Fracking can be done safely in the state of NY?</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	North Branch Sullivan County	Victoria	You said you would not allow fracking if it was not proven safe. Why would you choose for your panel only people with ties to the gas industry?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Alice	<p>With the recent Quinnipiac poll that states more people Upstate NY are against fracking, with 2/3 of all people who know about fracking feeling that it should be banned, with NYS having zero water filtration plants capable of purifying frack wastewater, with BTEX compounds and methane routinely vented from compressor stations and gas pipelines, with an inadequate number of DEC staff to review permit applications, monitor frack sites, or enforce regulations, with the gas industry exempt from most of the relevant clauses in federal environmental regulations, with more traditional jobs lost than in-state permanent fracking-related jobs gained (see what is happening in PA -- read the PA labor statistics, not the Marcellus Shale Coalition spin), with the potential financial devastation to investors (including the NYS pension fund) caused by the ponzi-scheme investment strategy of the gas industry, with an increase in crime and health costs to communities where fracking occurs, with greater job-growth potential from supporting renewable and sustainable energy solutions such as building retrofits, other than pay-offs to politicians, why do you support fracking in NYS?</p>
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bethel	Wendy	Have you thoroughly examined all of the scientific, engineering, and investigative reports, as well as anecdotal evidence, that demonstrate the dangers of fracking and satisfied yourself that you would expose your own children to living amidst a drilling, compressor, and/or pipeline area? If not, why would you encourage drilling anywhere in this state and expose our children to this scourge?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York	Ruth	When countless (certainly millions) NY citizens have been calling you, writing you, pleading with you to listen to the horrible health and environmental damages fracking causes, when these citizens (including university professors or fossil fuel specialists) have presented you with evidence that the industry inflates - by 85% - the amount of gas that can be extracted, when geologists tell you that our brittle subsurface rock is too porous and naturally fissured so that migration of frack chemicals and naturally occurring VOCs will happen, WHY DO YOU REFUSE TO ALLOW FURTHER 180 DAY PUBLIC HEARING? WHY ARE YOU FAST-TRACKING PERMITTING when you have not even completed a proper and legal public hearing process? WHY ARE YOU IGNORING DATA? WHY ARE YOU NOT LISTENING TO REAL SCIENCE (not gas company propaganda)? WHY ARE YOU LISTENING ONLY TO THE INDUSTRY? WHY ARE YOU AVOIDING TALKING TO CITIZENS?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York	Ruth	Millions of citizens have written, called, petitioned you to slow down or even ban fracking for gas. We send you evidence that it damages health, environment and has questionable economic benefits - particularly if you take into account all remediation of damage. Fracking turns water into poison. Fracking causes air pollution. Fracking hurts farms & families; real estate will be devalued because who wants to live next to a drilling rig? (can't sell our homes) Migration of frack fluid will absolutely happen because NY geology is too porous and brittle. SO, WHY ARE YOU NOT LISTENING TO THE CITIZENS? WHY ARE YOU FAST-TRACKING THE PUBLIC HEARING - AND NOW THE PERMITTING PROCESS? WHY? really. WHY? surely we citizens of this gorgeous upstate and New York City region are not benefiting. WHY?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York	Ruth	Millions of citizens have written, called, petitioned you to slow down or even ban fracking for gas. We send you evidence that it damages health, environment and has questionable economic benefits - particularly if you take into account all remediation of damage. Fracking turns water into poison. Fracking causes air pollution. Fracking hurts farms & families; real estate will be devalued because who wants to live next to a drilling rig? (can't sell our homes) Migration of frack fluid will absolutely happen because NY geology is too porous and brittle. SO, WHY ARE YOU NOT LISTENING TO THE CITIZENS? WHY ARE YOU FAST-TRACKING THE PUBLIC HEARING - AND NOW THE PERMITTING PROCESS? WHY? really. WHY? surely we citizens of this gorgeous upstate and New York City region are not benefiting. WHY?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island NY	Juan	Dear Governor Cuomo, Being the way the job market is and employers looking for any excuse to fire you. It has become a fear to ask for a day off so you can either obtain or renew a driver's license, marriage certificate or vital documents. I recommend that you open city and state facilities that provide such services on Saturday or Sunday and charge a convenience tax. I myself would have no problem paying an extra fee to visit these locations on a weekend rather than worrying that I'm going to lose my job. Also, the additional monies can be used to subsidize programs or tax incentives. Sincerely, Juan [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bronx	Casini	Is there anything being done about the lack of healthcare benefits for people collecting unemployment? My income is considered barely above the cut off range to receive any type of government health benefits, however I can barely pay my rent and utility bills let alone any healthcare bills. It's not fair to those that have lost their jobs to be denied reasonable assistance just because we don't have dependants to be considered extreme poverty level. Is my health any less valuable than the rest?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Glen Oaks / Queens	Ellen	

What do you think of the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry's research on willows for biofuels?
<http://www.esf.edu/pubprog/brochure/willow/willow.htm> Willow may be one of those plants that embody nature's wisdom at its best - intelligent, very efficient, intuitive in design, and highly useful. There are other uses for land besides fracking for gas, which is not at all "natural". Are you open to considering developing land for sustainably grown biomass? This, as well as farming, wine, and tourism, are ways of using land that generate economic value, and make more sense than handing this precious state over to the gas industry. The gas industry's corruption, the inherent toxicity of fracking, and the flaws in the SGEIS are apparent to many, many people, in NYS and across the world. Governor, you have said that you will look to science in regards to fracking. The (non industry bribed) science is overwhelmingly clear that there is no safe way to frack, "regulations" do not protect from the inevitable, inherent, poisoning of water and air, for which there is no adequate filtration. ----- As I'm not sure the link above will go through, I'm copying below some of the points about willow from the above website. I found this fascinating, please take a moment and look into this. -----
----- # Willows are easily propagated from unrooted cuttings. # High yields can be obtained in a few years. # Willow's genetic diversity and short breeding cycle can be utilized to produce improved varieties. # Willows vigorously resprout after each harvest. # The amount of heat in a dry ton of willow is similar to other hardwoods. # An array of bark and foliage colors creates opportunities for visually stunning landscape designs. Willow crops are ideal for a wide range of applications besides bioenergy and bioproducts: Willow biomass crops increase habitat diversity. They are planted on open, agricultural land, not on cleared forest land. A crop can be harvested six to seven times before replanting is required. Willow cultivation uses significantly fewer pesticides than traditional agriculture. Creating Environmentally-friendly Products Willow biomass products reduce the need for fossil fuels and petroleum products. Willow can be converted into a variety of sustainable environmentally-friendly resources, including: * Heat and electricity by direct combustion, co-firing with coal, and gasification * Biodegradable plastics and other polymers * Biofuels * Riparian buffers - Natural barriers that prevent chemicals from entering streams, ponds, and lakes. * Phytoremediation - Willows clean up toxins from contaminated sites. * Living snowfences - Strategically planted willows trap drifting snow. * Wastewater management - Willows filter contaminants from wastewater. * Willow crops are carbon dioxide neutral which helps to reduce global warming. * They reduce the need for fossil fuels for energy, chemicals, products, and fuels. * Combustion of willow biomass releases fewer acid-rain producing compounds into the atmosphere * Willow crops reduce soil erosion and nonpoint source pollution * Willow crops generate income for local landowners and create jobs within the local community.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Long island	Tyler	Hi do you know when OPWDD will have funds to make more group homes around the state. Plz reply. Thanks. -Tyler Sent from my iPod
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Broome County	Dan	Fracking has been scientifically linked to ground water contamination. There are causal links to earthquakes. The fracking process from start to end product has a higher carbon footprint than coal. Aromatics given off at fracking sites are shown to cause health problems in people in those areas. It also has extremely high wear and tear on our infrastructure. Jobs created by fracking are temporary and employ out of state workers. With all of these scientific and economic studies, why do you insist on ignoring documented facts to push forward a process that will destroy our environment and jeopardize that of the entire planet?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Vernon	Allen	These salaries & retirement benefits are a strain on taxpayers. We in this district were hit with a proposed 6.5% tax increase. Do largely for superintendents salaries, retirement benefits. Need policing of school boards granting such excessive measures.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Vernon	Allen	These salaries & retirement benefits are a strain on taxpayers. We in this district were hit with a proposed 6.5% tax increase. Do largely for superintendents salaries, retirement benefits. Need policing of school boards granting such excessive measures.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Medford,Long Island,Suffolk County,NY 11763-1540	Ronald	Why do you allow businesses to pay off the books and pay no taxes nor social security nor medicare nor healthcare and hire illegals instead of veterans and citizens and legal immigrants.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York City	Mary	WHY WAS THIS BILL VETOED WHEN IT WAS PASSED 51 Ayes & 11 Nays ? State Senators and Assemblymen have sent you letters to please sign the bill with good reasons! Your own office has said that you are receiving anoverwelming of phone calls and letters to support this bill. This bill not only affects retirees but also their dependents these people worked very hard for many years and were told they would have health benefits in their retirement for the rest of their lives. Do you want us to all be on Medicaid????
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Queens	Ana	why did you decide to launch this website?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Queens	Ana	why did you decide to launch this website?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Windsor	Brad	If hydraulic fracturing is so safe, why has the NY Department of Environmental conservation proposed to prohibit the practice in the NYC and Syracuse watersheds? If it's not safe enough to risk the drinking water of NYC and Syracuse, how is it instantly okay for the rest of us 'little people'?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Kauneonga Lake, NY	Leah	We now know the dangers of Hydarulic Fractuing and have seen the hazards and consequences of this destructive practice in PA and various other states. NY state doesn't have the facilities or abiltily to actually safely treat these TOXIC and even worse RADIOACTIVE sludge! Even more upsetting is that the DEC is still not classifying some of the waste that normally qualifies as hazardddous, as HAZARDOUS!!!! I ask you Governor Cuomo why you are lifting the ban on fracking and not protecting US the people, children and communities of NY state? Why are you not banning Hydraulic Fracturing when the risks are much too high? WHAT IS THE RUSH?????? You can't convince me, a mother, that our water and air are less important than our gas
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island	Vincent	GOV.CUOMO WHY DIDNT PASS HEALTH CARE FOR RETIRED OTB WORKERS.I WORKED 33 YRS.FOR OTB AND WAS GUARATEED HEALTH CARE FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE, WE ARE OWED THIS FOR HARD WORK.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Clay, NY	Brian	Mr.Cuomo, I'm a CSEA member and want to thank you for coming to a compromise on the new contract. States like Wisconsin are stripping away collective bargaining so it was important that we were allowed to negotiate. Do you think the partnership between CSEA and NYS will stay strong in the coming years?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	State employee	Edwin	What is the governor doing about whether the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance is comply with its responsibilities under the New York State Social Services Law regarding the operations of the City of New York Human Resources Administration in the way the City agency administers Public Assistance and Food Stamp benefits?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	State employee	Edwin	What is the governor doing about whether the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance is comply with its responsibilities under the New York State Social Services Law regarding the operations of the City of New York Human Resources Administration in the way the City agency administers Public Assistance and Food Stamp benefits?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	NYC and Gilboa, New York	ELizabeth	Governor Cuomo, You have shown up for the victims of the horrendous flood damage upstate and have seen the power of flood waters. Given that, how can you go forward with fracking in any of New York, when the waterways all connect and the damages to our agricultural land from frack fluids, road damage and chemical spills would be irreversible?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	City of Rochester	Gabriel	I was a probationary police officer for the City of Rochester. [REDACTED] prior to graduation I was forced to resign because I was not meeting RPD standards according to RPD. I had more than the minimum passing state requirements; daily observation reports which should have allowed me to graduate. How is it, that the state of NY and the City of Rochester would allow this? Now leaving my wife, [REDACTED] and myself unemployed, unable to pay the mortgage and entering into debt being unable to find work. Being certified would have at least given me a chance to go to another agency within New York or out of state. As you know gas prices are not going down, food prices are increasing and there are limited jobs in NY. I am not the only person in this situation how can you help?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Geneva NY, Seneca Lake Ontario County	Kathleen	9/24/2011 driving a vehicle on nys streets and roads is so complicated now, and expensive.... more so, than when i got a learner's permit, when i was 16, isn't there a simplified plan to get going, eliminating complicated driving situations, only a mature, experienced driver could maneuver, skipping the costs [license plates, insurance, cost of a good, used car, or new vehicle, other costs of driving] i know you can't just ask for a car for christmas, from santa claus, and get in the car and start driving..... in new york state. and that is the only way i can get driving, comfortably, or do anything for that matter...
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Capital Region	Betty	Can you please comment on the future healthcare and pension obligations by New York's Counties; I believe these dwarf all other expenses. It seems that we are on a collision course regarding pension and healthcare commitments in general, in our State.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Oakwood, Staten Island	Patricia	Governor, With all due respect, your buddy, David Patterson took over OTB when Mr. Bloomberg did not want to make the effort to restore it to it's previous profitable state. Then Patterson did nothing. There was one serious problem that ate up OTB's profit, a distorted distribution formula making insane payments to harness tracks- most out of NY!! 4.5 million in profits, m oney that could have made it's way into NYS coffers!!!! You have not uttered a word about OTB, yet yesterday you vetoed a bill that concerned the employees and I would like to know your feelings on Off Track Betting. You are a friend of Labor in NY???
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rensselaer	Dale	I want to personally thank you for organizing Labor for Your Neighbor and also working, as I used to live in Delaware County, one of the hardest hit flooded areas. Is this a program that will continue during the recovery and is there anything that we as New Yorkers can do to help ensure that the FEMA money will be there for those hardest hit, despite the possible US government shutdown threatening again next week...sigh?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mohawk Valley	Janice	Due to the economy and loss of jobs, many families face foreclosure. The issue effects all segments of income. Foreclose counseling dollars are eliminated after 12/31/11 leaving these families very few options. In our region, nearly 2,000 families have been counseled since 2007 with an estimated \$8M dollars in real estate taxes that were left on the tax rolls annually. After 12/31/11, what is your intention to assist these families and keep homes on the tax rolls?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Fran	What's it like living in the mansion?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Captial Region	Jean	I have seen you wear a lapell pin. What does the lapell pin say
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	oppenheim	Belinda	why are you cutting the cost of heap.theres lots of people out there that cant afford heat and im one of them.i wish i had as much money as some people has to keep up with the bills and the cost of heat and food.is there anyone out there that can help use.the heap we will be getting this year will help use a little but not all winter.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany	Michelle	Luckily, where I live was spared but many communities near me were devastated by Irene and Lee. What was it like for you going through the storm ravaged parts of the state?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schoharie, NY	Susan	<p>Will "fracking" be done in residential areas or near our reservoirs? Will you make sure that it takes place outside of any highways, routes or homes? Have heard the process is already underway, and in residential areas! You lift the ban and a few days later DEC claims "they have found a SAFE way of doing it?" Don't you think we are smarter than that! It is the wrong thing to do....money isn't everything...especially since we NEVER see the profits in the tax payers hands..just like the taxes on the cigarettes, the monies from the lotteries in the schools and the logging done on our state lands! Why am I paying 3400 dollars a year in school taxes when I have no children and the supervisor makes no efforts to cut "daycare" sports? Why do we use our school buses for transportation of sports games? In my day the parents either chartered a bus or took the students and equipment on their own! Why don't these parents be held responsible for taking care of all the sports fields? Instead Schoharie pays thousands of dollars for our maintenance dept to clear snow from fields, paying overtime on weekends and unnecessary work when in my day the games would be re-scheduled or cancelled! Let's get back to EDUCATION! Stop with the unnecessary nonsense! Art, Music and PE was part of the system for all students, not just a few elite! Why isn't the supervisor of the school here not responsible for working for his "over \$200,00/yr salary?"...His time should be put forward working for all of the taxpayers in this county in finding the least expensive costs to the taxpayers? He just blows us off when we question the "votes" that seem to change as soon as "proxy" votes come in. He answers no questions when asked and is just "flippant." Our county seems to have a lot of government not on the up and up....they are costing us far more than we need to pay....example: they decided to buy trucks for garbage collections and hire personnel...this cost us dearly, far more than the company that we were using! When will the "special" vote take place for the not more than 2% property tax increase? Why aren't we collecting the monies from fraudulent claims on Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security? These are monies that we need to support these functions for those that truly need it! Government just whines about the monies we don't have to cover our debt and makes little or no way to stop the fraud! Why do our representatives show up in suits and white shirts at a major flood scene, instead of looking as if they are really there to "pitch in?" Why aren't we bringing "pasteurization" to upstate NY since it costs us more to transport the milk downstate and then back up to us? We should be conserving on our resources and encourage our farmers!This would also bring more jobs up here. Why are we not making NYC and LI pay for any part of the water, or the repairs we send to them for electric. They benefit from the "Gilboa Dam" and we suffer continuously from it? When will we stop having to "overpay" throughway fares when it supports a canal that is not a "throughway", and the monies again have been unaccounted for....\$4.00 is an outrageous increase for any roadway! I am convinced the government is not working for the taxpayers! I was hoping that you of all people would be more interested in taking care of our State of New York ...So far we have been Lied to...2% property tax hike a hoax! Poisoned...both morally and about to be devastated in damage to property and taxpayers through "fracking!" I guess the list could go on...but time is money and it seems government likes to spend it on other frivolous things! Let's make changes for the good...food is scarce and getting scarcer...let's get our towns back to farming, and get ahead of the game that is about to be deadly! We can be a rich environment under the right conditions. Just look at Albany, Schenectady and the others to see what once was "farmland" now just getting as filthy and downstate! We are special people...anyone who has come from downstate and feels the need to make changes as they have in other big cities...need to go back to where they came from...when I moved up here this was the lifestyle I desired! This was "clean" country and everyone wants to change the beauty that was bestowed upon us and Irene is only the beginning to let us realize what we had and what it could become!</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	North Branch Sullivan County	Victoria	With all the science, the medical profession, the testimony of those already fracked,the contamination of air and water in Pa. Texas, Wyoming to mention a few, the loss of normal life as we know it and the possibility of earthquakes, I need to know how you think it safe to move forward with this? Word has it that you are trading the State of New York to the gas industry for their support for your presidential hopeful bid in 2016. Do you think it's worth the trade? Do you think you will even get another term as Governor? Where will your precious daughters get their clean air and water from? and if you have that answer then what about everyone else's daughters??
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	staten Island	Lenore	What were the reasons for you veto and what are the retirees to do now after working all their lives for OTB.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	staten Island	Lenore	What were the reasons for you veto and what are the retirees to do now after working all their lives for OTB.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Glenville	AJ	Can you research using local landscape companies to take care of the rest areas on route 88, (recently closed one in each direction due to \$\$). I believe there is significant saving over state run. If you allowed them a 4'by 8' sign you may get them to manage the grounds for free(state paying utilities and disposal). Just a thought to save money and improve service... may be possible in other services.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	North Branch Sullivan County	Victoria	Upstate NY is the most amazing Agricultural zone, it is not only the Watershed for downstate, it is also the Food shed. Fracking will turn this most magnificent Agricultural zone into the most horrific Industrial Zone. We are talking about Water, we are talking about food..Studies have shown this will not boost our economic growth. Please tell us why you picked a panel of persons backed by the gas industry to review the possible dangers of fracking. Please tell me how you can sleep at night knowing this cannot be done safely here in New York.....
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Colonie, New York	Jennifer	How do you like living in the Mansion?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bronx	Nivardo	Over the last decade at least a dozen hospitals in NYC have closed and many others are in danger of closing. What is your administration planning to do ensure that more NYC hospitals don't close or if they do that new yorkers arent losing access to health care?

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Greene County	Donna	My [REDACTED] is out of control and I need help dealing with their unethical billing practices. They mismanage the monies they collect and bounce balances between accounts, to suit their needs and not GAAP. Currently they did not set aside money to repair the infrastructure and instituted a special assessment on all the properties. Annoying and unacceptable. but the issue I have is that they lumped this special assessment onto the Water bill and now are threatening to turn off water service if the assessment is not paid. This is not legal, is it??? Thank you for your attention to this. [REDACTED] Sincerely, Donna [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Long lake - Adirondacks	Frank	This is a great idea, why did you decide to do this?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Mike	I like your property tax cap, but my school district tells me that the rising costs of state pensions will cause a problem. What can you tell me about that Mr. Cuomo?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rhinebeck	Beverly	New York State has been a leader in many areas of concern regarding health care for its citizens. It's imperative that you continue that legacy with timely passage of the Health Insurance Exchange bill. Will you work for its passage this year?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Khalid	I am the Democratic Candidate for City Council, 4th District here in Syracuse. What would you say was your greatest experience so far as Governor of New York? Also, what is your position on the consolidation of services as a means to economic progress?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse area	Josh	How do you plan to invest in green energy?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Buffalo NY	Yvonne	NEW YORK STATE ----- Created By Yvonne [REDACTED] ----- ----- More Info "JAMEY'S LAW" http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/westernnewyorkagainistbullying/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=system&utm_campaign=Send%2Bto%2BFriend THIS HAS TO END!!!!!!! WE NEED THIS TO PASS, OUR CHILDREN NEED SOME REASSURANCE FROM OUR LEADERS
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Jamesport/ Long Island	Jennifer	What do you think of Move To Amend - non-profit devoted to amending constitution, thru state referendum, so that corporations denied personhood? Also, how would your program to bail out Wall St. have compared to Pres. Obama's program to bail out Wall St.?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Long Island	Lindsay	So many people are out of work where I live. What are you doing to bring jobs to New York?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Canandaigua	Rob	Is any effort being made to review results of hydro-fracking in other states (interviews with property owners, municipale officials, etc)?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Binghamton	Matthew	Good morning, My question is about an event that has happen here with the recent flooding. the fllood wall that helps protect my property came down in the flood, but since the wall was actually on my nieghboros property everyone we ask about says they don't know what to do and who is responceible for the wall. one group told us not to worry that the rocks in front of my property will protect us. But in the bigger picture when the spring run off starts won't the water now get behind these rocks since the other wall is now gone. The wall use to keep the creek flowing in front of these rocks but now like during the flood the water will come in behind them from my nieghbors yard. so can you as governor get some one to stand up and say we will fix that for you? I know FEMA had differnt programs to help fund this. Can you help us get some one to fix this?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Queens	Jon	If Indian Point closes, where will the state get replacement energy?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rochester	Maureen	I serve individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities who live in group homes. They require 24 hour support to meet their most basic needs as well as live a quality life. There are about 12000 families in NY in waiting and in need of similar care for thier adult loved one. How is the medicaid redesign accounting for this tremendous need? thank you.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulster Park, Hudson Valley	John	Governor Cuomo, in the past months we've seen countless peer-reviewed scientific studies, reports, and new information showing that fracking in New York cannot be done safely. Additionally, it will mean long-term economic devastation for many communities as it kicks out traditional industries like agriculture, tourism, wineries and small businesses. The current revised fracking regulations from the DEC are inadequate as they do not take into account a great deal of new scientific information or a thorough analysis of the situation from fracking in Pennsylvania. Can we count on you not to rush fracking forward and consider all relevant information before making a decision whether, not if we should allow fracking?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Long Lake - Adirondacks	Frank	Recently the City Comptroller & Mayor disagreed on the financial status of the City Pension Fund. As a taxpayer & not a pensioner can you tell us what the status of the State Pension Fund is?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Khalid	I am the Democratic Candidate for City Council, 4th District here in Syracuse. What has been you greatest experiece so far as Governor of New York? Also, what is your position on consolidation of services as 'a' means to economic progress?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Mark	What are you doing to reduce the waste and duplication in government. We need to cut that before real programs.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Ashley	Thank you so much for having this electronic town hall! Governor, you worked so hard to get marriage equality passed this year. Why did you feel it was so important? Thank you again.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Troy	Kevin	Did you really resort 75 Corvettes?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Greene County	Liz	none
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	East Greenbush	Sue	I am just finishing up my last year of college. My plan was to get a teaching degree. Now I am considering changing since teacher jobs are not as readily available. What are you plans for the future for teachers?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schuyler County	Dianne	What is being done to prevent potentially dangerous drilling and storage facilities from taking over the beautiful Finger Lakes region?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Chenango county	Anna	Hi, I moved into my home in 06 and a year later my taxes increased over 60 per cent.. I went to grieve them and received a letter stating my taxes were correct. The town assessor said we have to pay for the new plow; or the roads in the winter. And when I said I only make 20K per year because of the property values upstate are low the pay rate is lower than downstate. I make half of the salary I made in L.I. but I pay a higher rate on my property tax than downstate. So where does this leave me, I guess my only hope is that I can drill on my property for gas, or move out of New York!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York , Manhattan	Alexandra	Why are the Republicans holding back the Insurance exchanges. This is money from the federal government that would not cost the state or take away from other needs. I have been following reports recently about how the state is delaying work on creating a health insurance exchange for the uninsured. There are so many un or underinsured individuals now. Will you work to ensure that New York passes the health insurance Exchange bill this year?"
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York City	Mary Ann	WHY did you veto this bill passed 51 to 11 ???????????????

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	UNADILLA	Garth	THE RAIN FROM LEE WASHED OUT OUR DRIVEWAY PIPE. CAB THE ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS CLEAN THE STREAM
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Oswego	Shane	none
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Aurora - Finger Lakes Region	David	What is the rush to Hydrofrack and drill for gas with this dangerous, culturally ruinous technology, with a surplus of gas in this country??
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Averill Park, Rensselaer County	Bruce	Good Morning Governor, I would like to set up a meeting with you, the NYS Tax Commissioner, the Commissioner of Unemployment Benefits, and Chief of the Administrative Law Judges in regards to an error in the release of funds, the income taxes that are being assessed on those funds, and an employment benefits case that has been on going since [REDACTED]. The story is lengthy and I have been led to believe that the department heads I mentioned above are aware of my wife's and my situation. We have seemed to hit a brick wall in getting any kind of results. Can this be arranged? Respectfully, Bruce [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Owego, NY	Gerri	We have created profound changes in weather by failing to bring carbon emissions down to 350ppm. Why is NYS pushing forward with unconventional natural gas drilling, when the lifecycle process yields comparable results to coal?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Sheridan (Chaut Co)	Wendy	Will you be considering raising taxes on wealthy NYers to help raise revenue in NYS?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island	Frank	Mr. Coumo, Senator Lanza (an elected official) has asked you several times to tour Arthur Kill Correctional Facility with him befere it closes. You have yet to answer him. Will you answer Senator Lanzas question and would you be willing to tour Arthur Kill (with Mr. Lanza) and talk with the Officers about their concerns?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	bronx	Lisa	what are you doing to bring business to NY?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses	Krys	I am very interested in the questions and comments of other citizens in these forums. Where can we access those?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Cortland	BJ	Governor, what do you think is the biggest reason that jobs are leaving New York State causing people to have to relocate, and what is your plan to get us jobs here?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Cleveland, NY	Raymond	How could you veto restoring our health benefits? Is there a plan to fund them in the future, or are we just going to die one by one to make this problem go away?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New Paltz, NY	Amanda	If hydro-fracking is not too dangerous to implement in NY state than why are there buffers around two important water sheds in NY, and why is it more important to protect the watersheds for those communities while other communities will have to risk having their water supply compromised?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Cami	When will you unseal Adoption records, When are you going to ok A8410 and S5269 bill
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Western New York Chautauqua county	Karen	The State of New York has an abundance of governmental departments and divisions housed entirely in the Capitol Region. The economic prosperity this creates is apparent when visiting the capitol area in contrast with other areas of our state. Technology and advanced communication options now available to us can create greater opportunity and economic growth, especially in impoverished regions such as Chautauqua county, therefore, why doesn't the State consider eliminating regional offices and relocate entire divisions of state government to these regions?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Burdett	Michael	What is your position on Fracking and LPG storage?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	BUFFALO	Yvonne	NEW YORK STATE ----- Created By Yvonne [REDACTED] ----- ----- More Info "JAMEY'S LAW" http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/westernnewyorkagainistbullying/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=system&utm_campaign=Send%2Bto%2BFriend THIS HAS TO END!!!!!!!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Johnstown	Marsha	People receiving benefits are penalized if the have part-time employment by having their
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Greene County	Donna	[REDACTED] is out of control and I need help dealing with their unethical billing practices. They mismanage the monies they collect and bounce balances between accounts, to suit their needs and not GAAP. Currently they did not set aside money to repair the infrastructure and instituted a special assessment on all the properties. Annoying and unacceptable. but the issue I have is that they lumped this special assessment onto the Water bill and now are threatening to turn off water service if the assessment is not paid. This is not legal, is it??? Thank you for your attention to this. [REDACTED] Sincerely, Donna
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island	Brian	Are you going to visit the prison???

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Aaron	I am the President of Elderchoice, a Licensed Home Care Agency in the Syracuse area. I have beenn following the Medicaid Redesign Process closely and wish to commend you and your team on the progress you have made thus far. My question to you this morning is, when do you anticipate this process being completed?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	I think it is very interesting to see what the people are asking you about. Where can we see all the questions that people are asking you?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	State employee	Edwin	Have you investigated into the responsibilities of OTDA under the Social Services Law regarding the operations of the City of New York's Human Resources Administration in the manner of their implementing the dispensing of Public Assistance and Food Stamp benefits? I am presently being suspended from my employment for four days in settlement of a disciplinary action because I spoke before the New York City Council on September 13, 2010, on this issue.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bronx	Jenny	What do you enjoy most about being Governor?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Athens/Greene county	Donna	[REDACTED] is out of control and I need help dealing with their unethical billing practices. They mismanage the monies they collect and bounce balances between accounts, to suit their needs and not GAAP. Currently they did not set aside money to repair the infrastructure and instituted a special assessment on all the properties. Annoying and unacceptable. but the issue I have is that they lumped this special assessment onto the Water bill and now are threatening to turn off water service if the assessment is not paid. This is not legal, is it??? Thank you for your attention to this. [REDACTED] Sincerely, Donna [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Cobleskill/Schoharie County	Thomas	Dear Governor Cuoma, Horizontal hydraulic fracturing is clearly the answer to our energy and job crises in upstate NY. How many jobs will this industry create in NY and how much natural gas will be harvested? Thanks, Thomas [REDACTED]

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CHAT
DATE

LOCATION

NAME

QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

Governor
Cuomo

9/24/2011

Buffalo

Anonymous

Why are HUD subsidized landlords still allowed to collect taxpayer funded rents without penalty while they shirk their legal contracts requiring them to provide safe living conditions for nonsmoking tenants? If landlords continue to violate their leases and refuse to protect their endangered tenants then they should be penalized and fined to pay for the resulting health care costs instead of the taxpayers/tenants. "Landlord tobacco health insurance" fees should also be developed to cover all implementation and future health care costs. These fees should be taken out of their guaranteed taxpayer subsidized rents. HUD landlords are allowed to choose whether or not to implement nonsmoking policies, despite HUD's repeated notices encouraging landlords to implement non-smoking policies based on the '06 Surgeon General's Report. Thus the most vulnerable nonsmoking populations of disabled, elderly, and low income tenants are forced against their will to live in units contaminated with 2nd hand smoke that endanger their health and safety. These populations' health care costs are paid by taxpayer funded Medicare and Medicaid. Annual health care costs in NY from 2nd hand smoke are about \$263 million; while citizens' state /federal taxes to cover smoking caused government costs are \$6.3 billion (\$894/household). Nonsmoking tenants bear the health consequences and taxpayers bear the double financial costs (sick tenants' health care costs as well as their rents) while landlords become wealthier. Please change this! Consider developing legislation to force landlords receiving HUD assistance to provide safe living conditions for nonsmokers or pay the resulting smoking-caused costs.

Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	Is there a place we can see all the questions being asked here? If not, can we FOIL them later?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Johnstown	Marsha	Why do people who accept part-time work get penalized in their benefits. They make more sitting home collecting than if they actually work 20 hours. Why can't we fix this?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Sandy	Please explain how you could veto a bill that would give NYC OTB retirees their hard earned health benefits. Larry Shwartz have your conscious in his pocket?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	staten island	Lenore	What were the reasons for your veto of the OTB RETIREES HEALTH CARE BILL. What are we retirees to do for health care as we are on fixed incomes
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bronx, NY	Erica	What happened after you opened the second floor of the Capital?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Middlefield	Dorothy	I am so concerned about your 20th century mentality regarding the use of fossil fuels. Natural gas is, indeed, a fossil fuel. It is not renewable, and the method of extracting it is not clean. Why are you, contrary to what you are saying, ignoring the real science behind this dirty energy source and refusing to truly focus on bringing NYS up to speed with the 21st century by an pursuing an all-out, extensive energy program which relies on wind, solar and water. This could be your defining moment as a true leader, Governor. Don't end up being just another brick in the wa
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	Are you picking the questions to answer, or, are your staff? How can we see the questions that you choose not to answer?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Long Island	Lindsay	So many people are out of work where I live. What are you doing to bring jobs to NY?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	angola	Margaret	Can you do anything about looking into these gas prices, I'm seeing Oil barrel prices go down but not at the pumps. Someone is gouging us besides the government with their high cost lunches and dinners (\$16 muffins??) Can you try to give us a break for once
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	Is this Forum considered an Open Meeting under the state's open meetings law?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Matt	What sort of medical malpractice and tort reform efforts can New Yorkers expect to see during the remainder of your term?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Prattsville	jan	When is NY city going to take responsibility for damage and when is NYS going to implement strict guidelines on the dams, creeks that run into the Gilboa dam?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rochester	Brad	Would you veto a plan that had more than 62 senate seats?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	England	Boots	What is the air speed velocity of an unladen swallow?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten island	Denise	How can the State incentivise start up businesses? I personally see LLCs as the wave of the future, where the workers are also the shareholder/owners.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Southwestern New York	Glenn	My question is this- as a geologist, I'm alarmed at the cavalier approach to protecting NYS aquifers by the gas industry, and even more alarmed at the state's apparent inability or unwillingness to put a hold on horizontal hydrofracturing until it can be improved. As of now, it is a very advanced process technologically, but a very primitive one environmentally. Scientific studies and anecdotal evidence abound that it is unsafe in the way it's being done today. The SGEIS at face-value, doesn't look like it will allow the DEC to control this industry with any success. What is your office doing to be sure that NYS water supplies stay clean and protected?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brunswick	Daniel	Governor, would you please tell me why a RN nurse is allowed to perform very bad healthcare on a quadriplegic, we have the RN on video tape contaminating his stage four wounds and your legal staff have not charged this RN, they have had this case since April of 2010, I can not understand why nothing has not been done about this RN, can you help me on this matter
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why did you veto a bill that gave NYC OTB retirees their health benefits??? They worked hard providing millions of dollars over the past 40 years to the city and state?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Halfmoon- Saratoga County	Connor	There have been under-handed dealings in Halfmoon for years now. We submitted a report but nothing was ever done about it. Why is this? What can be done about it now?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why did you veto a bill that gave NYC OTB retirees their health benefits??? They worked hard providing millions of dollars over the past 40 years to the city and state?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why did you veto a bill that gave NYC OTB retirees their health benefits??? They worked hard providing millions of dollars over the past 40 years to the city and state?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	You are very quiet. I don't see an update for over ten minutes. Are the people asking you too many questions that you disapprove of? What is the hold-up?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why did you veto a bill that gave NYC OTB retirees their health benefits??? They worked hard providing millions of dollars over the past 40 years to the city and state?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why did you veto a bill that gave NYC OTB retirees their health benefits??? They worked hard providing millions of dollars over the past 40 years to the city and state?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Binghamton	Elaine	How come the DEC allows toxic radioactive gas drilling wastewater to be spread on NY roads residential and state?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schoharie, NY	Susan	When will the "special vote" take place for the tax to be at only 2%? Why is the % of 60% needed when it fact it should only be 51%? Why do we even have to vote on it? You made it a law and promised us the "world"...and now it seems we were "misled!" I'm beginning to think this is what is wrong with our country...no one can do math! 60% needed to win and \$250,000 equals a millionaire!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Buffalo	John	With budget deficits across the state and the evidence that keeping marijuana illegal only burdens governments, what do you think of legalizing marijuana and taxing it. The taxes could help close deficits and also help better fund education and health care.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why did you veto a bill that gave NYC OTB retirees their health benefits??? They worked hard providing millions of dollars over the past 40 years to the city and state? This has life threatening consequences for many retired CITY workers.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Glens Falls	Cindy	My question to the Governor is how can he live with himself after negotiating the CSEA contract. Why do you think you should balance the budget off our backs. We did not make the problem. How do you expect me and everyone else who lives paycheck to paycheck to pay our bills now. Maybe we should send our bills to you to pay. I realize this has nothing to do with the topic at hand. Just saying.....
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why did you veto a bill that gave NYC OTB retirees their health benefits??? They worked hard providing millions of dollars over the past 40 years to the city and state? This has life threatening consequences for many retired CITY workers.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	How can we get the most from the federal funding for insurance exchanges
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why did you veto a bill that gave NYC OTB retirees their health benefits??? They worked hard providing millions of dollars over the past 40 years to the city and state? This has life threatening consequences for many retired CITY workers.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Queens	Aliza, 13	Doing great job , keep it up
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why did you veto a bill that gave NYC OTB retirees their health benefits??? They worked hard providing millions of dollars over the past 40 years to the city and state? This has life threatening consequences for many retired CITY workers.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Canandaigua	Kathy	I don't have a question this morning but I do want to say thank you, Governor! You are doing a wonderful job! There is much "to do" in NYS and you have made some important strides. Thank you!

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why did you veto a bill that gave NYC OTB retirees their health benefits??? They worked hard providing millions of dollars over the past 40 years to the city and state? This has life threatening consequences for many retired CITY workers.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	North Greenbush/Rensselaer County	Mark	Governor Cuomo: How can counties comply with the tax cap and continue to pay their state required share of MEDICAID costs? The formula will not work as the growth in MEDICAID and other state mandated programs will consume the 2% limit. An aside, overall, you are doing a great job. Thank you
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Cortland	BJ	Why has there been so many cutbacks of the local and state police personnel, yet we hear that the upper level have remain unchanged?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Suffolk Co.	Nancy	Extremely concerned about your passing or allowing Nat. Gas Fracking. Please do not do this!!!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Athens/Greene county	Donna	How can I get a forensic accountant to review the books of my HOA? I'm tired of feeling like the damsel tied up on the train tracks and my HOA is Simon Lagree.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	So, this is looking more like a campaign event than a public forum-- all softball questions intended to boost your image. Are you using state funds to pay the people who are working with you on this event? Is that ethical, if the purpose is just to burnish your image and popularity?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Jamaica,Queens	Carina	Most of these 1,000 jobs are not for NYer's, but for people who live out of state. How is this economic development for Upstate communities?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island, NY	Louis	There is proof Fracking is terrible for water the environment and human health. You can't monitor 100s of chemicals underground mixed with tons of water because you can't see it. Other places have banned fracking for several other reason including these. Fracking is not a clean/green alternative energy source. What are you doing as our government to help ban this in NYC?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Larchmont/Westchester	Brian	I saw yesterday that you urged Congress to play politics on their own time in regards to disaster relief. Thank you for doing that. The sound shore area was hit incredibly hard by the rain/floods again. If FEMA and other federal monies are going to get bottled up by Congress, what other mechanisms do you have as Governor to help folks here in the sound shore and of course the rest of NY?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	NYC	Randy	What can you do to help kick start home building in the boroughs. it is off 80-90%. I mean home building not apartments or condos. thousands of jobs can be created. The City is doing nothing for the boroughs and these shovel ready jobs

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	NYC	Nathan	possible to pass this as in California? WOuld save on health care expenses significantly. I kept my fees modest in Ca because malpractice was so modest.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Colonie	Bill	We are the unemployed in NYS paid one of the lowest amounts of unemployment in the country?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ithaca/ Finger Lakes	Esther	What evidence do you see of "safe" hydrofracking and, if allowed, how would it be regulated with a reduction in DEC personnel?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Chemung	Karen	What is available at a reasonable cost for self-employed individuals in NYS for health insurance?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ithaca	Thomas	I don't really have a question per se...just thank you. Well, maybe. Did you know the Senators from the GOP would vote yes?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Dryden, Tompkins County	Marie	You say "The people can do whatever they want and that's the way it should be." In small towns across the southern tier there are citizens signing petitions against gas drilling. In my small town, 93% of the adult residents have chosen not to lease their land and a ban on drilling was passed unanimously by our Town Board. Anschutz Exploration is suing, saying we have no right to do what we want for our town. Do you support Lifton/Seward legislation for clarification of ECL 23-0303 to clearly give the right of home rule to every municipality?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Terence	What can we do to improve the economies of Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Utica and the rest of upstate? They've been languishing too long.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn NYC	Peter	Governor. I have long been a supporter of your campaigns and I'd like to continue to be. I live in Brooklyn. Then NYC metro area is the economic engine of the entire state. NYC metro area is also very reliant on public transportation and the MTA. The MTA 5 year capital plan was only funded by the state for two years. The state can not afford to continue to fund the MTA capital improvement with out a continuation of the millionaires tax. I know you said no new taxes in your first year, but we're coming on year 2. This isn't a new tax but rather a continuation. Governor, would you please continue the millionaires tax? NYC and it's public transport can not go into decline again as it did though the early 1980's. We need you help save this city. Thanks for being such a wonder governor and keep up the good work!

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Long Island	Derek	Governor, As attorney General you were instrumental in the passage of The Citizens Empowerment Act which provides a real process to reduce the size of obsolete and wasteful government entities. More needs to be done to allow citizens more control of these entities. Consolidation of election days would allow people to more easily chose who represents them as leaders of these entities. What can you do to further this process? Regards Derek [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island, NY	Louis	There is proof Fracking is terrible for water the environment and human health. You can't monitor 100s of chemicals underground mixed with tons of water because you can't see it. Other places have banned fracking for several other reason including these. Fracking is not a clean/green alternative energy source. What are you doing as our government to help ban this in NYC?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	new windsor/ orange county	Scott	why do we have to pay .45 cents tax on every gallon of gasoline??
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ithaca/ Finger Lakes	Esther	Do you think the definition of "flood plain" currently in the SGEIS needs to be revised in the aftermath of the past 3 weeks?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rochester	Maureen	Good morning Governor Cuomo, I am concerned about continued Medicaid cuts for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I serve people who require 24 hour care in group homes to meet their most basic needs as well as live a quality life. There are about 12000 families of people with DD waiting for residential services in NY. Is the Medicaid redesign team addressing this need as they consider cuts?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Cicero, NY	Doreen	Govenor Cuomo, can you please tell me where in Syracuse I can see a 9/11 memorial?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Lower Hudson Valley	Michael	Has anything surprised you since being governor?

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn NYC	Peter	Governor. I have long been a supporter of your campaigns and I'd like to continue to be. I live in Brooklyn. Then NYC metro area is the economic engine of the entire state. NYC metro area is also very reliant on public transportation and the MTA. The MTA 5 year capital plan was only funded by the state for two years. The state can not afford to continue to fund the MTA capital improvement with out a continuation of the millionaires tax. I know you said no new taxes in your first year, but we're coming on year 2. This isn't a new tax but rather a continuation. Governor, would you please continue the millionaires tax? NYC and it's public transport can not go into decline again as it did though the early 1980's. We need you help save this city. Thanks for being such a wonder governor and keep up the good work!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	mid hudson	Lucy	time warner in NY now has there help center in the Phillippines....that is where are jobs are going. they always employed people in Mid hudson NOW overseas...stop this insanity
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Sullivan County	David	County property taxpayers should not pay states bills for Medicaid, join 48 states
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Suffolk Co.	Nancy	We have waited here in Stony Brook, LI NY For better, faster trains. Platforms and still so slow. Why when congestion on LI Roads is so bad going into NYC is this not being addressed as a primary concern
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mount Pleasant	Marie	I would like to see it become more affordable to live in NYS. Will anything be done to facilitate that?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Afton	Rema	Why do you seem to be fast tracking high volume hydrofracking in spite of evidence indicating that there are serious problems that could be detrimental to the Southern Tier. Why can you not give us more comment time, after the floods have devastated so many here?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	NEWBURGH	Mary Ann	dO nOT BACK DOWN FROM PROPERTY CAPS. wE BUDGET OUR HOUSEHOLD OFF PAYCHECK. eVERYONE NEEDS TO CLEAN HOUSE. tHANK YOU
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rockland	Sister	My brother lives in Haverstraw, NY with his family. They own a small condo in a low income area. I live in an affluent town a few miles away and own a house. Yet my brother pays more in taxes than I do as a result of the Mirant fiasco a few years ago. Each tax season, they have had to borrow money to pay their taxes. They can't sell their condo; no one wants to buy in that area because of the outrageous taxes. They are stuck. What is being done to help the people in the towns directly affected? I know many familiies in similar circumstances. They all feel trapped.

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulster County	Perry	I hear about mandate relief and listen to my local officials point fingers at the State for not doing anything about it. It is resulting in high taxes for schools and municipalities. Many of them say the State is simply shifting its responsibilities on counties, towns and villages and not "owning up" to shoulder the burdens. What is the truth
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	nyc	Judith	How about moving into a 4 day workweek, 28 hours? We did it in the 30's, moving from a 6 day into a 5 day workweek, making room for more jobs. It worked.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	albany	Phyllis	Will NYS step in and assist people who cannot get relief support from federal gov't.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	Are you going to continue to accept the crooked "cooked books" economic numbers that the DEC's socio-economic impact study consultants (themselves major contractors to the oil and gas industry) submitted, or will you seek to be truthful about the limited job potential of the gas industry itself, and its job-killing effects on other industries? Will you face up to the major negative impact it will have on our home values and the mortgage industry in NYS?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Town of Islip	Rich	Thank you for your quick response in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene. It's refreshing to have a Governor who is on top of his game! As the DPW Commissioner of a township here on Long Island who sits on the Executive Board of the NYS association of Town Highway Superintendents as well as the Suffolk County Highway Superintendents, we would like to thank you for being there when we needed your assistance. Thank you!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Pearl River	James	When will permits be issued for fracking? I am in favor of it. I know it can be done safely. Also, can we open up some natural gas fill stations for cars.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany, NY	Mike	Mr. Governor, SUNY Police are the only Police Officers employed by NYS which are not afforded the ability to be in the Police and Fire Retirement System. SUNY Police are currently in the ERS plan. SUNY Officers are in need a basic PFRS plan in order to retain our officers. We are currently losing too many as the ERS plan requires their employees to work TWICE as long as police officers covered under the PFRS plan. The members have submitted a bill which even allows the State to retain all past employee contributions in order to offset and fiscal costs. Please address this parity issue.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany	Betty	Thank you for the tax cap!! How we will handle these huge entitlements!!!!

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island, NY	Louis	My wife graduated college and has to pay back the student loans for being an elementary teacher with no education job. That would be fine but there are no jobs anywhere. We will be forced to move to another state to look for work for her just to pay back these loans also because of all the other expenses NY has tolls surcharges taxes fees etc. WHAT are you doing to help teachers right now get a job?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	guess I waited long enough for this so called live chat chit!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Yonkers	Lee	Are you looking at new incentives to build solar power capacity, as they are doing in NJ, through Solar Renewable Energy Credits
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ithaca	Tom	When can we expect you to visit gorges Ithaca? Can you help build our local wine industry?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Baldwin/Long Island	Jocelyn	HELP!!! County agencies are wasting tax dollars. Grass roots groups need the funds and are doing the job
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten island	Brian	Are you Ever going to answer a Question on Arthur Kill Prison Closing??????
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Astoria, Queens	Bryan	Dear Governor Cuomo, As you are aware, because of New York's passage of the same-sex marriage bill and this week's certification of the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, today LGBT New Yorkers have more rights than ever. Yet these accomplishments only highlight how discriminatory DOMA really is (ie New York same-sex marriages are not recognized in some states, and members of the armed forces with same-sex spouses STILL are not entitled to spousal benefits). What is New York doing to push to repeal DOMA once and for all, to protect our state's right to define marriage for ourselves?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schoharie, NY	Susan	When will the "special vote" take place for the tax to be at only 2%? Why is the % of 60% needed when it fact it should only be 51%? Why do we even have to vote on it? You made it a law and promised us the "world"...and now it seems we were "misled!" I'm beginning to think this is what is wrong with our country...no one can do math! 60% needed to win and \$250,000 equals a millionaire!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mount Pleasant	Marie	Who is profiting from Schools like Cedar Knolls in Hawthorne & Cottage school in Pleasantville? These schools should NOT be allowed to operate in residential neighborhoods!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bronx New York	Giovanni	Your the Best !

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Tonawanda, NY	Brian	Any news about new employers in Western New York or Expanding businesses, been out of work and could a point ion the right direction. Thanks. Just received your email, sorry for being late, didn;t see this promoted anbywhere.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Atul	Good Morning – We appreciate your MWBE support but your 20% participation goal is under threat by Strategic Sourcing. How does your office reconcile these contradictory efforts? Are we concerned that paying Accenture \$8 M + to decrease MWBE participation is risk? – Thank you
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ithaca	Tom	Governor, Good Morning. Can you help us to stop hydrofracking in the Fingerlakes? This is a beautiful place and I don't want it ruined. What can you do to help?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Binghamton NY	Elaine	How come the DEC has allowed toxic and radioactive wastewater from Natural Gas Drilling Hydrofracking to be spread on NYS residential and and state roads? How can this be?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	All through the campaign and since then, you have tried to avoid talking directly to those of us who object to your plans to frack us. Will you continue to try to shape public dialogue to give the perception that we don't exist? Is this forum a part of that? How many anti-fracking questions are you not answering here?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Roslyn, LI	Richard	The Adirondacks are filled with Tea Party anti-government people yet the region contains our state crown-jewel, the Adirondack Park. There is even a pending development of 6,400 acres in Tupper Lake that environmentalists strongly oppose. What are you doing to look for and appoint a new Chairman of the Adirondack Park Agency that will represent the downstate desire for strong protection of the Adirondacks, instead of a local upstate pro-development person?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Jamaica, NY	Nase	Mr. Governor, Can we stop naked short selling in the financial market or restore the uptick rule?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany	Amy	I am pleased to see the state cracking down on unethical politicians. However, I wonder how we fully return public integrity and ethics to the Legislature. How do we ensure that we get the right people running for office, people who truly care about government and representing the best interests of their community? I often think we need to return civics curriculum to the classroom and teach children the value of civic engagement.

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Capital Region	Bob	There is salary disparity among many m/c job titles also represented by collective bargaining agreements due to the lack of raises (7%) in state government and in one case of an Authority (10%) ... raises already provided to the represented positions. This has led to and continues to lead to hardship among these valued and dedicated employees who have been entrusted to carry out the state's mission. In many cases M/C employees have found the need to retreat back to represented positions, thus, stifling the careers of your best and brightest young managers during a time of both an economic crisis and Tropical Storm Irene & Lee disasters ... a time when you need them the most. What are your thoughts on this issue?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schenectady	John	Since NY State property taxes are highest in the nation, why doesn't the State reduce State mandates so local taxes can go lower? The unions (county, school, etc.) get guaranteed benefits that we cannot afford or cut. So the 2% cap is very ineffectual unless something is done at the State level.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why Does yourr staff not want you to answer a question on Arthur Kill Prison Closing
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Syracuse	Don	How can I start a casino? If they are talking about allowing private indusrty to start these casinos not on or associated with Indian preserves. Who is to stop Trump or Fox or whoever from turning NYState into Vegas? This is a form of corporate greed. They might as well let us all start a casino.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Sheridan (Chaut Co)	Wendy	I submitted a question and haven't seen it.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mount Pleasant	Marie	NYS's educational mandates put a burden on local school districts and often hey are not necessary. We need to change this. We don't need NYS telling us what to teach! Thank you!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rhinebeck	Alexandra	The money from the federal gov't will help NYS set up exchanges. How can we get the entire legislative body behind this?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Colin	Will you sign or veto the bill expanding livery cab access in the outer boroughs of NYC? Thanks!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	You like a Ride game
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany County	Carol	While the tax cap is a first step, what do you tell the elderly who are barely holding onto their homes.

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bristol, NY	Kris	For nearly 20 years I was able to support myself and my child via self-employment as a nonprofit management consultant, but since I specialize in developing projects for state and federal funding, the recession made income irregular and even nonexistent for months at a time. I had 2 very difficult years. I qualified for HEAP, but of course there was no unemployment cash assistance, no food stamps, no other safety net. I just started a fulltime job in September, and while it will take me a while to get back on my feet, I will be fine. But if NYS wants to encourage self-employment and small business development, which I believe account for the majority of new jobs in America, then I think someone needs to re-think what sort of assistance and safety net needs to be in place for us and our families. Your predecessors have been full of hot air, and done nothing. The economic development councils are not likely to address these issues. What do you see as the role of the state regarding encouraging self-employment?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Atul	Good Morning – We appreciate your MWBE support but your 20% participation goal is under threat by Strategic Sourcing. How does your office reconcile these contradictory efforts? Are we concerned that paying Accenture \$8 M + to decrease MWBE participation is risk? – Thank you
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Queens	George	Why did you veto the bill to restore health benefits to those one thousand former NYC OTB employees
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Buffalo/ Erie County	Nancy	Do you have any plans to reform NYS requirement policies? Some state require a applicant prior residence to receive their full benefits. Another concern I have is the prescriptions bring sold for profit...random drug testing should be require to make sure the medication is being used & applicant are complying to the rules!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	suffolk	Liz	Hi, How can kayaking access be improved on Long Island ? Each township has its own set of rules...some needing expensive yearly permits for a one time use. All we need is a place to park..nothing fancy. Kayakers in general are environmentally conscious and the sport is low impact. Why all the road blocks ?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Danby, Tompkins County	Jim	A viewpoint piece in the Ithaca Journal today described the devastation of Bradford County Pennsylvania that happened after the gas diggers came. Trucks by the hundreds, tankers, drilling rigs, 5-acre drilling pads, million-gallon ponds. Generators started, then pumping rigs. They thought it would mean money. It meant the destruction. If this happens here, it won't matter what else you do as Governor. Don't tell us you are going to regulate the foxes guarding the hen houses. Don't tell us about "responsible" drilling, because this industry has never been responsible, and whatever they do to us, whatever mess they leave behind, they will not make things right again. What are you going to do to make sure this doesn't happen here?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	No, Governor, the DEC process is not fair. The economic impact study uses rigged numbers-- NOT the best science-- to far over-represent the positive economic effects, and DOES NOT QUANTIFY THE COSTS!! How can you call that fair?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	dutchess	Grace	WHY don't you get rid of some of the assistants to the assistants before you hit the front line workers!!!!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bristol NY	Kris	For nearly 20 years I was able to support myself and my child via self-employment as a nonprofit management consultant, but since I specialize in developing projects for state and federal funding, the recession made income irregular and even nonexistent for months at a time. I had 2 very difficult years. I qualified for HEAP, but of course there was no unemployment cash assistance, no food stamps, no other safety net. I just started a fulltime job in September, and while it will take me a while to get back on my feet, I will be fine. But if NYS wants to encourage self-employment and small business development, which I believe account for the majority of new jobs in America, then I think someone needs to re-think what sort of assistance and safety net needs to be in place for us and our families. Your predecessors have been full of hot air, and done nothing. The economic development councils are not likely to address these issues. What do you see as the role of the state regarding encouraging self-employment?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	lapel pin Give me a break ????

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schoharie, NY	Susan	You are avoiding the subject BUT you lifted the ban and should take responsibility to answer these question! So, can you please give us an answer on where and when "fracking" will be going on? I have been informed that it has already begun and it is going on around the homes of others...for a party that claims to want "healthier" individuals it seems to be contradictory!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Munnsville	Heather	There have been reports about how the state inadequately funds tobacco control. The New York State Tobacco Control Program has made great strides over the past 10 years, but the cuts to this program are making it impossible to continue to reduce the negative impacts of tobacco. "Will you increase funding for tobacco prevention?"
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany	Allison	I worked for your Dad during his last two years in office as an Administrative Assistant. I would like to come back to the Executive Chamber. I am a very competent individual and could be of great help to you. You may reach me anytime [REDACTED]. I currently work for DASNY. Respectfully, Allison [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	BRONX NY	Veronica	I would like to know your reasoning behind the veto of the otb retiree healthcare bill. It was supported by senators etc, and with your veto you have effectively crippled the finances and health of Over 900 loyal and dedicated city employees who worked for this benefit
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	West Henrietta	Chuck	Governor Cuomo: Nursing is the only licensed profession that does not require a four-year bachelor's degree. The New York State Nurses Association has a bill in Albany that will require a four-year education for all future nurses. What is your position on this bill and do you believe it will benefit SUNY schools that currently offer Associate's degree nursing programs?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ithaca	Tom	What can be done to make our state wine industry even better? Are sales in grocery stores the answer or will this hurt our local wineries?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Clifton Park	Martha	You said that a 2% tax cap hike has been put in place for property taxes which is appreciated. However, what good does it do if the town can override it? This solves nothing because the spending still continues.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	West Hurley, NY	Kevin	I am very concerned about the impact of hydraulic fracturing for natural gas on not only our water supplies, but on the communities that will be impacted. I am aware it can be an economic boost - but at the price of the environment, the scenic beauty of which we are so proud, and a way of rural life that people have been attracted to. I realize you are trying to the middle road, but has your staff thoroughly studied drilling's impacts in Texas, in Pennsylvania, in states which now are regretting the decision to give this new "gold rush" the green light without severe restrictions? Here's your questions: Where is it okay to trash the landscape and risk the water in New York?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Cohoes	Patty	Good Morning Governor! Thank you for this opportunity. I am a former employee of the NYS Legislature, both Senate and Assembly over several years, with an impeccable professional reputation and a great work ethic. I am a single mom with two girls in college and I am currently receiving unemployment benefits, because the most recent Member that I worked for was not re-elected, leaving me in a "collateral damage" situation. I want nothing more than to get back to what I do well, but am concerned about the likelihood of that happening, with so many of "us" in this situation, and a limited amount of openings. Any thoughts?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	athens greene county	Ralph	have you physically visited fracking locations in pa? If Sandra Lee was connected to the fracking industry would you reveal that fact?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	syracuse	Mark	we need more jobs in syracuse
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Binghamton NY	Elaine	How come the DEC allows Toxic and Radioactive Substance from Gas Drilling Hydrofracking to be sprayed on Residential and State Roads in NYS?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	You gonna Come to the prison look us in the face??????
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Athens/Greene county	Donna	Who's going to help the "little people"?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Middlefiled	Dorothy	Just as many of us suspected. This initiative is just another token gesture to give the illusion you actually care about what is important to us residents. If there are many questions concerning the issue of hydrofracking, this should be telling you something. This is EXACTLY forum to answer questions regarding this MOST important issue. You can try to pass the buck to your puppet Martens all you want, Mr. Cuomo, but the truth of the matter is the buck stops with YOU!

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Dryden, Tompkins County	Marie	Do you support clarification of ECL 23-0303 to make absolutely certain that municipalities in NY have the right to choose the path of their own progress?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	You gonna Come to the prison look us in the face??????
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	staten island, richmond county	Doreen	Is there anything u can do to lower the bridge tolls?, it really is outrageous, ppl cannot afford to live in this economy and now this?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Athens/Greene county	Donna	I hope Dinapoli can see me.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Alex	<p>I represent Cooperative Community Organization which has over 60 cooperative buildings over the City of New York. Generally, just in the City of New York alone, there are around 370 coop units with about 1 million tenancy population which means coop shareholders and their families. Coops were established in NYC in 1970-s to give new yorkers some amount of homes their can buy at not so high price. However, these coops became truly disaster for shareholders because of greedy Sponsors and corrupted Boards of Directors. First of all, there is insufficient law base for coops to fight for shareholders rights. Specifically, coops are evaluated by Business Corporation Law of NYS even cooperative buildings are very far from corporations (however, it leads to obligating us as corporations to bring any complaints to Supreme Court of New York which is totally unaffordable for us making \$30-40 thousand annually). We have a man in Brooklyn; when he was at the hospital, Board of Directors sold his coop without notifying him; he was alone and after discharge became homeless and died soon after this. We have a single mother in the Bronx whose coop apartment Board tried to steal through the court, and it's a chance she would be homeless even this year. Sponsors and Boards are rigging elections, spent coop money in secrecy, raise maintenance and assessments without even speaking with shareholders. Since Supreme Court battles are unaffordable and endless, we are not able to go this way. We have met with different state politicians in Assembly and Senate but there are still no actions. There are a number of state legislation in favor of coops pending for long time(some even for 10 years). These bills have never even discussed at the Housing Committees of Assembly and Senate. All the conversations are going about rental, and rental, and again rental, and rental. Attorney General office says it's not their authority. There are no state agency we can come with complaints and for assistance to. Practically, around 1 million state citizens are left without any attention from the state government. It was the same situation when you were NYS Attorney General. Since you as NYS Governor have right for legislative initiative and also in charge of all state agencies, we ask you the following: 1. Promote pending legislation in favor of coop shareholders (we can provide you with list of pending bills). 2. Using your right for legislative initiative, submit a package of new legislation in favor of coop shareholders. Do not suggest us to apply to our local state legislator by saying it's not your business. When you decided to push legislation about same gender marriage, you spend tremendous amount of your personal time and apply all your energy and power to push it. 3. Obligate some specific state agency to oversee coop complaints by creating or delegating enough power for that. Do not forget, we have about 1 million coop shareholders and their family members just in NYC alone. Or you intend to abandon us anyway? We are losing our homes (NY Post publishes about coop units foreclosures in NYC in every issue, you can check it). Or you do not care? Do not suggest us to apply to somebody else. Just intervene.</p>

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany, NY	Kevin	With legislators holding positions outside of government, it has long been observed that their vote could and has be influenced by that very position. Would you support removing that temptation by making the position of state senator or legislator full time and exclusive?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	How can you say that a major threat to our local economy is not an OK thing to ask the Governor about? Hydrofracking is about to ruin our Finger Lakes economy, as well as threaten our individual home values, the store of most of our personal wealth. How can you say that we can only be heard through the rigged DEC process? YOU have claimed (wrongly) that this will not destroy our economy! BTW, I have a masters degree, and used to TA the Cornell University course in Regional Economic Impact Analysis. The DEC consultants who assessed economic impact did a snow job. Are you beholden to the oil and gas industry somehow?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ithaca/ Finger Lakes	Esther	Do you think the definition of "flood plain" currently in the SGEIS needs to be revised in the aftermath of the past 3 weeks?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	onondaga	Judy	please change the license plates, they are ugly ugly let the people choose a design three different ones.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	albany	Gail	I am concerned
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Are you going to release the salaries of all the appointed state positions?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Delaware County	Tom	Mr. Cuomo, are you aware that the Marcellus Shale has the highest concentrations of radioactive materials of the earth's crust in our region. How do you propose to deal with the immense amount of radioactive flow-back and cutting that will result in the process of gas fracking in New York State - a state that has not a single facility to deal with radioactive waste?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Town of Islip, Suffolk County	Rich	Governor Cuomo, As an Executive Board member of both the Suffolk County Highway Superintendents Association and the New York State Association of Town Highway Superintendents, I would like to thank you for your rapid hands on attention to the recent storm that devastated areas of New York. Thank you!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	huntington bay	Amy	When will the Governor establish qualified leadership at LIPA? The current acting COO Mike Hervey continues to be arrogant and deaf to rate payers comments and concerns.

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Hudson Valley	Steve	Why are you so obsessed with closing down a safe, clean, reliable, and cheap form of energy for millions of New Yorkers, as well as such a large economic contributor, especially during these hard times? None of the junk science presented by Riverkeeper has stood up to qualified scientific scrutiny, and the earthquake hysteria has already been debunked (and you know it).
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Greene co	Sheila	I'm finding the site slow and am interested in any responses you may have pertaining to this flooded region...
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Tim	Speaking of safety first, fracking is quite unsafe. Can we count on you to ban the practice here?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Queens	Danny	What do you say to my father, a 65 year old recovering leukemia patient, now that you have vetoed the OTB Health Benefit Bill for Retirees??? He put in 30 years of service to the city and contributed funds from his paycheck all that time with a promise he'd have health care when he retired!! Great job Mr. Governor...people will suffer greatly from this misjustice.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	You gonna Come to the prison look us in the face??????
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Town of Islip	Rich	Governor Cuomo, As an Executive Board member of both the Suffolk County Highway Superintendents Association and the New York State Association of Town Highway Superintendents, I would like to thank you for your rapid hands on attention to the recent storm that devastated areas of New York. Thank you!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	How can you in good conscience destroy our tourism industry with hydrofracking? We have built lives and businesses here-- why are the oil and gas speculators so much more important than the people who live here? Is it because you expect them to fund your presidential run?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Greene County	Donna	Will you help me?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rochester New York	Gail	Will there be any relief for middle class tax payers? Being on a fixed income and everything has gone up, groceries, utilities, etc. it is getting harder and harder to live in New York State. I am very pleased with the job you're doing, especially the tax cap.

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	East Greenbush, NY	Holly	It would be great if NYS could change the Sealed Records Laws. I'm a 43 year old adoptee who would like my Original Birth Certificate. This Antiquated Law needs to be changed. I'd like my medical history, and to know my nationality. According to they small amount of information off of the NYS Adoption registry I have a sister I'd like to meet in my lifetime. My bmom gave birth (provided life), but everyone is suffering because they were made to feel "Shamed". Seems a few people in the Government are nixing this bill every time it can get somewhere (Weinstein) Seems more of a personal issue with her and that is an innappropriate way to block legislation.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Timos	What are your thoughts on the Wall St. Occupation?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ithaca/ Finger Lakes	Esther	How do you keep yourself from being hostage to the oil/gas lobby who would gladly fund your campaigns for favors?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ithaca, NY	Susan	As a taxpayer overwhelmed with our property taxes, I was releived when you passed the tax cap. However, our town, city and county are all proposing to override this. This is so frustrating but they way they have to. So once again, our family income hasn't gone up but all of our property taxes will. What can you do about all of these towns counties and cities that are simply overriding the tax cap?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	NYC	Anonymous	Governor Cuomo, The shootings are out of control not only in NYC but across the state. Despite the hard work of law enforcement most of these shootings never get solved. Will you please actively support the microstamping legislation this year? I don't want to see one more innocent child die in the streets. Thank you.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Roslyn, LI	Richard	We never hear or read about the Adirondack Park downstate, and many NYers assume it is "forever wild". You know that is not the case, and you are in the process of appointing a new chairman of the Adirondack Park Agency. Are you going to appoint a person who knows the Adirondacks are a critical ecological resource, not a development piggy-bank to be drawn down whenever possible?

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Monroe, NY (Orange County)	Vic	I was recently contacted by E-Z Pass via mail notice to update my chase credit card information. I called them speaking with a CS Rep. and provided her with my new expiration date on my card. The next day while checking my credit card info.on-line, I discovered that I became a victim of identity theft.Somebody stole and sold my info as I saw charges on my statement from Kroeger's in Ga. I immediately notified Chase and E-Z Pass. E-Z pass promised they would look into the matter. They never got back to me. Can you intervene on my behalf? As I am a licensed NY State Private Investigator in NY State, I am leaning strongly that an employee from E-Z Pass is selling the old information to people before the old expiration date card expires. I have the names of the employees at E-Z Pass. Does the State ever audit E-Z Pass? If not, they should.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany	Sue	I totally agree....smart and wealthy people will leave in droves. How can shared services be better leveraged.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Auburn, ny	Scott	By protecting the NYC reservoirs from contamination by the fracking process, you have acknowledged the threat that fracking can impose on water quality. Why not sponsor the same kind of constraints of the fracking process for central and western ny water quality? How can we assume other than that we are second class NY state citizens?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	How is it "your forum" if we overwhelmingly want to discuss hydrofracking and you refuse to? Doesn't that make it "your forum"?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulster Park, NY	Russell	You have said that fracking would only proceed in New York if it can be done safely. Why is the DsGEIS being rushed forward when we have seen so many contamination problems from fracking?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	athens greene county	Ralph	Have you scene the documentary on fracking yet? Gasland
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schoharie County	Anonymous	Why close Summit Shock? Its extremely self efficient, helps the community, and safes the state money. What happens when receptions start to get over crowded due to the DRLR that Gov. Patterson instilled? The closing of Summit Shock has already affected the County of Schoharie County. When you first brought a team together to decided what prisons to close. You had some guidelines in what you were using to make your decisions on the closings. However one stipulation was you were going to close a facility down that wouldn't affect the area financially. Now more then ever with the raft of hurricane Irene hitting Schoharie so hard. We feel the Economic hardship even more then ever. So why did you Close Summit Shock.

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Southwestern New York	Glenn	I'm very disappointed that you will not take questions on keeping NY's water clean today. The questions on fracking are just like other questions and is a big issue in NY.

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Alex	<p>I represent Cooperative Community Organization which has over 60 cooperative buildings over the City of New York. Generally, just in the City of New York alone, there are around 370 coop units with about 1 million tenancy population which means coop shareholders and their families. Coops were established in NYC in 1970-s to give new yorkers some amount of homes their can buy at not so high price. However, these coops became truly disaster for shareholders because of greedy Sponsors and corrupted Boards of Directors. First of all, there is insufficient law base for coops to fight for shareholders rights. Specifically, coops are evaluated by Business Corporation Law of NYS even cooperative buildings are very far from corporations (however, it leads to obligating us as corporations to bring any complaints to Supreme Court of New York which is totally unaffordable for us making \$30-40 thousand annually). We have a man in Brooklyn; when he was at the hospital, Board of Directors sold his coop without notifying him; he was alone and after discharge became homeless and died soon after this. We have a single mother in the Bronx whose coop apartment Board tried to steal through the court, and it's a chance she would be homeless even this year. Sponsors and Boards are rigging elections, spent coop money in secrecy, raise maintenance and assessments without even speaking with shareholders. Since Supreme Court battles are unaffordable and endless, we are not able to go this way. We have met with different state politicians in Assembly and Senate but there are still no actions. There are a number of state legislation in favor of coops pending for long time(some even for 10 years). These bills have never even discussed at the Housing Committees of Assembly and Senate. All the conversations are going about rental, and rental, and again rental, and rental. Attorney General office says it's not their authority. There are no state agency we can come with complaints and for assistance to. Practically, around 1 million state citizens are left without any attention from the state government. It was the same situation when you were NYS Attorney General. Since you as NYS Governor have right for legislative initiative and also in charge of all state agencies, we ask you the following: 1. Promote pending legislation in favor of coop shareholders (we can provide you with list of pending bills). 2. Using your right for legislative initiative, submit a package of new legislation in favor of coop shareholders. Do not suggest us to apply to our local state legislator by saying it's not your business. When you decided to push legislation about same gender marriage, you spend tremendous amount of your personal time and apply all your energy and power to push it. 3. Obligate some specific state agency to oversee coop complaints by creating or delegating enough power for that. Do not forget, we have about 1 million coop shareholders and their family members just in NYC alone. Or you intend to abandon us anyway? We are losing our homes (NY Post publishes about coop units foreclosures in NYC in every issue, you can check it). Or you do not care? Do not suggest us to apply to somebody else. Just intervene. P.S. I do not see my question at the screen.</p>

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Auburn, ny	Scott	By protecting the NYC reservoirs from contamination by the fracking process, you have acknowledged the threat that fracking can impose on water quality. Why not sponsor the same kind of constraints of the fracking process for central and western ny water quality? How can we assume other than that we are second class NY state citizens?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany (Right up the street)	Kevin	I hope you're having a nice, healthy breakfast.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why am I getting kicked out before I finish my question?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Jose	I need a hearing to get an award because I am not working. My lawyer says the problem is that the Workers' Compensation Board is making him jump through hoops to get a hearing and they making it harder to get a hearing. Why are they making it so hard for me to get compensated for my hearings?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Pittsford / Rochester	Edmund	Governor Cuomo, I live in an identified wealthy school district. Our residents pay huge amounts of Federal and State income taxes and local property taxes. In addition they pay 8% sales taxes. We only receive 14% State Aid for our public school. Their Return on Taxes (ROT) is very low for our school system. My question is will there be any changes in the SED funding mechanism to reduce their annual burden? (other than the 2 % tax cap)
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Capital District	Cathy	I was so happy to hear that NY secured approval for the Disaster Food Stamp Program – thank you. A very small piece of the overall picture for our disaster victims, but it will be so helpful in terms of helping them restock their pantries ... while at the same time relieving some of the burden on our emergency food system and also pumping in some additional federal dollars to local economies. So here's my question – Is it true that this is all federal money – no local or state match? And families don't have to pay these benefits back ? (Sorry – this is 2 questions ... hopefully you can answer though!) Thank you again.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bronx NY	Ike	Hi Governor Cuomo, I am a bonafide Democrat and your supporter, who has recently lost my job. I am a marketer with a 4- years college degree in business marketing since 2010. I have 2 girls, 12 and 15 that I am supporting with my wife. I have a mortgage to pay, but without a job, it is going to be extremely tough on me. Is there any way out for me? I need a job. Thank you, and God richly bless you. Sincerely yours, Ike T. [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	I don't care where you are sitting. I asked you how we can see the questions that others are asking, and you didn't answer. PLEASE ANSWER.

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Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mount Pleasant	Marie	Good morning Governor. You are doing a wonderful job! It is nice to know that you are an honest man! We need more of that in government!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Capital Region	Alex	Governor Cuomo, CitizenConnects is a great technology tool for us to stay connected and engaged with your administration. What role do you think technology plays in making government more efficient and produce better outcomes?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ossining / Westchester	Sarah	As A.G. you were very helpful to and supportive of those (thousands) of us who had been subjected to illegal debt collection. I just want to thank you again!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	How can we see the questions that you choose not to answer?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Catskill	Lea	Thank you governor for providing this wonderful opportunity for New Yorkers to ask important questions. My question is: How can we help inform those rebuilding after Irene and Lee about ways to reduce their energy costs through green building practices?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	I don't care where you are sitting. I asked you how we can see the questions that others are asking, and you didn't answer. PLEASE ANSWER.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Waterford	Lori	Hi Andrew, We own rental property that was affected by the flooding. We've replaced 4 hot water heaters, needed electrical work and might have to replace 4 furnances. There is no assistance for us, other than loans.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Timos	NYS has a variety of potential renewables platforms: Solar, wind, geothermal, hydro, algal, combined heat and power. Instead of letting fracking jeopardize the agricultural value that sustains our economy and our livelihood, why not incentivize development in the name of renewables, to run alongside agricultural sustenance, providing dual revenues to our struggling farm population. Investors, developers and speculators can still play a role as most renewables projects are up-front capital intensive. Is this a good idea?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Narrowsburg/Sullivan	Christine	I am worried about the pollution and harm to natural resources that will be created by fracking in our state. If this becomes the case that fracking ends up polluting local lands and water resources what action will you take as Governor to fix this?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	N. Syracuse, NY	N.	When will Syracuse, NY see actual job creation.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	West Henrietta	Chuck	Governor Cuomo: Nursing is the only licensed profession that does not require a four-year bachelor's degree. The New York State Nurses Association has a bill in Albany that will require a four-year baccalaureate education for all future nurses. What is your position on this bill and do you believe it will benefit SUNY schools that currently offer Associate's degree nursing programs?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Elmira/Southern Tier/Chemung County	Terri	There is a lot of talk back & forth in Washington and in every state capital about cutting spending, taxes, creating jobs. Yet what is made in America dwindles, the wealthy get fatter, the poorer increase their ranks and politicians talk & fight. Republicans would rather sacrifice America's poor and unemployed as a means of defeating Obama than work with him. How are we to survive the unAmerican federal government when so many people actually believe the Republican bull?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ithaca	Bill	Why do you feel hydrofracking can be done safely?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Another exercise in political hypocrisy
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Buffalo	Chastity	your medicaid cuts have affected NYS children who are mentally ill and those who are disabled. Cutting the types of medications that will keep children stable will only serve to put them in hospital stays which are more expensive for the state. Cutting important programs that assist parents to keep their disabled kids home only fills up expensive institutions. Please consider what you cut. There is so much waste.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mount Pleasant	Marie	I would like to see farms in every community.. yes! farms! We need to be able to feed our families and not be at the mercy of others. Is the government or can the government do anything to facilitate that?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Sauquoit/Central New York	Joanne	The Byrd scholarship was awarded to one of my children last year. I believe it had never been awarded to a student at their school before. I believe it comes through some federal funding source. This year one week before the start of the semester, we were notified that is was not funded. First, a comment, notifying one week before a semester is to begin is extremely poor policy. Another comment, it is however, disheartening when your child heeds your encouragement to do well in school and receives some awards, only to have them cut because the government is not able to balance the budget and children get sacrificed. Do you envision further cuts in funding at the college level? Do you think investment in our children's education, so they can be life and job ready is important to this state's future?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island	Brain	Ever Gonna answer ????
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rocky Point, Long Island	Charlene	My tax bill last year was \$7880. Of that, 67.47% went to my school district. When will someone bring the teachers unions under control so that those of us who have lived here all our lives can continue to stay here. And why do the people of Long Island have to be held hostage on this island? How about taking away the tolls for LI'ers when they return to the island, maybe through EZpass? Cut us some slack. It costs me over \$20 in tolls just to visit my sister in Jersey. Over 6 million people move in and out of NYC every day. MTA taking in lots of \$\$\$, where is that money going? Some oversight needed there as well. Thanks.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Yonkers	Allie	New construction is what's needed to stimulate the economy. When will construction start on the Tappan Zee Bridge?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	buffalo	Chastity	your medicaid cuts have affected NYS children who are mentally ill and those who are disabled. Cutting the types of medications that will keep children stable will only serve to put them in hospital stays which are more expensive for the state. Cutting important programs that assist parents to keep their disabled kids home only fills up expensive institutions. Please consider what you cut. There is so much waste.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Halfmoon- Saratoga County	Danielle	In 2007 I wrote to Gov.Patterson about town abuse. He directed me to you at the AG's office.After waiting 4 yrs. and 32 letters and phone calls, I was directed as though I never had an open case. I did. I have been trying to meet with you and no one returns my calls or answers my letters. How do we address abuse and corruption if no one listens. I handed them the proof. False claims acts, emails and deeds and yet no one we help us. Why? I would just like to know why nobody will help the little people. Are we not news worthy? Danielle
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Utica	Ellen	Will you reach your goal of agency and authority consolidation by 20%??
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	Please address whether or not this is considered a public meeting, and the ethics of concealing the questions and comments of other citizens. At a "Town Hall" meeting, or Arab Spring, we get to see what our fellow-citizens think. Do you think that only leaders should have access to that information?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schoharie, NY	Susan	Who gave DEC so much power? Who do they really work for? What country is holding us at bay?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why have you supported fracking? I'm disappointed.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	RiGGED GAME you like this game???
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bentonville, Arkansas----	Denise	Mr. Governor First congratulations on making New York a better place in your short time in office. What has been your toughest challenge in office so far?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Westtown	Catherine	Hello Governor, Please inform me and my community how it is possible to give authority to and build a HUGE gas Compressor Station in a residential neighborhood, just 4 miles from a school district's main campus? We are concerned for the health of our families and friends and our property ratings will plummet.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany, NY	Kathleen	Governor Cuomo: First, I'd like to say that you are a welcome change in New York and I am impressed with your genuine concern about NY and its future. I have had a difficult time with a credit card company for the past couple of years trying to dispute a charge on my account. I have contacted the NYS Attorney General's Office among others and my excellent-plus credit rating has taken a nose dive that I worked so hard to achieve. I have nowhere else to turn and I have been clearly wronged. I am a single mom with a daughter in college and a teenager still at home. I do the best I can and pay my debts before I buy our food but will not pay this charge as a matter of principle, and hence, I can't even cosign for my daughter's college loans, let alone apply for credit. Where does a New Yorker turn when they have been wronged by corporate America? The transaction was made here in my home town of Albany over the internet so it is definitely a New York matter. I know I'm only small peanuts in the large scheme of things but I'm frustrated that this can happen to a honest person. Keep up the good work and I love what you are doing for New York. God bless.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Troy	Jim	What can you do to correct problems for those disabled at this place?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany	Kevin	Regarding the question of wine in grocery stores; ask any liquor store owner in California if grocery sales has hurt them. The answer will be a profound, no. Liquor stores owners fears are totally unfounded.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island, NY	Louis	Is there anything being done to help hire the thousands of teachers fresh out of college with student loans get teacher jobs. No one is hiring in NYC schools for years.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why is nys not moving forward and mandating that all typet
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why is nys not moving forward and mandating that all typet
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why is nys not moving forward and mandating that all typet
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why is nys not moving forward and mandating that all typet
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulster Park/Hudson Valley	Russell	Are you worried about how dangerous fracking methods will affect New York's agriculture, and tourism?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why is nys not moving forward and mandating that all typet
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Capital Region	Carol	I loved the "Labor for your Neighbor" initiative and think it should be expanded. I think it would be wonderful to have it around the State and hook up people with either helping with natural disasters or with a local non profit
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Long Island	Drew	Doing a great job Governor ... When can we expect pension reform and mandate relief?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New Paltz	Joe	I just want to Thank you for taking the time to personally visit many of the hard hit farms in the New Paltz, Area. What are the next steps for these farmers in terms of both FEMA and NY aid?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Western NY	Starlith	State mandated programs have placed a burden on many of the smaller communities and counties. Some mandated programs are not needed. Do you plan on relaxing the existing rules so counties can choose the programs which are needed for their communities?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany, NY	Brian	Will your administration be reviewing the effectiveness of flood control measures for the Hudson, especially the Great Sacandaga Lake i light of Hurricane Irene?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Stuyvesant	Lee	With all the concern about clean energy, why has NY capped renewables at 10%? Why are 59 former NiMo, mini hydros mothballed and in the hands of Brascan of Canada?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	Why is nys not moving forward and mandating that all types of home improvement contractors be licensed and registered? There are no skills or educational requirements that these individuals know anything whatsoever. I
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	albany	Gail	I am concerned about lack of compassion and how it affects gvt decisions, particularly the booing of a gay soldier and the applause for the execution of potentially innocents and letting an uninsured in critical illness die. can you help bring back civility
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Queens, NY	Gary	My ex wife has been on SSI disability, recovering from Breast Cancer. She has Rheumatoid Arthritis and is deaf in one ear. Plus we have 2 permanently disabled severely autistic adult children that can not communicate. She qualifies for Food Stamps but they keep denying her because she had made a complaint after being harassed by security at a local food stamp office (Only because she requested that our son attended the interview with her due to her hearing problem). What can she do?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Lake George NY	John	Good morning Governor. I am seeing good progress toward transformation in purchasing, education, public safety, etc. Are you satisfied with the level of analysis and data that is going in to it? What about your level of satisfaction with the timeframe it is taking to enact change?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Smithville Flats, NY	Mary	Can you please extend the comment period for Fracking? Or is it just a foregone conclusion that you guys are going to do this no matter what. (Notice that 17 was widened).
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Howard Beach , NY	Prisco	Dear Gov. Cuomo I am one of those New York citizens that think very highly of your job performance , you promised and are actively fixing a broken Albany, however my biggest problem and fear is the job market I have been unemployed now over a year , while aggressively pursuing every lead there is no light at the end of my tunnel. With a wife 4 kids and a mortgage I spend endless nights wondering what else can I do, i feel helpless, and the bickering in the congress in Washington don't make things any better. How can a New Yorker like myself move forward and where am I as well as many others like myself to turn in these dire moments. respectfully Prisco [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	The wine industry in the Finger Lakes is under attack-- will you even consider the jobs that will be lost if hydrofracking destroys our "brand" as Cornell economic geographer Susan Christopherson says it may well do?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mount Pleasant	Marie	So many people and business' are leaving New York. It is a great place to live but needs to be more affordable for everyone! What is being done to keep New Yorkers and their business' here?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Hudson	Don	In the midst of our 2012 budget, among the questions that we keep asking ourselves: what strategies might you employ to help consolidation along?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	NYC	Mary	I am an adult adoptee who has been waiting for almost a year for my non-ID from NYS. Do you think there is a chance that adoption records will be opened soon in NYS? Are you for or against records being opened? Why are adoptees being treated as second class citizens who don't have the same rights as non-adoptees? I found my birth mother and she was thrilled that I found her and I know so many others that feel the same way.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island	Brian	Ever going to answer a question on Prison Closing?????

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	NYC	ILM	<p>There is NO way to safely and securely supervise, monitor, enforce and/or regulate trillion dollar oil & gas industry. Do you want a catastrophe that will make ALL the Gulf Oil Spills and 3 Mile Island Nuclear Reactor Meltdown look like small events? Even President Obama failed with all the power of the federal government; how can NYC and NYS protect its water 50 to 300 feet below the surface? NYC & NYS can't even control its own corrupt police, district attorneys, commissioners and Albany politicians; do you think these government officials are going to be able to control the international oil and gas trillionaire oligarchs? Do you want an "accidental" poisoning of our water for 10,000 generations? Right now, there are over 3 billion people throughout North, Central and South America, Asia, Africa and elsewhere without clean drinking, bathing and farming water [cit: WHO, UN 2010]. FRACKING MUST BE BANNED IN NYC AND NYS, AND THROUGHOUT THE US AND EVERYWHERE ON THE PLANET. Think: oil & gas Frackers also own water 'rights' = they are poisoning our water for 10,000 generations so they can sell us their own water. That's what the current bottled water sales and marketing represent: a dangerously false conditioning of the public. Once these wealthy sociopaths poison NYS and this nation's water, they will control enormous influence over the military, the farmers, the food processors & suppliers, the pentagon, the politicians and all other industries of the most powerful nation in the history of the earth, because NO ONE CAN LIVE MORE THAN 3 DAYS WITHOUT WATER.</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo <i>*Continuation</i>	9/24/2011	NYC	ILM	Do you want your grand children and loved ones to have to ask for water from a few individuals who own the only clean water available? The only people who will make economic gains are the few already super wealthy sociopaths and some land owners. All the promised jobs and economic wealth coming to NYS is a lie: how can people work if they and their children are sick from the water?; if the land is toxic, radioactive, deadly and worthless?; the air is putrid; if NYS becomes a radioactive toxic dump for 10,000 generations? What will happen to the tens of millions of tourists, the farmers, the children, the animals, the forests, the artists, craftsman, the land values, the industries, small businesses, towns and cities that make up the tax and economic base of NYS? These people will go away or die and NO ONE will come back. Water is life. It is NOT renewable. Once you let it be destroyed, THERE IS NO WAY TO CREATE NEW WATER. NYC & NYS should buy up all of the land that would be sold by land owners and used by Frackers. This is an investment in the life blood and the economic welfare of the New Yorkers, and all those visitors now and in the near future. No one needs gas or oil or nuclear energy & waste. The only safe, lasting jobs, energy and economic growth is in the jobs and savings from renewable sources like solar, hydro and wind power. These are where the jobs and the savings are forever, not just for a few years.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	the chat page keeps refreshing every 90 seconds. That's not enough time to even type my question. Need to give people more time to get there question typed.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Oxford, NY chenango county	Vincent	This is a joke you can't type anything to him because the screen refreshes before you can complete you quetion
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	LI	Richard	Didn't anyone do a dry run on this forum? The state always has problems on IT and this one is very public.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	Will all the questions asked here be available as an archive of the "town hall" event, or will they just be kept secret?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Westtown	Nancy	Your citizens connect isn't working. It refreshes the screen and you lose the info you type. What is your opinion on the Minisink Compressor Station?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Binghamton	Matthew	we need your help with a problem that involves rebuilding a flood wall can you help us?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany	Kevin	You must be working on a long answe, since there hasn't been any typing from the kitchen in two refreshes.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Smithville Flats, NY	Mary	Why won't you extend the review period for DEC report on fracking?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Liberty, NY	Meg	Hi Governor Cuomo, There are so many extremely pressing issues that arise with the hydrofracking process including health problems arising from the carcinogens, neurotoxins and mutagens that are a part of the frack water, destruction of our infrastructure because of the extremely high volume of huge heavy trucks, deathly toxic wastewater etc. This is an unregulated industry, and even if it was regulated our DEC has been slashed to the point of being completely ineffective. What promise of protection do you offer to New Yorkers who lie in the Marcellus regions?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Elmira/Southern Tier/Chemung County	Terri	In case you don't answer my first question about the dysfunctional government let me lay this down for you. I am 49, with 2 degrees and a certificate. I have been unemployed since Jan 2009, prior to that I was underemployed. I have been turned down for every entry level and mid level job I have applied for. I have used up my unemployment and was collecting food stamps. I don't have dependents, I can't do more school, and I can't pay the bills. For the moment I am helping a friend who is in turn helping me, but that will end soon and I will back to having nothing coming in and no hope of a job. I was turned down by Subway. How does one not know how to make a sandwich?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	saratoga	Steve	Would you support legislation which would prevent a serving of life threatening foods in our schools? Approx 16% of school age students suffer from such allergies.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	East Jewett Catskills	Hank	I grew up in Western NY and knew a farmer near Fredonia. He and his father had drilled a natural gas well when he was young - I'm guessing 1940's. He lived all his life with natural gas for heating - there was no fracking involved. No damage to the water table or eco system. Maybe our natural gas reserves can be an economic boon on a small scale to citizens and local communities - and not done on such a industrial scale to threaten the environment. Many people and towns could prosper and forgo the get rich schemes of large corporations.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island	Brian	Be a man Answer a Question on Prison Closing ?????
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York City	Mary	WHY did you veto the bill for NYC Off Track Betting Corp Retirees Health Benefits????????????????????

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	saratoga	Steve	Would you support legislation which would prevent a serving of life threatening foods in our schools? Approx 16% of school age students suffer from such allergies.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Argyle	Cher	Have you ever come up the the Adk Balloon Festival? I imagine that's where our North Country/Lake George area people are this AM...lol!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany, NY	Veronica	Governor Cuomo, Thanks for the opportunity. 1. Anderson Cooper yesterday provided statistics on the number of days Congress is actually at work. It seemed astonishingly low. What are your thoughts on that? 2. You seem to be working constantly, in fact, occasionally day/night. How are you able to handle the psychological and physical demands so well? How does a President do the same? 3. As a Governor, is it the way you expected it would be or there were surprises?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Nassau County	Anita	We need the state to support re-nogiation of contracts with "special interests" (ie, teachers and other special interests) that lock in unsustainable step increases - will you be able to support such an effort? An individual school district is powerless against the special interest machine.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Liberty, NY	Meg	New York could be a bastion of renewable energy. We could lead the way building a smart grid. Here in Sullivan County, we could power 3 counties with our wind, not to mention our water. What is your agenda for bringing us into this beautiful future?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	MANHATTAN	Janet	Why have fees not been raised for Nursing Home Administators and the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcment Licenses
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Staten Island, NY	Gregory	Why did you sign legislation allowing Public Sector workers who commit crimes against taxpayers to retain their pensions? Like the sword of Damocles, the ONLY threat which seems to hang over the heads of world be taxpayer employees is the fear of losing their pensions. You just removed that threat. Why?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bennington Vt	Steven	What was the benefit of denying health insurance to OTB retirees ?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	How will you handle the secondary mortgage market problem that will commence when hydrofracking is allowed with 100' setbacks (while Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, FHA and VA all require larger setbacks)? Will you use your experience as HUD Secretary to set up a special, NY-only secondary mortgage market? Won't our homes lose value if buyers can't get loans, because banks can't sell the mortgages on the secondary mortgage market?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	newburgh	John	what are your goals about OCFS and why are you keeping the same commissioner.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Candor/ Tioga County	Sue	You have sent out numerous press releases regarding the importance of agriculture in the state, urging people to "buy local" and announcing funds for promoting locally grown products and local wines. Your website notes that agriculture & tourism bring in big bucks to NY state. Can you please explain how you think industrialized drilling is compatible with growing and marketing high quality food & wine, organic agriculture (fastest growing sector in the state) and agri-tourism?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	East Hampton Long Island	Steven	I wanted to praise your efforts to stimulate the economy through the regional economic councils. Will there be some funds to provide grants to approved projects for small business/sole proprietor ideas and projects?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Monroe, NY (Orange County)	Vic	I directed a long typed conversation about this subject about 20 minutes ago and I do not see it anywhere. Contact me [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Hancock, Delaware County, NY	Talia	Hundreds of families in upstate New York are suffering from contaminated water and air, including [REDACTED] and her [REDACTED] children who live in Springville, NY. This contamination was caused by vertical hydro-fracking for natural gas. Governor Cuomo, how do you intend to protect the health of all of our NY families, from water and air contamination, and from home/property value decline, without an outright ban on fracking?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Albany (Right up the street)	Kevin	As asked previously, How can we see the questions that you haven't got time, or choose not to answer?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	orange county	Tobias	why did you veto the firework change law/
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Manhasset, New York	Isaac	Honorable Governor, Can you please look at the bill that is in assembly and do something about it. I WAS FORCED TO RESIGN FROM MY JOB. MANY PEOPLE GET BEATEN BUT AFRAID TO SAY ANYTHING> MY LAST PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT WAS [REDACTED] WHO ARE NOW NAMED [REDACTED]. I COULD NT EVEN COLLECT UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION. THEY BELIEVE THEY ARE YOUR FRIENDS AND NOTHING WOULD HAPPEN TO THEM. IS THAT TRUE ?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Lagrange, NY	Maggie	Hello Governor. I know you saw the article on the abuse of residents in handicapped facilities. Why do these employees keep their jobs after hurting the residents? I know this first hand because my sister lives in one of these facilities and she has had numerous injuries at the hands of the workers and yet they still keep their jobs. She had her finger broken, tooth knocked out, hair brutally cut, she was overdosed (almost died) and my mother was beaten up by one of the aides. All of those responsible still work at these facilities. I think you should look into this and make sure that if they abuse a resident that they automatically lose their job. Thank you.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Westchester NY	Rose	Hello, I work for a major CPG company located in Westchester County NY. I have seen a trend of outsourcing jobs in various functions within the Corporate arena. Are there any plans to bring back jobs to the US for both corporate and government? If so, what is the plan? Thank you
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	White Lake, NY	C.	Fracking is dangerous. Why is the drinking water of NYC more important than the drinking water upstate? ACT LIKE A DEMOCRAT AND BAN FRACKING.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Chautauqua County	Karen	A bill proposing the development of regional high schools in New York State recently passed in the senate. Currently the bill does not allow a public vote to reflect local approval or disapproval of the regional high school concept. What is your input of the dismissal of a public vote regarding this topic?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schoharie, NY	Susan	Who gave DEC so much power? Who do they really work for? What country is holding us at bay?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Watervliet, NY	John	Thanks for doing this governor! Question: What do you think the State can do to improve the ability for local farmers to sell products directly to consumers while reducing the red-tape and administrative burdens on the farmer. While I understand that public safety is critical, you practically need to be an attorney to sell a gallon of milk directly to consumers.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Lagrange, NY	Maggie	Hello Governor. I know you saw the article on the abuse of residents in handicapped facilities. Why do these employees keep their jobs after hurting the residents? I know this first hand because my sister lives in one of these facilities and she has had numerous injuries at the hands of the workers and yet they still keep their jobs. She had her finger broken, tooth knocked out, hair brutally cut, she was overdosed (almost died) and my mother was beaten up by one of the aides. All of those responsible still work at these facilities. I think you should look into this and make sure that if they abuse a resident that they automatically lose their job. Thank you.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Baldwin	Diane	When are the foreclosure mill law firms going to be disbarred and charged accordingly. The California AG put a few law firms into receivership and disbarred all of them for the unethical, illegal and egregious behavior re the foreclosure fraud.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	buffalo	Chastity	your medicaid cuts have affected NYS children who are mentally ill and those who are disabled. Cutting the types of medications that will keep children stable will only serve to put them in hospital stays which are more expensive for the state. Cutting important programs that assist parents to keep their disabled kids home only fills up expensive institutions. Please consider what you cut. There is so much waste.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Bethel, ny	Anonymous	Why have you sold out people who voted for you for gas company \$\$\$? Also, do you know what a "recall" is?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Beacon ny	Jessica	What does this mean
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schoharie, NY	Susan	When will the growing mounds of stone be removed from the creeks? They are forming dams of their own...causing water to further gut the land surrounding.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Liberty, NY	Meg	I hope that you are true to your word and do make a decision on hydrofracking based on science and facts, because the hydrofracking industry is nothing but lies and propaganda!!!! This is how all of New York - and the future - will judge your time as Governor of NY.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	You often say that you respect science, and want to use science to make decisions about things like hydrofracking. But, some of the greatest resistance to hydrofracking as a technique is coming directly FROM SCIENTISTS. Do you favor the science of those paid by the oil and gas industry over the science of those not affiliated with powerful industries with a lot of money, and so, political clout? How do you square the fact that the part of NY with the most scientists per square mile, Tompkins County, is so opposed to hydrofracking?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	West Palm Beac, FL	Diane	Please help all the children that are desperate to know who they are by opening NY State adoption records. Many of us have had life-long struggles trying to find out where we come from. We have a right to know our medical history and our heritage and identities. Please take our plea into serious consideration. Thank you!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	we need to renegotiate teacher salaries. they are making our property taxes unaffordable. we cant pay gym teachers \$120k a year. what is being done about this

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Averill Park	Shannon	I was a visual arts educator in the public school system. Unfortunately, my position was cut. What will you do to bring the Arts back to New York? Without the arts, our culture will lack a creative and innovative edge.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	when are propety taxes going to drop. We cant afford them. public salaries and benefits are out of control
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	NYC	Diana	Economists by and large agree that austerity measures will make the economic downturn we are facing worse? Why are we still making cuts rather than helping those most in need?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York , Manhattan	Alexandra	Why nothing on ins exchanges on this chat. Thought that was the topic of the day?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Pavilion	Doug	are you thinking having early buy out nextyear?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Averill Park, Rensselaer County	Bruce	I have been watching the questions and answers being submitted and apologize for my lack of sensitivity to my request. If Governor Cuome wishes to contact me by e-mail for a response, it is [REDACTED]. Thank you for your time and efforts in trying to make New York a better place to live. Respectively, Bruce [REDACTED]
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Denise	Any advice for anyone wishing to get into politics? I plan on returning when I graduate college and would really like to get involved
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Tarrytown	Chris	How will you prevent New York's budget from being so reliant on Wall Street revenue to balance? The last decade saw a lot of things being paid for with taxes on wall street profits, and when those disappeared in 2008, it caused much of the damaging red ink we're now swimming in.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Lake George NY	John	Thanks for hosting this and for the great job so far.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	do tyou understand why we are paying some gym teachers over \$100k a year? to line kids up to play kickball for 9 months a year?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Rochester	Maureen	It looks like time is almost up, you haven't gotten to my question but I so appreciate the information and responses to others.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Brooklyn	Arianne	The new census numbers recently came out and put the number of uninsured in New York at 2.8 million. With so many in need, why hasn't passage of the health insurance exchange bill in NY been prioritized?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011		Anonymous	typical politician
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schoharie, NY	Susan	When will they earn their exorbitant salaries and start working for the taxpayers and stop backing the unnecessary sports in Schools? PE, arts and music were always part of the school educational curriculum. Implement them and all will benefit. Superintendents should be trying to save the taxpayers monies by coming up with solutions to all costs...looking for cuts!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Schoharie, NY	Susan	When will they earn their exorbitant salaries and start working for the taxpayers and stop backing the unnecessary sports in Schools? PE, arts and music were always part of the school educational curriculum. Implement them and all will benefit. Superintendents should be trying to save the taxpayers monies by coming up with solutions to all costs...looking for cuts!
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Ulysses/Finger Lakes	Krys	Will you or your staff be following up with answers to the questions that you did not answer in this forum? I REALLY WANT TO KNOW how we can get access to what other participants asked. This is a basic aspect of democracy. Please tell me how we can get access to the transcripts of the questions asked-- obviously, without the identifying information. Technologically simple. Refusal to do so is an ethical lapse, in my opinion.
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	rockland	Zsuzsanna	Please answer the farm question regarding milk
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	New York	Anne	My Husband and I are both disabled and are struggling to pay our insurance premiums of \$21,600 this year. Our adult children have lost their health insurance because their jobs don't offer health insurance and they can't afford an individual policy. Will you ensure that new York passes the health Insurance exchange bill this year?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Auburn	Roseann	Fracturing produced waters are being dumped in many local water systems and Lake Ontario. Why? What are you doing to stop it?
Governor Cuomo	9/24/2011	Mount Pleasant	Marie	I love the farming question that was posted but why do we need the government to regulate where we buy our food? People rely to heavily on the government!!
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	queens	Maria	Why is this State government giving Medicaid, food stamps , welfare and all other social services to illegal aliens and their families? In a climate where American families are struggling, this persistence to aid criminals and their offspring is appalling.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	Town of Newburgh	Donald	After approaching my town multiple times over 5 months regarding a basin that overflows into my yard and home, what else can I do? We are constantly plagued by this issue and everyone who has been out here says its an outrage yet, no one can help stop this. Who else can I reach out too?
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	wawarsing	Donna	Bought home owner and flood policy ten days prior to storm.. I took two years to fix home from my savings so I have no mortgage. Flood insurance says they wont pay as I have a thirty day wait period. Is there anyway. Too dispute this?
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	Mendon/Honeoye Falls	Jan	I don't understand why the towns and villages are allowed to try and raise the 2 percent tax cap. I think it should be a common person vote, not a decision by 5 board members. I thought it it was a mandated law. So, what good did this 2 percent tax do. Nobody is going to abide it.
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	staten island ny 10312	Linda	why would you not pass the bill A5785 giving back health benefit to people who worked long and hard for your city of new york.after many years of service for the city i now find myself without health benefits .i'm to young for medicare but not in great health to work at another job with benefits. WERE DO WE GO FROM HERE TO RIGHT THE WRONG and get the benefit back!
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	staten island ny 10312	Linda	why would you not pass the bill A5785 giving back health benefit to people who worked long and hard for your city of new york.after many years of service for the city i now find myself without health benefits .i'm to young for medicare but not in great health to work at another job with benefits. WERE DO WE GO FROM HERE TO RIGHT THE WRONG and get the benefits back!
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	Hudson Valley	Dennis	I have a local business. The cost of everything goes up, but nothing more than health insurance premiums for me and my workers. Is this because of federal health care? What can I do?
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	Westchester	Maura	Just yesterday the Bank of America announced that they would be charging a monthly fee of \$5 for using my debit card to access my own money. I understand that other banks are considering doing the same. On what scale is this going to affect New Yorkers? What are you planning to do about it?
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	Prattsville	Jane	My broker told me I didn't need flood insurance when I purchased my homeowner's and now my insurer is denyng my claim for the storm damage to my home. What can I do?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	Albany	Lacey	I've read on a couple of news websites that sex reassignment surgery is proposed to be included under Medicaid. Is this true? If so, is this to (as Fox News reported it) stick it to the taxpayers? Or is it decrease suicide rates, break down healthcare barriers, decrease stigma, and fight for human rights all around for transgendered individuals? Do you believe that improving citizens' quality of life, regardless of gender identity and expression can benefit the community as a whole? As for those citizens with the individual rights to religion that opposes such things as murder but says nothing about transgenderism in their Holy Scripture, do you believe that more of their money will be spent on sex reassignment surgery or has already been spent shooting human beings overseas?
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	Washington County	Frank	AFter damage, I disagree with the offer my company gave me. Do I continue repairs and argue later? Or must I settle prior to fixing my property.
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	Troy	Dolores	How will the flood disaster impact our rates? Will only people filing claims have increased rates or will all NYers share in the cost?
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	Poughkeepsie	Finn	A tree fell onto my house during Hurricane Irene and my insurance company has been telling me they won't cover the damage. Is that true? If it is, why? Thank you!
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	Huntington	Rory	During Irene, downed wires from a LIPA utility pole fell on top of my car parked in front of our home , smashing the front windshield. Our car insurance has since paid for the repairs but is there anyway LIPA can be held responsible for reimbursing us? Either for our deductible or the entire amount.
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	Westchester	Josephine	Mr. Lawsky, Are you copying the Governor's hair style? It seems you have a similar look.
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	Westchester	Elizabeth	Is there any way to make sure tha banks take good care of the unoccupied homes they now own after they've foreclosed and the owner has left - such as mowing the lawn and keeping paint fresh, so that neighborhoods don't start looking run down?
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	Westchester	Hannah	What is the state doing to improve the job market? When is the recession going to be over?
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	Westchester	Kitty	My homeowner's insurance wouldn't cover my basement flood damage. It's very expensive to repair the damage. What should I do? I don't want to pay for this kind of problem in the future.
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	Greene County	Martin	Do I need flood insurance to file a claim on my car that was damaged by water?
Ben Lawsky	10/1/2011	East Jewett	Mary	What can the State do to help the people in destroyed towns like Windham and Prattsville recover? Many don't have flood insurance.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	White Plains	Jeff	It is clear to everyone that the health insurance programs are asking for huge hikes in insurance premiums before the Affordable Care Act provisions regarding health insurance premiums go into effect. Are you going to allow this to happen?
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	White Plains	Jeff	It is clear to everyone that the health insurance programs are asking for huge hikes in insurance premiums before the Affordable Care Act provisions regarding health insurance premiums go into effect. Are you going to allow this to happen?
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	Troy	Anonymous	Will this impact homeowners / flood insurance rates for just impacted people or everyone?
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	Port Washington	Ann	After the storm, my electricity was out for almost a week. We had a very well-stocked refrigerator and freezer and had to throw out more than \$500 worth of food. Can I recover anything for that?
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	Town of Jay	Bill	A town or county owned culvert became blocked. Water backed up flooding my property. Will their insurance cover since I have no flood insurance.
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	renselear county	anonymous	how long does the company have to pay me. They looked at my house but haven't paid anything yet.
Ben Lawskey	10/1/2011	suffolk	Joseph	my neighbors tree fell and damaged my deck. he says I should fill a claim with my insurance company. I don't want my premium to raise, shouldn't his insurance pay
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	North Collins	Chad	I understand budget cut have forced hard decisions in the Conservation Department, but wouldn't you agree that protecting our natural resource from individuals with poor judgement should come first. With less protection come more violators. I love to hunt, and it frightens me to think that some idiot is out jacking deer or worse, and there's no one there to protect the animal.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York, NY	Jack	Why isn't the NYS DEC requiring drilling companies to fracture a portion of their wells using the new but proven LPG technology since it removes most of the environmental problems hydro-fracturing has with water usage and methane leakage? A side by side comparison with hydro-fracturing would also confirm or refute whether LPG fracturing stimulates better production which could logically mean more revenue for New York State.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011		Anonymous	How safe is hydrofracking, can the process be improved upon, and is there any other way, or a better way to extract natural gas from shale....Will this process change or improve in the next 10 years? Will homeowners be notified if drilling is taking place near their homes? I think NYS should proceed with drilling, however, I want a reasonable assurance it is safe.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sharon Springs	Donna	What steps will the state take to ban hydro-fracking in areas, such as Sharon Springs that are dependent on tourism and farming?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Evans Region 9	Joseph	In May Missouri restored Elk based on a feasibility study completed in 2000. Virginia will be restoring them next spring. They have been returned to Wisconsin, Tennessee, North Carolina, West Virginia and Kentucky since the New York Feasibility was completed. The public hearings were held with overwhelming support. These projects are funded by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, so money is not an issue. When can we expect to move forward with our restoration?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Delaware County	Meghann	1. What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater? 2. How does New York plan to regulate the toxic chemicals used by the gas industry to frack its gas wells? Some of the chemicals they use are known carcinogens. 3. The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. How do you plan to monitor the gas industry in New York? 4. What happens to these wells and all the excess waste water the next time it floods?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn	Joanna	Dear Commissioner Martens: Since all of New York City's drinking water comes from upstate, I wonder how you can assure us that fracking will not pollute this precious resource?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	NYC	Tom	How will NY State be able to hold HydroFracking companies' feet to the fire in the event that either catastrophic events occur on their watch, or that long term health effects are felt and measured in some future year?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Niskayuna, NY	Cheryl	What non-fracking state will you be moving to after you've made a fortune in kick-backs from Exxon for allowing them to destroy New York's precious water supply with totally unnecessary fracking which will prove extremely profitable to a few obscenely wealthy sociopaths who will never be satisfied nor have enough. How does it feel to put profit over people? How do you sleep at night?! You must be on crack to frack... especially considering climate change and consistent high water tables and flooding conditions. Tsk. Tsk. Tsk!
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Rockland County	Beverly	Why would NY State even THINK about gambling with our precious water?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hancock, Delaware County, New York	Tom	Since flowback from gas drilling, on the scale the industry is proposing, will produce billions of gallons of waste water - and a great deal or most of this waste water will be radioactive, where do you suggest we dispose of this hazardous waste since there is not one single facility in New York State that is able to deal with radioactive waste in even very small amounts.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Niskayuna, NY	Cheryl	How much is and/or will Exxon contribute to Andrew Cuomo's eventual presidential campaign run when he let's them destroy New York's precious water supply by fracking?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New Berlin, NY Chenango County	Lori	With the possibility of contamination of our water system from the drilling and the fact of needing to recycle??? or "dispose" of toxic fracking water, how can you sleep at night? I am ADAMANTLY opposed to this form of gas drilling.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Queens, NYC	Elizabeth	Why does this plan permit high-volume horizontal hydraulic fracturing so close - 1,000 feet - to the viaducts and other infrastructure that carry drinking water to nine million people in NYC and its environs?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Marbletown, Ulster County	Elizabeth	After Hurricane Irene, our community was flooded. If there had been fracking happening at that time the WHOLE area would've been flooded with noxious fracking chemicals (and we are not technically in the watershed). How can we possibly protect a region like ours which has so much water both above and below the ground AND pursue hydro-fracking at the same time? The two seem incompatible.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Manhattan, NY	Amy	WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? DO YOU WANT YOUR WATER TO LIGHT ON FIRE WHEN YOU TURN ON THE FAUCET? BAN FRACKING TOTALLY EVERYWHERE FOREVER! IT IS AN INSANE CORPORATE SCHEME THAT POISONS THE WATER AND THE AIR. WE MUST HAVE CLEAN, PURE WATER TO SURVIVE. WE DO NOT NEED GAS! BAN FRACKING NOW!
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Staten Island (Richmond County)	Anna	How ORDINARY citizen of NY will benefit from fracking when the unique ecology of the region will be devastated and drinking water for millions of people will be in jeopardy. I'd like to be presented with a THOROUGH costs/benefits analysis that will consider, among others, health impact of fracking.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Eldred/Sullivan County	Jeffrey	What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater? How does New York plan to regulate the toxic chemicals used by the gas industry to frack its gas wells? Some of the chemicals they use are known carcinogens. The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. How do you plan to monitor the gas industry in New York?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Pawling	Don	What studies has the DEC done to determine the cumulative impact on habitat fragmentation and biodiversity from all the new roads required to implement the planned fracking footprint in the Catskills ?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca, NY	Omar	1. Will you investigate the increasing, though anecdotal, correlation between fracking wells and significant and rapid deterioration of the health of those who live near fracking sites? 2. Will you allow the drilling to proceed without establishing what is in the fracking fluid? Is there a process under which the contents of the fracking fluid could be available to those who are responsible for the health and safety of the people, while being kept secret from competitors. If not, can you conscionably allow this to proceed? 3. Have you taken into account the cost of the deterioration of the water quality for the watersheds of NY in the permitting scheme, and will the gas companies be responsible for the costs of accidents and contamination of water around the drilling sites? 4. How is the produced water, with increased radioactivity, going to be dealt with? Will the infrastructure necessary to handle the waste water become the responsibilities of the tax payers and the municipalities? Or will the drilling companies also be responsible for the necessary improvements to that infrastructure?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Geneva	James	1) Because of hydro-fracking, Pennsylvania's rivers are full of carcinogens and radioactivity. How is New York going to be an different? 2) How will the state enforce regulations and guidelines when it is already short-staffed? 3) Given the wide-spread perception that the Governor has already been bought by the oil-industry, why should New Yorkers place any trust in your office's ability to be even-handed?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York, NY	William	My question is, What if you have heard enough from all around the country and the rest of the world to know that nothing could possibly justify the risks and costs to the people of New York of vertical or horizontal fracking, to water, to ground, to air, to people, no way, no how? There is no question about it, it's kinda like not letting your kid play with explosives in the basement, even though he says he will follow the rules.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Plattsburgh	Keitha	What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater? The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. How do you plan to monitor the gas industry in New York and still maintain other necessary programs and services?

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	southern tier	jonathan 250 medical professionals from around NYS submitted a letter to Andrew Cuomo this week in which they expressed grave concerns about the effect of hydrofracking on public health, and the fact that this issue is not addressed adequately in the SGEIS. Though lack of federal regulation has made it difficult to document, severe health issues have been occurring across the the US in areas where there is hydrofracking. How can the Cuomo administration move forward with this process when so many questions and concerns about the health and safety of the people of NYS remain unanswered
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Fishes Eddy	Diane How will New York monitor fracking wells and waste water during flood situations in the Catskills?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	clinton	Isabel I feel that the health risks of hydrofacking have been explored.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	norwich, chenango county	Patsy will the gas benefit local citizens, or is it committed elsewhere? (that is, after all safety requirements are met)
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ulysses/Region 7	Jane Is the State Highway Dept. using Brine on state highways as a de-icer in Tompkins County? Where does the material come from? Why are BUD permits necessary?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Flushing NY	Beth Our water is currently mostly pollution free, according to my reading on "Zero" water, it rarely surpassed 35 parts per million. When our water becomes filled with contaminants, are you going to provide filtration for the entire system, or do you plan on providing individual filters for all New Yorkers?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Manhattan (New York City)	Anthony • What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater? • How does New York plan to regulate the toxic chemicals used by the gas industry to frack its gas wells? Some of the chemicals they use are known carcinogens. • The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. How do you plan to monitor the gas industry in New York?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York City/Damascus, Pa	Laura What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Enfield NY	Henry Given the horrific history of environmental devastation caused by hydrofracking, how can it even be considered in a densely populated, beautiful, and environmentally fragile area so close to Cayuga lake? Also, since property values will certainly plummet if the profit of a few prevails over the environment and public health, both physical and economic, who will compensate property owners for the loss of their most valuable asset?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York	Syeus	how can drillers in the midwest burn off excess gas from drills when the same type of drillers want to drill in New York State
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Millerton/Dutchess County	Tom	The recent Duke University study found a high incidence of hazardous thermogenic natural gas in well water near active fracking sites. This strongly suggests such deeply subterranean gas reached private wells, and possibly the surface, thanks to this high-pressure, high-volume, industrial-scale process. But the industry, when it's not denying the results outright, says the cause is poorly constructed well liners and well heads. Poor construction may be part of the answer, but it is far from reassuring. Just how does the NYS DEC plan to make certain thermogenic natural gas does not harm human beings and wildlife near fracking sites?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	new york city	Mac	How is it possible to justify a system that leeches gas into a drinking water supply enabling the water yes, h2o, to be ignited?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York NY	Vivian	I have heard that the amount of natural gas present in NY state's shale deposit has been OVERestimated by the fracking industry by at least 80%. Is it worth the trouble to go ahead with this?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York NY	David	As you know, waste with NORMs is dumped near Elmira, and DEC classifies this as safe. Yet alpha-particle measurements are quite high and could easily migrate into aquifers. How can you defend your lax interpretation?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Livingston Manor, NY	David	Fracking normally dredges up salts and metals such as barium and strontium. Though industry believes dilution is the answer, there is known toxicity to humans if ingested in low levels. Industry cannot cost-effectively capture all the barium and strontium. What is your solution to this problem?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Rochester	Joe	Since our water recycling system is mainly geared to handling human waste and minor cantainance, how are going to handle the poisonous heavey metals and the radio active elements in this waste stream? Does the state expect the companies to built a waste treatment facility to handle them or are we going to have open pits that leach and sent poison into air polluting the ground and wateraround these pits as has happened in other states.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York, NY	David	Industry claims that the only potential route for migration is surface spills. So when frack-waste road salt, currently being spread across residential roads in the Southern Tier, dissolves and finds its way into wells or aquifers, what is your solution?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Gilboa	Katrinka	In light of the recent flooding caused by Irene, why would New York allow open pits for fracking wastewater?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Livingston Manor, NY	David	Drugs, taken optionally by the sick and with known toxicity, are subject to an extremely high scientific bar with double-blinded, placebo-controlled long-term clinical safety trials. Yet when water and air (consumption: mandatory) are suspected of fracking contamination, there is a glaring absence of scientific rigor. How can you defend the huge chasm between drug safety and enviro-public-health safety?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York City	Michael	After millions and millions of gallons of New York's fresh water has been used to frack, what will our children drink?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York NY	David	You are clearly motivated by fracking-related revenue, yet sophisticated investors are already cashing out of their investments. Doubts remain about productivity; pricing is speculative; collateral damage is a "freebie". How do you expect us to take your budget-hole-fillers seriously?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca, NY	Jennifer	What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Dutchess County	Chris	How can you possibly guarantee that our drinking water and our environmen won't be poisoned by the toxic chemicals used in the fracking process, and by the toxic wastewater resulting from the process, especially when resources are stretched so thin?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Albany	Sara	How do you expect DEC to be able to regulate these gas companies when they are already so short staffed? You say that it's possible to extract the gas safely but I just don't believe that DEC is capable of ensuring this without a lot more people.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	West Nyack	Beverly	Pittsburgh has banned fracking outright. Why would NY State even consider this dangerous practice? Is it all about money? Sell the environment to the highest bidder? "...Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, affirmed the rights of communities and nature over those of corporations when it enacted a city ordinance banning fracking techniques –which include pumping gels, foams and even radioactive sands into a regional water supply – for shale gas extraction. Almost two dozen other municipalities in the United States have passed similar ordinances."

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Manhattan	Naasha How do you justify using the builder of this pipeline? It was cited exploded in Edison, N June 2011 for 17 inadequacies in its safety operations and procedures. It received the EPA's seventh highest penalty on record fir discharging PCBs at 89 sites along a 9,000-mile pipeline. It fabricated the pipeline that exploded in Edison, NJ, in 1994. Two of its gas processing plants named #1 and #3 polluters in British Columbia. And more incidents of their poor performance and history.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	friendsville md	Kate Do not drill the Delaware River and jeopardize the water of 15 million people — Keep dirty gas drilling out!
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Boiceville, NY	Irwin Has your team seen a recent article published in Scientific American? http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=science-lags-as-health-problems With all the unexplored data that is coming out - I don't understand the rush for approval of such a controversial process especially when health related issues are a stake. Now contaminants are probably transmitted in the air as well as the water underground. Irwin
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sanford, NY Broome County in the Delaware River Basin	Diane The DEC has responsibility to use proper procedures to meet its legal and ethical obligation to review, evaluate, and incorporate the public comments from scientists, health professionals, economists, organizations, public servants, local communities, and the public into the SGEIS in order to create effective rules and regulations with the most current unbiased data and research possible. How can the DEC accomplish this if it has already written rules and regulations without bothering to assimilate this data, research, and valuable information or waiting for the comment period to be complete?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sanford, NY Broome County in the Delaware River Basin	Diane The DEC has responsibility to use proper procedures to meet its legal and ethical obligation to review, evaluate, and incorporate the public comments from scientists, health professionals, economists, organizations, public servants, local communities, and the public into the SGEIS in order to create effective rules and regulations with the most current unbiased data and research possible. How can the DEC accomplish this if it has already written rules and regulations without bothering to assimilate this data, research, and valuable information or waiting for the comment period to be complete?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sanford, NY Broome County in the Delaware River Basin	Diane The DEC makes it clear that water contamination is a serious concern in watersheds and has placed some safeguards on the NYC and Syracuse watersheds; however the Delaware River Basin was left out of these protections. What scientific analysis led to the exclusion of the DRB from similar protections since our watershed needs equal protection?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Capital District	Kristina	I do not trust the companies proposing to extract natural gas through fracking, and neither should NYS. How will they be monitored, what kinds of fines and mitigating actions will they be required to face when they pollute, and how will DEC pay for the necessary regulatory and enforcement staff that will be required?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Town of Coeymans	Katy	How would a groundwater supply be decontaminated should it become infiltrated with chemicals used in the fracking process? And who would have to pay for such cleanup?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	MANHATTAN	Kristen	Why would you ever consider implementing something could potential contaminate public water supply and reserves. It has been proven that 'fracking' is hard to control and isolate should something go wrong with extration. Why is this discussion even open for debate?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Vienna, Oneida Lake Region	Kay	Sir, Fracking was developed in Texas and Oklahoma. When I look out my window I do not see either one of those states. I see forests, creeks, wetlands and neighbors above ground, and a large aquifer underground. How can this process be declared safe in NY when our environment is completely different than Texas and Oklahoma? Right now the US State Department is using fracking as a bridge to open up the former Soviet Union Balkin States for gas extraction under the stipulation that their land mass is viable for the fracking process. Why has this step been ignored for Upstate? Why is it assumed our land is 'viable' for drilling? Thank you.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Burdett: Finger Lakes	Yvonne	Dear Commissioner, If it is important to spare New York City's and Syracuse's watersheds from contamination associated with fracking, why isn't it equally important to protect the Finger Lakes Region's watershed? I live on Seneca Lake- the largest body of fresh water in the region. It is currently a clas AA drinking water resource for over 100,000 people. Why wouldn't this vital fresh water resource be protected too?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Putnam Valley	Doug	3 questions: 1. How much are these corporate scum paying you to support fracking? 2. Why are you trying to kill us? 3. Are you out of your fucking mind?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	sullivan/delaware county	Elaine	When you hear about all the negative impacts of fracking in Pennsylvania, Colorado and other states, how can you even consider letting it happen here until it has been proven completely safe. New York, with its much larger population, will experience a much greater negative impact if/when accidents and failures occur. I see no indication that the industry is interested in policing itself, or that the government appears up to the task of policing them.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Nassau	Bonnie	DECs job is to protect our air and water. DEC has not had a very good record of performing those duties. Wood Boilers continue to pollute rural NYers air. Now DEC seems positioned to pollute rural NYers water with hydrofracking. How will DEC under your leadership change what has been an increasingly terrible record of protecting NYs environment?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Onondaga	Lisa	The draft SGEIS does not address the human health impact and consequences that may be associated with hydrofracking. This lack of consideration of hydrofrackings impact on public health, violates former Governor Patersons' Executive Order #41(2010),specifically directing the DEC to undertake further review of hydrofracking and the impacts of the horizontal drilling deep underground "to ensure that all environmental and public health impacts are mitigated or avoided." The dSGEIS needs to be supplemented, to include a comprehensive Health Impact Assessment, to adequately address and prevent any public health concerns related to hydrofracking BEFORE drilling occurs. Also the HVHF Advisory Panel needs to include at least one Independent health care professional, such as a physician who has experience concerning public health. What is Governor Cuomo's view on this issue, concerning the rush to drill, without adequate protection of the people of New York State's health? And the intention of former Governor David Paterson's Executive Order #41(2010)?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	NYC	Freya	What does NY plan to do with the millions of gallons of contaminated waste water generated by hydraulic fracturing?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York City	Patricia	How do you plan to regulate the toxic chemicals in the frackiong fluid ? How do you plan to dispose of the water that is used in the fracking process?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Rochester	Anne	What is New York planning to do with the millions of gallons of hydrofracking waste water?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca/ Finger Lakes	Esther	Other then spraying it all over the streets in "street cleaners" what do you propose to do with fracking waste water, especially in the aftermath of flooding as we sometimes see throughout NY?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cornwallville	A.L.	How do you plan to 100% guarantee that no hydrofracking accidents will destroy the NY water table which the entire state depends on and that hydrofracking wastewater will not poison my Catskills community or anyone else's community?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	nyc - manhattan	Ann	what is the rush to make a decision about fracking? there's much material to consider and the results of surveys, tests, etc. from across tghc country are not all in yet. time is needed to digest the information and make an informed decision on such an important matter. we cannot live with poisoned water.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Marathon (Cortland County)	Jim	Would you want your children (or grandchildren) living a few hundred feet from a well pad?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin/Region A	John	Given the devastating floods of September in the Marcellus Shale Region and residents focus on recovery can Representative Region A (Tioga, Broome and Chemung Counties) as defined in the revised draft SGEIS be given more time to respond? Without more time people are focused on housing the community before the winter due to the widespread flooding and cannot devote adequate resources to a comprehensive response.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Dryden/Tompkins County	Ann	I am aware in the DEC's report that the Hydrolic Fracturing process for Natural Gas extraction will not be allowed in the NY City and Syracuse watersheds. What makes these metropolitan areas of NYS protected when rural areas are not? It seems to me that if this procedure is deemed unsafe for large, concentrated populations then how can it be safe for rural, wider spread populations, most of which are agricultural areas whose growers rely on safe water, air and soil for their already struggling economy? What happens if contamination occurs that cannot be rectified for many, many years to come, if ever?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Tompkins County	Julia	If hydrofracking is considered safe enough to be allowed in the pristine area of the Finger Lakes region (and in the vicinity of the well on my property), why is it banned around the Catskill watershed and in Onondaga County?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin/Region A Tioga	John	The current SGEIS does a good job assessing individual impacts and risks but a poor job modeling the integrated affects of the individual impacts and risks. Air quality modeling was done by the DEC but from the document itself water quality is the greater risk. Shouldn't a thorough water quality model be done at minimACC mgr rating the flooding, increased run-off with deforestation, flowback, brine, seismic, NORM and other affects? Pennsylvania seems to provide a real world basis for both building and validating the model. Most risks involve the water quality and recent floods (2005, 2006 and 2011) that are not abiding by out-of-date flood plains environmental impacts on water supply need to be thoroughly modeled at the extremes before a change of such magnitude?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sagerties	Ann	What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater? How does New York plan to regulate the toxic chemicals used by the gas industry to frack its gas wells? Some of the chemicals they use are known carcinogens. The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. How do you plan to monitor the gas industry in New York?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	lindenhurst N.Y.	Stephen	Other counties has try this methed and it has TROUBLE WITH THE WATER AND GAS. So why would consider this method if it did not work in other counties.Why look for TROUBLE THAT WILL COST THE STATE MONEY ,and any other PROBLEMS.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	suffolk	Edna	How will the state protect my water form the contaminated water created by fracking?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin/Region A	John	The current SGEIS does not seem to address the interplay between existing wells at different depths then those targeted for hydraulic fracturing. What is the process for addressing these sites and how will the homeowner be kept aware? Will the DEC be staffed well enough to ensure water quality and quality of life across existing wells today and the new 1600 coming every year? I have a wells out my backyard for 20 years and have never been contacted by anyone except CYNOC. Will the DEC do better this time around? How much is your staff going up to monitor and enforce these regulations. Where are the costs for the staff increase coming from and how much are they?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Neversink	Carolyn	If fracking fluids migrate underground and contaminate my property it will become worthless. Who will buy my land? The state? The frackers?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cherry Valley, Otsego County, New York	Leonard	Can you assure the land owners living and taking their drinking water from wells drilled into the strata below their own properties that they will not be harmed by the toxic chemicals used in fracking procedures? (If not, the State has no right to endanger the public to enrich a few prospectors.)
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hector/Finger Lakes	Donald	Will I be compensated if my well is ruined? and by whom?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Astoria/NYC	Damon	Given the fact that the oil and gas industry has not proven themselves trustworthy in the matter of implementing safeguards for environmental protection (let us use the BP Gulf oil disaster as a recent example), what plans are in place to protect the drinking water of the millions of New Yorkers who will NOT benefit from the process of natural gas being extracted from our state AND why are we not instead looking at greener, cleaner, more environmentally benign options for power generation, such as wind and solar?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Bedford, NY	Marian	The pipes that are used in the drilling process can extend a thousand feet or more vertically, and then are turned horizontally within the shale for several thousand feet in addition. After four to five years, these pipes get clogged as a result of getting coated with brine. In the NYS portion of the Marcellus shale, this brine can contain very high levels of radium -226, as much as 1,000 times the safe level in drinking water. What does DEC propose to do with these pipes? Will they be withdrawn from beneath the surface as is done in Texas? How will the radioactive material be disposed of? Remember that Radium-226 has a half-life of 1,600 years, essentially forever in human terms. Also, be aware that thousands of wells could be permitted by DEC that means that thousands of feet of pipe will have to be disposed of. Please give details on how you intend to take care of this problem.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Pine Plains	Scott	Monitoring the drilling sites and the effects on ground and surface water brought on by hydrofracking will be a huge task. DEC has been gutted in the past five years due to retirements not replaced and cut positions leaving most program staff stretched beyond what they can do already. How many new staff positions will be added to oversee the drilling activities?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Melissa	I'm wondering if you have viewed any movies about hydrofracking such as "Gasland" or "Split Estate". These movies are real eye openers on the dangers of fracking. The lives of some people have been ruined by it. Our clean drinking water is precious. It is already in becoming very limited globally. To poison our water even further is insane. If they go ahead with it, I may move to another part of the country. So my question is, have you seen the movies? Are you informed?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Pine Plains	Scott	The only way to even come close to truly determining the potential impact of hydrofracking on ground and surface water would be to establish baseline water quality measurements on all area wells and water bodies prior to the start of operations and then run periodic checks on those water resources. Does DEC have the means to do so? And how could you ever stop the migration of gas to the surface once the hydrofracking had opened up the migration paths? Who would pay for the contamination damages? How would you protect a property owner that began to have gas seep into their home or their well?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Pine Plains	Scott	Considering the significant quantities of highly toxic materials used in hydrofracking and the huge quantities of onsite stored wastewater, the potential for a significant contamination event will be present at each drill site. What will be the minimum bond amount required from the drillers to insure area people and communities have sufficient means to recover when something goes wrong as it ultimately will, because no technology is foolproof and stuff happens?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	DELHI	Manuel	what is the state going to do about the millions of gals. of fracking fluids many of which are highly toxic.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011		Anonymous	What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater? How does New York plan to regulate the toxic chemicals used by the gas industry to frack its gas wells? Some of the chemicals they use are known carcinogens. The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. How do you plan to monitor the gas industry in New York?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Beaver Dams / Finger Lakes area	Chris	The likely costs to the communities where gas and oil development actions are being pursued could be enormous, horrific and devastating to our way of life. The primary benefits will be to out-of-state workers and once again to profits for large corporations. Give us some indication, by example that you actually have the courage to stand up to the onslaught of this invasion, that our government actually represents and serves the people and not the interests of powerful corporations -- please!
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn	Dave	How can anyone say fracking is safe when industry refuses to disclose the specific chemicals are used?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Westchester County	Jay	If the recognized danger to our water supply is sufficient for our Governor to try to protect the water supply of New York City and Syracuse from the widely publicized risks associated with horizontal hydraulic fracking, why isn't that danger sufficient to protect other residents of the state of New York?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Wayne County, Upstate NY	Justine I am concerned that the DEC can't manage the matters they have on their plates today (I have first hand experience with pesticide drift problems where we have called on the DEC repeatedly). We call and can't get a DEC officer to respond timely, on a couple of occasions, no response at all . Even if you indicated you were to step up the number of employees, how will the DEC assure the residents of NY that they can effectively safe guard against toxic pollutants seeping into wells and ground water (streams, ponds, lake, etc.)? I have found that the DEC is not even trained to test or regulate based on EPA standards for pesticide testing, specifically how can you effectively police and monitor the Fracking initiative? We are talking about a gas and creating avenues in which the gas can travel under ground. Please share how as an agency you will implement clear guidelines, controls, and be able to effectively correct or undo negative effects of fracking? Thank you -
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Meredith, Delaware County	Kate Where will the wastw water from fracking go and who will monitor the trucks carrying it and who will repair the road damage due to greater usage by such trucks?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Western New York	Bev Understanding that water is a life force which we cannot live without, and that there is a limited non-renewable amount of it on our planet, how can the industry guarantee protection from an "oops" moment that cannot be corrected?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn	Louiis What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater? How does New York plan to regulate the toxic chemicals used by the gas industry to frack its gas wells? Some of the chemicals they use are known carcinogens. The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. How do you plan to monitor the gas industry in New York?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Albany	Christine How is the public trust protected if hydrofracking drilling operations are allowed to occur under state-owned lands? Does this mean that industry is allowed to profit off of public land?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ulster County	George How will you protect New York State from toxic Fracking Chemicals WHEN there IS an EARTHQUAKE?

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Joe Martens	sullivan county, on the shale	Jill	The Draft guesses there are potentially tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands of private (non-filtered and unmonitored) water wells in the Marcellus, the DOH estimates 1.5 million private water wells across the State, so it seems that the DEC has grossly underestimated the number of wells, and therefore families, that are put at risk by unconventional shale gas extraction. Why are the setbacks for unfiltered private wells so much less than for larger unfiltered water sources? Why is it that rural residents somehow expendable? It seems clear that the setbacks are arbitrary, taken from other States Regs with completely different geology and are more a function of political Science than actual science. So what is the methodology used to create setbacks?
Joe Martens	Long Island	Christine	Highly toxic chemicals have been found in the air in communities surrounding hydrofracking facilities. The dSGEIS does not ban these chemicals and allows industry instead of an independent body to monitor for these chemicals. Doesn't this violate the Environmental Conservation Law's policy of "promoting patterns of development and technology which minimize adverse impact on the environment" and "assuring surroundings which are healthful..."?
Joe Martens	Virgil/Cortland County	Carol	One argument in support of fracking is that it will reduce our reliance on foreign sources of fuels. However, I have not heard of any requirements that the gas will be only for domestic markets. What will stop Chesapeake and the other companies from selling to the highest bidder?
Joe Martens	Allegany County	Jo Ellen	I read repeatedly in newspaper articles your comments that "drilling can be done safely, and that you will assure NY residents the drilling will be done "properly". Please, sir, how is it possible to SAFELY poison trillions and trillions and trillions and trillions of gallons of the only potable water on the planet with chemicals identified as carcinogens and endocrine disruptors? Chemicals that are both water soluble and that also become airborne contaminants. How is it SAFE to intentionally and PERMANENTLY remove this water from the hydrologic system? If this drilling process is safe, why was it granted exemptions from seven Federal laws intended to protect the water we drink, the air we breathe and our environment? There are no state regulations that will ever make this process SAFE.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Saugerties	Edward	<p>My wife and I own a summer cottage on Fiddle Lake which is in northeast PA. We are not far from Stillwater Lake, where a pipeline has recently been placed, which was beside Stillwater Lake and is now under Stillwater Lake. We'd appreciate knowing this. What pipeline is this, and where is it coming from, and where is it going? It is just to the north of Forest City, PA, where we do a lot of business. We are not far from Dimock, PA, where a lot of gas drilling has gone on, and more is now happening from what we understand, and where the documentary "Gasland" showed scenes, a documentary which we showed to people who attended our hydrofracking educational event at our church. How can you guarantee that what has happened in Dimock and in so many other small towns across the USA as a result of "fracking" won't happen in NY? If you do guarantee this, what are those guarantees? You are willing to protect New York City and its watersheds from toxic chemicals resulting from "fracking," and you are also willing to protect Syracuse. Why is it you aren't willing to protect the rest of New York from toxic chemicals? And you do know what those chemicals are, and you know about the salt and about radioactive consequences of "fracking." So do we. You are accountable, and we will take you to court. Be assured, we will. What's happening with the Wall St. demonstrations and across the country is comparable to what you will see if and certainly when people get sick and tired of hydrofracking and the companies making profits at our expense. One more question...can you drink gas? Would you care to drink any water after you've allowed "fracking" in your state, to your children and grandchildren?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Albany	Christine	<p>The dSGEIS relies on "industry estimates" for job creation estimates, water usage estimates, amount of land disturbance, air quality analysis (of which information was "supplied mainly by the industry..."), and the productivity of hydrofracking wells, among other things. How does the dSGEIS ensure that these industry estimates are accurate?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	sullivan county	Jill	<p>The socio-economic section of the Draft(E&E) relies on incorrect, grossly overstated and outdated estimates for the amount of recoverable gas. What steps are being taken by the DEC to remedy this? Also other portions of the "study" authored by E&E rely on only industry funded studies and not on peer reviewed and independent economic reports. To put the well being of the states economy in the hands of industry studies seems reckless to me, what about you?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Niskayuna	Paul	<p>If Fracking was a safe and environmentally sound practice, why do we hear so much discontent from the states that have endured it already?</p>

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Alpine, NY	Barb	<p>Why is it that the people drinking from the New York City and Syracuse watersheds require 4000 feet well setback while those that use drinking water from municipalities get 2000 feet, and the rest of us that drink from aquifers supplying private water wells only get 500 feet? Are NYC and Syracuse residents more sickly? Or perhaps we rural folk are more resistant to the cumulative impacts of toxic chemicals. Or perhaps, my husband, children, and I are somehow less valuable to you than profits for the mineral extraction companies and lease payments, royalties, and tax revenues the state will gain from leasing state lands? I would love to have you prove your courage by providing a public answer for this question. Please, prove my doubts are baseless! Thanks, Barb</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Long island, NY	Nyscof	<p>When will New York State stop adding unnecessary, ineffective fluoride chemicals into public water supplies. It's time to ban them from all NYS water supplies because modern science, and the CDC agrees, that ingesting fluoride does not reduce tooth decay. Fluoride hardens teeth topically but swallowing it can lead to adverse drug reactions - some of them serious. Please don't cop out by saying it's a local decision. We know fluoridation is harming people, wasting millions of dollars while endangering New Yorkers health and not reducing tooth decay as it's intended to do. Fluoridation must be stopped. Who will have the courage to do so. 4,000 professionals (including 324 dentists) urge that fluoridation be stopped citing scientific evidence that ingesting fluoride is ineffective at reducing tooth decay and has serious health risks. See statement: http://www.fluoridealert.org/professionals-statement.aspx Eleven US EPA unions representing over 7000 environmental and public health professionals are calling for a moratorium on fluoridation. The only special interest groups who will be offended is organized dentistry and the corporations that profit from tooth decay and fluoride sales - which heavily fund organized dentistry making them the powerful special interest group that legislators seem to fear more than protecting the health of their constituents.</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Albany	Christine	<p>The dSGEIS is over 1,500 pages, yet the public comment period is set at a mere 96 days. Many of the areas which have been hit hardest by Tropical Storm Irene are the same communities where fracking is proposed. The DEC encourages people NOT to print the lengthy document. How will residents who are focusing efforts on rebuilding and lost everything, including computer and internet access with which to read and analyze the lengthy document, be able to make important comments within this short time period?</p>

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Candor/ Tioga County	Sue NYS actively promotes locally grown through NY Pride and also the wine initiatives. Finger Lakes & Southern Tier farmers create a "foodshed" that provides meat, produce, dairy and wine for NYC, Syracuse and Rochester as well as local grocery stores and schools. Agri-tourism contributes big bucks to the state's economy. How will NY protect the soil, air and water resources necessary for our farms? Cornell has shown ground level ozone harms field and forage crops and wine grapes are esp. sensitive. With so much state \$\$ directed at promoting Ag, tourism and wine, it doesn't make sense to allow highly industrialized drilling into our agricultural areas.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Westchester	Patrick Please explain how you can guarantee that allowing fracking in upstate NY ,in our precious watershed areas, will have no consequences to the water that is vital to all of us downstate. Also, what is the plan for all of the toxic wastewater that is produced during fracking?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Italy, New York	Penelope Dear Commissioner: It has not escaped our notice in upstate new your that the watersheds of New York City are protected. The Canadaigua water shed, for example, is not. It's modern filtration system is only suited for waste water. Benzene is not fitered out as it is and certainly it is not capable of removing the onslaught of chemicals that will come from the waste of hydrofracking. No one has mapped the shale/rock structure of the region and there is no clear data as to how and how far it will split under such immense pressure. How can you in all conscience allow this procedure to procede when there is the possibility of ruining wells, lakes and water resources for decades, if not forever? We already have examples in North Dakota of the ruin that will ensue. Thank you for your time and attention.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Dryden	Bill •What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater? •How does New York plan to regulate the toxic chemicals used by the gas industry to frack its gas wells? Some of the chemicals they use are known carcinogens. •The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. How do you plan to monitor the gas industry in New York? Thank you!
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Putnam	Jessica How can you and your staff in good conscience support fracking in NY knowing the health risks of this process? Seriously. You know this is the wrong direction. Where is your spine? Stand up and do the right thing.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	long island	George	You are the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, responsible for the stewardship of all of NY's resources and the protection of all NY resident's enviromental health. You are also appointed by a governor and serve at his pleasure. DEC has lost hundreds of employeess over the past 8 years and can no longer fullfill its duties under all of the environmental laws of the state. Who makes this case to the governor who is now preoccupied with cutting all departments further than his predisessors have. Only former Commissioner Berle defied a governor over the Westway project and was asked to resign. When push comes to shove, where does your allegience lie, with the governor or the people of NY State?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New Berlin	Kim	I would like to know what they plan on doing with the Radioactive Fracking Waste water since not one facility in NY State can clean this water? And what they propose to do when this ends up in people's well water. I have well water. Who is going to pay for me to have my water tested before, during and after drilling to insure my health and safety? I don't believe for one minute the DEC is ready and have heard that CUOMO is pushing this issue through in spite of the DEC's attempts to do this RIGHT! I'd like comments on both issues. CUOMO's push and the Radioactivity. Thank you
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hudson Valley	Michael	How can you allow hydraulic fracturing in some parts of the state and not others? If it poses an environmental risk, it should not be allowed anywhere in NYS. All aquifers, properties, and persons should be granted the same privilege of being protected from the risks hydraulic fracturing poses to our water, land, and air.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	ulster county	Christina	How can you move forward with leases when you do not have a place for the millions of gallons of wastewater? If Fracking wells are safe near our water, why are NYC watersheds/reservoirs given more setback from drill pads than from other water sources? How does New York plan to regulate the toxic chemicals used by the gas industry to frack its gas wells? Some of the chemicals they use are known carcinogens. The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. How do you plan to effectively monitor the gas industry for the safety of all new yorkers and the environment you are serving?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Larchmont	Joe	With the science being questionable, or even leaning towards adverse effects, why is fracking being considered when it can negatively affect the health of so many New Yorkers.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sidney, NY, Delaware County	Alicia Thank you for appearing Thursday, Oct 6, 2011, in the State Capital in Albany. I was there to hear your presentation and your response to questions. Are you going to put informed details about the health problems to our children and ourselves through the fracking process to prevent the damaging health issues in Dimmock and other well sites in the world from happening in New York State? I expect to see data from professionals and researchers in the field of health and medicine. I did not see this in the current Revised Draft SGEIS nor in your responses in the meeting yesterday. I am fighting to prevent a pipeline in my home town of Sidney and fracking for gas in my land. I believe the best and wide research indicates the dangers of health to our community from gas fracking. It is my responsibility and YOURS to protect the health of our citizens and especially our children. Thank you in advance for your response and your actions oon behalf of our health..
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hurley, Ulster County	Sarah Has the impact of flooding on fracking wastewater storage been examined?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Albany	Melissa Why has the DEC failed to include an analysis of public health impacts in its dSGEIS? It's clear that one of New Yorkers' major concerns is the impact fracking will have on our health and our communities - and this is a glaring omission.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Horseheads, New York 14845	Ruth Because they do not have filtration,New York City and Syracuse watersheds are exempted from general unconventional drilling for methane. There are many cities and villages in upstate who do not have filtration systems or have old ones that are not adequate. If unconventional drilling is not safe enough for N.Y.City and Syracuse, why is it safe enough for the rest of us? Rural people on individual wells do not have filtration systems either. Why are you playing politics with this issue especially since the DEC does not have enough personnel to really monitor this problem and won't have trained personnel for several years.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Central New York	Hugh	Why is there no Human Health Risk Assessment in conjunction with the SGEIS? There is a history of pollution and other violations in Pennsylvania and elsewhere including excess salt into rivers resulting from flowback being processed by biological waste treatment plants, migrating methane caused by defective gas well casings in Dimock resulting in documented multiple water well contamination, and reports of air pollution causing various illnesses in well drilling areas. Despite this background, DEC has not taken any steps to quantify the risks that may affect residents who live in well drilling areas of the state or those who may live downstream from where flowback is processed or accidentally released into the ground or nearby streams. There is no documentation as to how close to residences this industrial activity should be allowed to occur. These risks should be assessed with assistance from the New York State Department of Health and perhaps the EPA prior to permitting drilling.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Central New York	Hugh	Why were the regulations drafted before the end of the comment period on the SGEIS, the document that should be used in the drafting of the regulations? And, will the comments received by Dec. 12 actually be listened to by DEC and will the regulations be modified based on the comments. Will the public get a second chance to comment on the regs once the SGEIS is finalized?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Owego/Tioga County	Blessed Trinity Parish Social Justice Committee	The whole of Representative Region A as defined in the SGEIS has just suffered the worst flood of our history and been declared a natural disaster area. We request an extension of the review period of the Revised Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement or SGEIS until after we've recovered from the flood. As a compassionate transparent state government serving the people how could NYS DEC not grant this extension of at least 6 months for the disaster area currently the primary focus of the SGEIS?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Unadilla	Rhonda	If New York City residents are being supplied with Upstate water from Upstate watersheds ..why is there NO "equal protection" to the residents of Upstate new yorks private wells from water CONTAMINATION ? What is the disparate treatment of NYC and SYR Watersheds based on ? If there NEEDS to be a protection from toxicity to Largely populated NYC and SYR "voters" we the upstate 'voters" DEMAND equal rights for our water supplies.

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sullivan County, N Y	Mary When a property's water source has been contaminated/ruined at the time a gas well was drilled (as in PA, WY, AR) Have the drilling companies ever bought the property from the owner? And, if so, was it at a reasonable price? And then what has happened to the property?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	niskayuna	Karen Why are we putting the cart before the horse? There are already regulations proposed even before all the scientific facts, environmental concerns and socio-economic impacts are addressed. NYC and Syracuse drinking water sources were initially protected from fracking because we recognize that this is a dangerous practice. Who is ultimately responsible for the public's safety? State regulators in other regions across the country with contaminated drinking water supplies have not been able to disprove the connection with hydrofracking in the area. The gas industry lobbied the EPA to drop hydrofracking from the Safe Drinking Water Act in 2005 (It reminds me of the Halliburton Loop in the Gulf of Mexico oil rigs) so how are our debt ridden state and over burdened local governments able to regulate and protect our water and environment alone? History has shown time and time again how the innovation curve far outpaces the trailing governance curve. Why don't we spend a whole lot more time investigating the practice of hydrofracking and learn more about the cost it will have on our precious NYS drinking water, environment and public health?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brutus	Trish What is NY going to do with all the wastewater from fracking and how will the toxic chemicals used in this process be regulated in NY?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ulster Park, Hudson Valley	John At the NYS Assembly hearing on 10/6/11, DEP Commissioner Strickland said that the DEP believes fracking as proposed in the dSGEIS threatens NYC's drinking water for a number of reasons including risk to infrastructure such as tunnels. Given the DEP's direct and significant concerns, will the DEC either abide by the DEP's suggested 7-mile buffer from all infrastructure and watersheds or put a hold on allowing fracking to move forward?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York	Stephanie Dear Commissioner Martens, Would you please answer the following questions, which are of great concern for me. 1) What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater? 2)How does New York plan to regulate the toxic chemicals used by the gas industry to frack its gas wells? Some of the chemicals they use are known carcinogens. 3)The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. How do you plan to monitor the gas industry in New York? Thank you for your time.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New Winsdor	Lauren	So, as I understand, even though thousands may express their dissent on hydrofracking in the Marcellus Shale region (and in general) during the public commentary period, the DEC will only take those criticisms into consideration and still proceed with hydraulic fracturing in New York?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Millerton, NY	Garrett	Why is New York City's water protection more important than all the other communities in New York State? If there is a protection from fracking in the NYC watershed, shouldn't there be protection from fracking throughout the state?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Mountaindale, Sullivan county, New York	Sherwood	I am a citizen stakeholder in the heart of the Marcellus Shale. I moved into the area in March of this year, so the issue of Hydraulic Fracturing is a new one too me. Which side of the issue I support is not the issue...what is the issue, is the scant amount of time I and all other citizen stake holders are being given to formulate our thoughts. I am working diligently through the 1500 page document, trying to formulate well reasons comments on it, where possible using data I can find online to support said comments. However, I also work, have a life, a family and responsibilities. Expecting me to adequately address my concerns and thoughts on this important issue in just 90 days seems an impossible task. So please explain to myself, too all those who live in the areas that are being targeted to pay the brunt of the price should Hydraulic Fracturing be allowed in our communities, how the DEC, how Governor Cuomo have decided that a 90 day comment period is adequate for common average citizens to get through through a large and voluminous document, and submit intelligent well reasons comments on same?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	binghamton	Scott	Why did you take 3 lawyers with you to this hearing and no geologist, hydrologist or other scientist with an understanding of hydrofracking and the environment?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Yorktown Heights	Jean	How does NY State intend to regulate and then assure enforcement of those regulations of the many toxic and carcinogenic chemicals the gas industry uses in the process of fracking.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Windsor/Southern Tier	Charley	Can you please explain the possible threats that are faced by the NY and Syracuse watersheds that are not faced by other watersheds and how the DEC can justify not allowing drilling in the two while allowing it in all the others?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Windsor/Southern Tier	Brad	Can you please explain how natural gas migration has been, and will continue to be, prevented in NY?
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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Windsor/Southern Tier	Brad Can you please explain how natural gas migration has been, and will continue to be, prevented in NY?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Johnson City	Bradley Marcellus development would be concentrated in NY's southern tier area. This area has seen two record setting floods in 5 years. While no flood related incidents were reported at PA well sites last month, people are concerned about drill sites being flooded. Can you please explain the steps that have been, or will be, taken by the DEC to mitigate flood related risks to gas development? Will these measures require further delay in the SGEIS release and initial permit issuance?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Windsor	Raymond The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. Wouldn't the income taxes that will be paid on landowners' lease payments and royalties more than cover the cost of adding the staff and other resources needed to oversee the development efforts?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Broome County, Chenango Forks	Victor First Commissioner Martens, I would like to commend you for qll the Hard work on the GEIS and for the great way in which you handeled yourself fielding questions in Albany on Oct. 6th, You and your Staff did a great job thank you, My question is this, I attend a lot of meetings where those against the drilling insist that broome county would be home to 25,000 new gas wells when NY opens the permitting process for drilling, They make it sound like they will be drilled in the first year, How would that be possible with only 250 well rigs in production in the United States ?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Johnson City	Brad The gas that first comes out of a well in NY current must be vented or flared due which wastes the resource and contributes to pollution. It can only be vented or flared because NYS laws prevent gathering lines from being ran to wells before production is established. In the interest of prevetning waste, minimizing air pollution, improving best practices, and allowing the gas that is first produced to be captured and sent to market, can NYS law be changed to allow gathering lines to be ran to well sites prior to production?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Taylor/Cortland County NY	Eleanor As a landowner in the Marcellus Shale area of Central New York, I feel there have been enough delays in awarding permits to begin gas drilling in the area. The precautions, after much study and testing, are sufficient to begin drilling now. To delay at a time when fuels are so expensive, and bought from our enemies, I feel is unwise. Thank you.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Windsor/Southern Tier	Bradley	In your prior experiences you had a leading role in the Adirondak Acid Rain issue, which is attributed to dirty coal and oil burning upwind of NY. Do you see your current efforts to develop NY's Natural Gas resources as furthering the efforts to undo past damages due to coal and oil as well as preventing additional damage in the future?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New Paltz, NY	Amanda	I attended yesterdays hearing held by the NYS Assembly Environmental Conservation Committe and I was relieved to hear them asking the right questions and not accepting flimsy answers; however it is clear that Cuomo is trying to fast track fracking into New York State. Considering the bare bones staff that the DEC is working with, how can the DEC expect the public to have confidence that the DEC will be able to put in place regulations that are more than just a semblance of protection, as they are right now, and ensure that they will actually be able to rigorously enforce the regulations?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Mastic Beach	Fran	Say no to fracking !!!
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	NYC	Helen	If a water supply is contaminated, does industry have plans on how to clean it up? Or is it not possible to clean it up?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	afton	Wayne	Thank you for the comprehensive job the DEC has done to develop safe drilling in NY
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Candor	Brian	The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. Wouldn't the income taxes that will be paid on landowners' lease payments and royalties more than cover the cost of adding the staff and other resources needed to oversee the development efforts?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Southern Tier	Bill	How much longer must we be delayed when this business has been an obvious Godsend to PA and we are still in the midst of the worst recession in my lifetime. Stopping a completely safe business that would have created jobs during such a time epitomizes the problem with New York State and the reason businesses are fleeing. Doesn't anyone see that? Or do they just not care?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Windsor/Southern Tier	Bradley Experts in electrical energy generation and renewable energy sources often state that one impediment to establishing meaningful wind and solar generating capacity is the inability of existing coal, oil, and nuclear power plants to vary their output in response to the variable nature of wind and solar energy sources. They will also state that NG fired power plants do not suffer from this unresponsiveness and thus are supportive of renewable/sustainable wind and solar energy generation. Do you agree with this scenario? If so, what possible efforts can the DEC Commissioner and the DEC put forth to promote NG fired power generation and parallel wind and solar power generation to fulfill the phrase that natural gas is the bridge fuel to a sustainable future? Do you see these possible steps as having any chance at becoming reality? If so, when?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Candor	Brian I want to compliment the DEC for it's efforts on the SGEIS. It Has been A Long road coming to this point almost four years. But having read the document I Can say it was worth it. New York will have the strongest regulations in the Nation and the southern tier feels much safer because of it. New York State has a chance of becoming the Empire State once again as soon as drilling is allowed. Good Job!
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	norwich	Gerry How will the production of natural gas in the Southern Tier produce permanent jobs?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca NY	Daniel I'm one of those who believe, first, that many questions about fracking remain unanswered, and second, that opposition would evaporate if objective science showed that it was safe. I would like to know why this process is so rushed. Why would we not wait another year or two or five, if that both ends opposition and improves safety? What is driving the pace of the fracking process?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Watkins Glen/Finger Lakes	Dave The Finger Lakes is just beginning to be recognized as a world class destination for wine and food tourists. Over 120 local businesses are confident that industrialization in the form of gas drilling and gas storage facilities will destroy our locally developed tourism based economy. People of Schuyler County, including ivy league educators, scientists, and business owners, are angry and feel that their interests and financial health are being ignored for the benefit of the out of state gas companies. Can you tell me one place where vacation and resort related real estate or businesses have benefited from the industrial activity related to gas drilling and storage? If the Inergy facility and hydraulic fracturing destroy the tourism economy in the Finger Lakes, who is going to be responsible for the loss of real estate value and shrinking tourism economy?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Candor	Brandie	why is the DEC letting the towns try to ban gas drilling with ridiculous regulations and zoning laws. I thought the DEC is in charge of all that.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Otis	Why does absence of "filtering" exempt Syracuse and NYC from fracking? According to the head of Ithaca's water supply system, filtering does NOTHING to remove many chemical toxins from water.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Daniel	Is the governor's willingness to sacrifice the environmental health of Upstate New York related to his political ambitions in 2016?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Daniel	If fracking is safe, why is it exempted from certain provisions of the Clean Air and Clean Water acts?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Town of Fenton	Barbara	As a senior and property owner, the extra we would receive from gas royalties would help us a great deal in paying higher health insurance premiums, ever increasing property taxes and the higher cost of living in general. How long do you think the drilling will be held up in all of this research? It is very discouraging to drive over the border to Pennsylvania and see all of the prosperity they are enjoying and then come back to Southern NY and see the need for the extra money the drilling will provide and have it stalled in red tape. Is there any hope for seniors to see some extra income from our land soon?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Daniel	The antifracking movement is truly grassroots, not funded by giant corporations, and yet despite the infinite resources of the profracking movement, we have gained great traction. It's David versus Goliath, and Goliath is hurting. Do the issue not therefore merit a few more years of scientific attention before this potentially devastating practice is unleashed on the relatively pristine environment of Upstate New York?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Daniel	The antifracking movement is truly grassroots, not funded by giant corporations, and yet despite the infinite resources of the profracking movement, we have gained great traction. It's David versus Goliath, and Goliath is hurting. Do the issue not therefore merit a few more years of scientific attention before this potentially devastating practice is unleashed on the relatively pristine environment of Upstate New York?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Daniel	Do you know of any comprehensive, objective (not industry funded) study of the health effects of fracking? If not, shouldn't you do one before beginning this practice?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hector	Anne	Where exactly will the radio active waste from hydrofracking be stored? In whose backyard?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Daniel	At the federal and state levels, the gas industry gamed the system before the public knew what fracking entailed (Cheney's Energy Task Force, the compulsory integration provisions in NY state). What are you willing to do to compensate for the fact that the industry created most of the rules before the rest of us knew what was going on?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	NYC	Albert	Even if the whole process of fracking, was completely, 100% safe, with absolutely no possibility of spills or accidents, the process still requires millions of gallons of water, per well. This water becomes contaminated by thousands of gallons of toxic chemicals and irreparably radiated, only to be entombed underground NEVER to join back into the 'water cycle' (Google it) EVER AGAIN. How can you, as a rational, conscious adult EVEN consider allowing this dangerous, hazardous practice to occur, when much of the world faces drought conditions and we are lucky enough to be in an area with clean, abundant water?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Daniel	As you must know, in most cases where a drilling company compensates a family for damage to their water, health, or damage to their farm animals, the settlement is sealed, which means that we never learn the truth about some of the worst instances of damage that fracking causes. What is NY state doing to ensure that the public is informed about these settlements?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Daniel	Fracking has been ongoing in Pennsylvania for quite a while now, and there have been a number of accidents and poisonings of water, people, and animals. Has New York State collected all of the data on health and environmental effects and made it available to the public?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	ulster county	Chris	Why have public health impacts been overlooked in the draft environmental impact statement regarding the permitting of natural gas drilling in New York? Why has the public health department had so little input? When will cumulative impact studies on human health and well being be conducted in regards to the entire gas mining industry? The destructive industrial infra structure, pad construction drilling and laying of pipelines with compressor stations is enough to reduce quality of life and pollute the environment for all people living in gas drilling regions whether or not they benefit from the activity. The hydro-fracking is merely the final death blow to the land and waters. Although the dGEIS appears to recognize this as truth why is there no recommendation to prohibit permitting of such destructive practices?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Daniel What will it take to get you to listen to the people of New York State, who have clearly indicated that we think this process is potentially dangerous and is moving far too quickly? Why are you pretending to ignore us? Are you prepared for the potentially savage response of angry people who are sick and tired of the big money buying politicians, who serve the big-money interests and blow off the interests of those who elected them? We care about our water, our air, our health, and our way of life, and we are legion.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Daniel Do either you or Governor Cuomo have the courage to come to Ithaca and take questions from a highly informed and very passionate crowd of people who oppose fracking? I think I know the answer to that one.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	steuben county/ town of caton	Edwin I have been watching gas developement across the border i Pa for almost 3 years what the anties are saying is not true , from what I see it is a complete sucess . some of the boys in caton are making money hand over fist supplying gas services. Pleese don't listen to the anties anymore they are saying the same thing for almost 3 years it's just plain misinformed noise. I believe that you know it and will do the right thing to get natural gas drilling in New York State Thank you
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Reggie How, in good conscience, can you assure the public that the hundreds of undisclosed chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing are safe when their toxicity has never been tested? And, how can you guarantee their safe disposal when there is absolutely no method available to do so?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Central New York	Jay I am in favor of responsible exploration of natural gas in the region. Based on the studies I know there is no clear evidence of problems on the numerous wells drilled so far. Why can't New York join PA in providing the energy this country needs right now?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Vestal, NY	Pani · Can you please explain how natural gas migration has been, and will continue to be, prevented in NY?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Vestal	Arun The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. Wouldn't the income taxes that will be paid on landowners' lease payments and royalties more than cover the cost of adding the staff and other resources needed to oversee the development efforts?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Vestal	Misty	<p>Marcellus development would be concentrated in NY's southern tier area. This area has seen two record setting floods in 5 years. While no flood related incidents were reported at PA well sites last month, people are concerned about drill sites being flooded. Can you please explain the steps that have been, or will be, taken by the DEC to mitigate flood related risks to gas development? Will these measures require further delay in the SGEIS release and initial permit issuance?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Oneida County NY	Steve	<p>If the state does not allow drilling is the state prepared to compensate landowners for the lost lease bonus and royalty payments that landowners would have received from thier mineral rights.Many landowners and farmers are counting on this income to help keep their farms afloat. The state fairly compensates a farmer when they give up their development rights to their land to preserve farmland.Land owners have been waitng long enough.MOVE THIS ALONG ONE WAY OR THE OTHER SO LANDOWNERS HAVE AN ANSWER AND HAVE TO KEEP GUESSING WHAT THE STATE IS DOING!</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cortland	Sue	<p>Why are there no public health impacts in the SGEIS? Groups of doctors have now asked for this. Will you please consider this before any permits are granted? Please don't let us be another state that lets its residents be guinea pigs to the gas industry.</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Aurora, NY - Cayuga County	Louise	<p>The rules for regulating high-volume hydraulic fracturing are only proposed, I see. "The proposed rulemaking will modify the Department's existing regulations and promulgate new regulations related to the use of high-volume hydraulic fracturing (HVHF) to facilitate production of natural gas from wells permitted by the Department." How and when and by whom will these rules be enacted into law, and will they be subject to modification by anyone? Will drilling permits be issued BEFORE these regulations are put into place?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Holbrook NY	Thomas	<p>I was wondering why people who are against fracturing are so against this technique. Has there ever been a documented case of all the wells drilled in New York using this technique causing ground water contamination? Once the tripple cement casing is placed through the water table this process takes place about a mile straight down with a horizontal leg. Has water ever worked against the natural force of gravity and traveled over a mile uphill. Thank You</p>

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	ulster county n y	J because a crucial decision will be made in Jan . 2012 about allowing horizontal fracking will be aloud on private property in N Y; I would like to know if the state of ny really cares about the safety of it's constituent, then do you plan on implementing the state health e Department to make sure the water of the surrounding land owners will be tested for all lists of contaminants BEFORE the cracking starts and then after the corporations are done and have left the sight. This way the government can have a pro active part in determining if cracking is harmful to our health. Of course there will be oversight by an independent source. Is this what you have in mind to protect new yorkers?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Vestal Center/Broome County	Carol Some areas of our Southern Tier community have experienced record breaking flooding over the last five years. But so much of our regional land has not, thankfully, experienced flooding. Will you penalize our entire region in development of shale gas because some of our area experienced flooding?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Gilbertsville	Lucy we support drilling for natural gas in New York State
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Seneca Lake, NY	Joseph Dear Commissioner Martens, Inergy, LP, a Kansas City Missouri based company bought the US Salt company and 576 acres of land on the West side of Seneca Lake in 2008. The President of the company stated at a public hearing on September 27th of this year in Watkins Glen that they bought US Salt, "for the purpose of storing gas". The initial permit application calls for 2.1 million barrels of liquid petroleum gas to be stored in salt caverns. Does DEC, when they investigate a company's application, consider future expansion? On their website and in an S-1 filing to the Securities and Exchange Commission, they explicitly state that they plan on storing up to 5 million barrels of LPG and they plan to expand natural gas storage from the current 1.6 billion cubic feet, to 10 billion cubic feet. Thank you and I'll be listening for your answer.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Virgil	Sue The SGIES lists 322 chemicals that the gas industry uses. Many are hazardous and some of it is radioactive. Public water treatment plants can not handle this waste. Cortland City has refused to take this waste. There are a few private injection wells only approved for their own waste. Where is all this hazardous waste water going? Please do not grant permits until there is an acceptable plan for the waste water.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011		Anonymous when a person wants to move from a nearby fracking sight that the neighbor has; and finds a seller then the bank brings out an Assessor and the assessor says the bank won't issue a mortgage because the buyers property is "liable" will the state buy the homeowner's (seller's) property?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cayuga County	Ed	Why would hydrofracking be banned from the New York City and Syracuse watersheds, but not elsewhere?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cortland County	Tamara	If fracking is so safe, how do you explain all the water buffaloes next to houses in PA? and how do you explain all the non disclosure statements that all of those people have had to sign to be able to have water at all? Have you actually talked to the people there that this is affecting? Or have you only talked to the officials who are paid by the gas companies?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Burdett: Seneca Lake	Yvonne	<p>Dear Commissioner Martens, I live on Seneca Lake, where Inergy LP is planning to store Liquefied Petroleum gas in unprecedented amounts in the salt caverns along our lake. The project includes a 14 acre open air brine pond, an active burning flare stack, a train and truck depot, and increased truck traffic along our 2-lane roads: all from an out of state corporation planning to turn the Finger Lakes into the "gas storage and transportation hub of the North Eastern United States". Concerned property and business owners along with scientists, economists, engineers, and public officials are opposed to this facility that could compromise a class AA drinking water resource for 100,000 people and negatively impact the driving economic engine in the region- tourism and wineries. Would you consider recommending that a Quantitative Risk Analysis by an independent party be completed before this permit is approved by the DEC?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Rotterdam	Susan	Do you think that those encouraging hydro-fracking are being short-sighted? The jobs created, the fuel that is found, are limited. How would they balance the costs of the huge amount of energy used in the process, the (I think...criminal...) pollution of the earth and potentially of water. And what of the illness caused, for people who, like those with homes near coal processing, have exposure to terrible things in their water. Thank you, Susan
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Seneca Lake-Finger Lakes	Joseph	Dear Commissioner Martens. The dSEIS for the Inergy,LP Liquefied Petroleum Gas storage facility at the US Salt facility in Watkins Glen, NY contains no provision for a Risk Analysis. Under Section 617.9(b) 5 item (iii) of SEQ, a "liquid propane facility" is explicitly mentioned. My interpretation (and I am no lawyer) is that this is calling for a QRA (Quantitative Risk Analysis) including dense gas dispersion modeling in the case of accidental release scenarios.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin, New York	James We put a man on the moon over 40 years ago. Why can't we have enough confidence in the system to bring natural gas drilling to New York State and protect our citizens. We NEED natural gas drilling.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Watkins Glen, NY	Chris Commisioner Martin, Our quality of life is in jeopardy. This economy of this region is based on tourism, wineries and agriculture in general. We cannot afford the threat of industrializaion. Please consider recommending that a Quantitative Risk Analysis by an independent party be completed before this permit is approved by the DEC. Time is not on our side. As Commisioner of the Department of Conservation I would hope that you would have it in your heart to do the right thing for the sake of this beautiful area of the country. thank you, [REDACTED]
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Johnson City., Southern tier	Ron Has Frack Fluid ever contaminated either a "fresh water aquifer", or any drinking water supply in the 60 plus years of "Fracking".
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Owego	Ralph Commissioner, I appreciate and thank you for your willingness to focus on the facts surrounding natural gas exploration and your attempt to keep emotions out of the equation. As a long time resident of Tioga County and community banker I have researched natural gas exploration for over 4 years. I attended the Texas Bankers Association Meetine two years ago to obtain a better understanding of the benefits, as well as, the pitfalls of natural gas exploration. The message was it natural gas via hydro-fracking has been done and can be done with nominal environmental impact and can greatly benefit the overal well being of landowners and residents of natural gas field. The caution for landowners and government is the gas companies have years of experience and a great deal of money to promote their interests. In light of this local governments, landowners and citizens all need to have done their homework and engage knowledgeable people to support their interests. Nothing is without risk, life is a risk and we need to continually explore options to mitigate the risk. I am afraid the debate has reduced itself to innuendos, half truths and lies. As a citizen of NYS with a commitment to family and community I ask you to defend and fight for our state to become more energy independant. Will you?

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT	
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New Paltz, ny	Kamilla	<p>Why hasn't High Volume Horizontal Hydraulic Fracturing - or Fracking -been banned yet, when you know full well that the process has never been proven safe? Why isn't it required for the industry to prove itself before it destroys the environment, people's health, before it poisons our water, air and soil, without taking responsibility, as it happened in many other states? Are your constituents' lives mean so little that they can be sacrificed for short term profit and a boom and bust economy that will leave communities devastated in a couple of years? Have you visited any fracking sites, do you know what the process does to people, communities, roads, property values, farmlands, vineries, the tourist industry (our state's revenues heavily rely on the last three, mind you)? What will you do, when the drinking water supply of millions of people will be ruined?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	catskills region	Sandra	<p>How much additional staff do you think you would need if you allowed drillers to begin exploring shale in the region? With drilling being inherently risky, how could you possibly consider regulating this industry with the current loopholes in the federal laws still in place?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Windsor-Broome County	Lesa	<p>With the revised Draft of the SGEIS allowing comments thru Dec. 12, 2011 do you feel it will take another year to read thru the comments made before the final draft is in put into place? Being that technology is continually changing is it not to be expected that even with this SGEIS being put in place we can continue to make additions to it based on new developing technology? I support the safe and responsible development of our natural resources - including the development of Natural Gas!</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Tioga Center, Tioga County, NY	David	<p>Would gas drilling using LP Gas/natural gas as the fracking medium (instead of hydrofracking fluids) be allowed under the current GEIS guidelines?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New York City	Cynthia	<p>Dear Commissioner Marten, I am deeply concerned about the enviromental and health consequences of fracking. What can you say to convince me that pumping carcinogenic chemicals into the earth and creating millions of gallons of polluted wastewater - and potentially polluting our drinking water for decades to come - is in the best interest of New York? From my vantage point it seems like "dirty" politics in all senses of the word. Thank you, Cynthia</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Owego	Wes	Executive Order 24 established the goal of an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Since there is strong and growing scientific evidence that total life cycle greenhouse gas emissions of natural gas produced by hydrofracking are roughly as bad as from the use of coal, why are we contemplating allowing hydrofracking in NY instead of investing our limited resources in energy efficiency and renewable energy?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	otsego	Roy	USGS released their calculation of the amount of gas in the marcellus region as DEC was completing their economic study of potential gas drilling in NY. They are the acknowledged geological experts and authority and they estimated there is only about 1/5 of the gas that industry had been projecting. Doesn't this lessen the supposed economic benefits by 80% too while still bearing all the environmental risks ? How is DEC utilizing these more authoratative calclations of gas reserves by USGS to correct their just completed economic study?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Candor	Don	I want to thank you and the Governor for all the hard work you have done to make the regulations for natural gas drilling in New York extremely safe. The southern tier of New York desperatly need the jobs that will be created and New York State desperatly needs the revenue. My question for you is when will the green light be given to finally start drilling ??

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Olivebridge, NY/Ulster County.	George	<p>I am a life long resident in New York State. Like the growing majority of New Yorkers, I am angered that the go ahead for the gas industry to proceed with hydro-fracking in this state seems to be a done deal. Here are my questions: 1. I've heard you state that hydro-fracking can be done safely. Considering the overwhelming scientific evidence to the contrary from so many other states and countries, what specific, truly independent research do you have to back up this statement? 2. Can you guarantee all land owners, including myself, that our water will continue to be safe to drink and that our land will not be contaminated with the radiation released during this drilling process? 3. Have you or any members of the DEC received any benefits from the gas industry, financial or otherwise, either directly or indirectly, in specific goods, services, or any other benefits, or the promise of such things to come in the future, in exchange for your support of hydro-fracking in New York State? Have you been influenced in any way by the gas industry to lend what seems to be your support for this process? 4. Can you give the citizens of this state a full list of all the chemicals used in this process, along with a specific, detailed plan for your disposal of waste water? Precisely where and how will this waste water be disposed of? The majority of New Yorkers are fed up with the lies of the gas industry. It is outrageous that we have to ask people in your position and the Governor to protect our drinking water. You should be doing this as a matter of course. The only truly safe approach to hyrdo-fracking is for a state wide ban of the process, waste water dumping and and and all such activities.</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	middlefield	ELizabeth	<p>why is there no health impact study in the new SGEIS or regulations pertaining to the protection of human and animal health from the effects of gas drilling? gas flaring, compression station emissions , 24 hr trucks , lights and engines have known health impactsand it is unconscionable that you not include a comprehensive health impact study and strict regulations to protect both human and animal health given the impacts seen around gas drilling across the country.</p>

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Schuyler County	Jane	<p>When a propane/gas company wants to start a new project, does the DEC look at the history of the company in its business practices? For instance, Inergy wants to store liquid propane gas (and eventually natural gas) in depleted salt caverns in Schuyler County. This company has already been cited elsewhere for both price gouging of LPG and environmental unconcern? With this history, wouldn't it be incumbent upon the DEC to require a Quantitative Risk Analysis by an independent company to be sure that the interests of the citizens of New York wouldn't be compromised? The same should be true with any of the companies associated with hydraulic fracturing. Many of the companies that do business in Pennsylvania have terrible histories of lack of concern for environmental impacts and other illegal activities (like not following laws concerning truck weights). There is no downside to requiring QRAs for potentially dangerous projects. Thank you for watching out for the best interests of the citizens of New York State, including our health and safety.</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	cooperstown	Maura	<p>why isn't frack waste being classified as hazrdous waste given that it contains both highly carcinogenic chemicals and radioactive materials? such toxic waste has been sold to highway depts and spread on roads in PA and NY which is an outrage. shouldn't DEC make sure this waste is classified as hazardous material so there is a better chance it won't harm NY's water , forests and residents??</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	kirkwood	Matt	<p>You know, I've heard or read every single pro and con concerning gas drilling. Those who have nothing to gain from gas development are those against it. Those who can gain from it's development are the ones for it. My only question is, what ever happened to land owner rights? After all it is our land, we pay our taxes, we love and maintain our land, we payed for it, we inherited it from our family, it's our land. What makes NYS the only state in the Marcellus shale to trample on our rights? We in this region need the jobs, we need the money, don't listen to NYC or other urban city's that are not impacted. We need this, it's been 3 years, get on with it.</p>

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Waterford, N.Y.	Carrie	<p>With the recent extreme wet weather events, especially the 2006 and August 2011 storms that have caused extreme damage to our southerntier NYS counties, it is obvious the 100 year flood plain is obsolete and necessitates re-evaluation consistant with current data and redelineated in order to show due diligence. The new flood lines consistant with our increasingly more severe weath rner patterns should be in place before any permits even be considered, it is irresponsible to not consider our real and costly flood documented risks especially in the face ofushed and poor planned drilling operations begin. If FEMA and other state agencies have released relief programs acknowledging these floods, why wont DEC?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Candor	Ruth	<p>Marcellus development would be concentrated in NY's southern tier area. This area has seen two record setting floods in 5 years. While no flood related incidents were reported at PA well sites last month, people are concerned about drill sites being flooded. Can you please explain the steps that have been, or will be, taken by the DEC to mitigate flood related risks to gas development? Will these measures require further delay in the SGEIS release and initial permit issuance? I also wanted to mention that the gas companies in PA have helped flood victims by making donations to the Red Cross. They also opened roads that were covered with debris and used the water trucks to pump out basements. There are numerous articles in the Notheast driller newspaper that tell of the flood and how the gas companies helped. Thank you.</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn	Susan	<p>What is New York going to do with the millions of gallons of contaminated wastewater generated by fracking? How does New York plan to keep the toxic chemicals used by the gas industry to frack its gas wells -- some of them known carcinogens -- out of people's wells? The Department of Environmental Conservation has been gutted by budget and staff cuts. Where is it going to find the resources to monitor fracking in New York?</p>

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Owego, NY	Gerri	<p>Thank you for hosting this Live Chat, Commissioner Martens! Having attended two Community Forums as part of Governor Cuomo's Regional Economic Development initiative, I noted that the public's ideas focused on conservation, renewable energy, and support for farming and tourism. There was strong public consensus that if HVHF industrialization moves forth in New York State, we can say goodbye to projects that would support and develop our ideas. Now that more is known about the total life cycle of HVHF and its damage to air, water, soil, as well as fugitive methane's promotion of severe weather events, the public is becoming more adamant that HVHF should be banned. How much more evidence does the DEC need to determine that in order to protect public health and the environment, it needs to reconsider a "no action" decision? Also, at the October 6th hearing in Albany held by the Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation, you said that you have a responsibility to extract natural gas in New York because you use it in your home. Have you considered tapping the resource of the sun for heating your air and water? The sun remains a wasted resource. Thank you.</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Binghamton	Trudy	<p>I totally support you and the SGEIS document and have no doubt that New York will have the most comprehensive and stringent guidelines for natural gas drilling in the country. Are you able to estimate when drilling permits can be issued after the comment period ends in December? Thank you.</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Finger Lakes	Mary Anne	<p>Where is the water for the drilling going to come from and how will it get to the drilling pads?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Waterford	Greg	<p>According to Commissioner Martens testimony on Thursday's public legislative hearing specific analysis scenarios were not performed due to no prediction of where Fracking may be concentrated, but the USGS has known "Sweet spots" of gas extraction, basically near Bradford and Tioga counties of Pennsylvania, why hasn't DEC done an analysis of traffic, economic, air, and resources for at least one or two towns near these counties for at least a demonstration model for all to expect. The ramifications are enormous and a couple of specific analysis need to be completed, why hasn't DEC coordinated with USGS to publish a couple of example township examples in high probability areas?</p>

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	binghamton	Anonymous Mr. Martens, i live on the ny pa border. i have neighbors in pa with gas wells on there property.i can almost see a well from my front porch. the people i know who live in pa are not complaining about a gas industry presence. thank you for representing us farmers and giving us a voice.the anti drilling crowd are just a vocal minority from what i can tell, most live in the city and have no real stake in drilling. they coach each other on negatives of gas drilling.i just want you to know you have my support for the job you are doing at dec.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Trumansburg	Sandra In your testimony during Thursday's Assembly hearing, you repeatedly stated that no advance health impact assessment was necessary before implementation of the SGEIS because the regulations themselves are sufficiently protective of human health. And yet, on the same day, Gannett news reported the existence of an internal document from the Department of Health which calls for the additional funding to address health impacts and possible "spikes of illness near drilling sites"-along with an "anticipated surge" of health-related complaints--AFTER drilling begins. If there is no possibility of human health impacts as you allege, why would the DOH request additional funding for health impacts?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Lockwood , N.Y. Town Of Barton	Norman & Bonita	<p>We have a couple of questions.Living so close to the Pa border has been a good thing for us here in NY really.We have seen many many wells drilled near the NY border as well as several counties in the middle of Pennsylvania.Most have been successful very few inncodents really and it did seem that will any mistakes the gas companies were right on top of things to fix any issues.Also knowing a little about the process the workers are most in danger at the work sites and they have fixed the roads due to high trucking travel with so much heavy equipment.I am sure though we need to be protected from any fraud or unfair practices.And as members of the land owners association I think we can be assured of this.I thought the question about flooding was a very big concern .We personally arent in a flood area but if someone is I'm sure its important to know "what if". I have heard also that the gas companies recommend you test your water prior to any drilling and have it tested by an independent company.This way you can be sure of who's responsible if the water should become contaminated. So I guess our question is why are there so many different names coming with these gas companies.Fortuna was the one we last had a contract with.Now when their contract expired why was our lease sold .We never agreed to such a thing.And they were ordered to return these contracts yet never did .Seems they sold 1/2 and who knows what happened to the rest?! Now we are and having been hearing names like Nomac and most recently tailsmen? We have received an offer of \$5.00 per acre .What can they be thinking when places in Pa received upwards of 3 to 4 thousand per acre.Then along comes another offer of \$250.00 per acre.And around the corner a neighbor received \$500.00 per acre.How do we know what is fair? And Why hasn't tailsman been held stopped of all activites until they return the leases they were ordered to a long time ago? Do laws only apply to people that aren't as wealthy?How do we find these answers .How can we personally contact tailsman to ask where our contract is that was sold to them without permission?</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Edmeston County	Joseph	<p>I support gas drilling due to fact that many people are needing new jobs as well as that it will improve surrounding local businesses like food services, etc. To me, gas drilling is somewhate alike a decision for logging harvest. thanks, Joe</p>

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Western NY	David	Carcinogens in rural drinking water aquifers, such as arround Wellsville, NY are UNACCEPTABLE. Surface waters such as the Genesee River used as a public water supply source must be protected FOREVER. One mistake is unacceptable, but people are fallible. Chemical fracturing of deep strata MUST NOT OCCUR. Pure water is irreplaceable. Will you pay effected landowners and move native animals if accidents occur, as they have in every other state where chemical hydrofracturing has occurred?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Tompkins County	Jeff	My son has asthma, and forty percent of the land in my county is leased for fracking. We will be moving to another state if fracking is permitted here. What is your response to the letter (sent to Governor Cuomo, on which you were copied), from 250 physicians and public health groups which requests an independent health impact assessment as part of the SGEIS?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Randi	NY State has failed to analyze the health impacts of hydraulic fracturing. Over 250 physicians and medical professionals signed a letter to Governor Cuomo requesting NY to study the health impacts of hydraulic fracturing before issuing drilling permits. The letter refers to a "growing body of evidence" that fracking has harmed the health of people living near wells in Texas, Louisiana, Pennsylvania and other states. Why is NY rushing to issue permits when the health effects of fracking have not been studied? The gas is not going anywhere. Why would NY rush this and put so many people at risk?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hector/Seneca Lake	Althea	Tourists are drawn to certain areas for many reasons. Not one of those reasons is truck traffic, burning gas stacks, open frack fluid pits, or gas tanks. Why would NY State choose to allow a temporary boom industry to destroy forever the developing tourism industry in the Finger Lakes?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn	Randi On 9/22/11, Paul Rush, Deputy Commissioner of Water Supply from the DEP, expressed concerns to the NYC Council regarding the draft revised SGIES. One of Mr. Rush's concerns was regarding earthquakes caused by hydraulic fracturing. Mr. Rush testified that repeated microseismic events over the course of years could have a detrimental effect on the concrete tunnel liners that supply our water. He said the tunnels were not designed to withstand the subsurface pressure from fracking, and that the Roundout West Branch Tunnel has already demonstrated a susceptibility to cracks under certain conditions. He also said the risk from elevated pressures increases as more wells are drilled and hydro-fracked. (Mr. Rush's full statement is included in the link below.) Knowing that the water supply tunnels could be damaged, why would NY State take such a dangerous risk and allow hydraulic fracturing to occur? Please see attached link for full DEP testimony: http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/testimony/hydrofracking_revised_eis_09222011.shtml
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Steuben	Neil What is the cost for a 5 year HVHF drilling permit for gas drillers? How many HVHF wells on a pad?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Montour Falls/Schuyler County	Dylan Mr. Martens, The DEC's home page clearly states the mission of the DEC..."Conserving, improving, and protecting NY's natural resources and environment." If this is your mission, how can the DEC not take a firm stand to prevent the gas companies from their plans to destroy NY for their own financial gain as they have done in PA?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Alice Given that even with 3 or 4 layers of cement casings, contaminants from Pennsylvania fracking operations have often leaked into the environment, what will be different with the NYS casing requirements that will guarantee safety?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Alice Since many of NYC's aquifers are simple holes drilled through rock -- and not actual pipes or protective tunnels, how does NYS envision protecting these aquifers from contamination leached out of fracking sites? As the Hazan & Sawyer Report so clearly states, our rock is brittle and already full of fissures. No geologist, or anyone, can predict what the frack explosion will do. Though industry claims otherwise, geologists feel toxins CAN leak between substrata layers. How will NYS protect NYC? Many of these aquifers travel outside of our watershed itself,
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Webster	Edwin Why aren't all drinking water supplies in New York State being given the same protection that New York City and Syracuse water supplies from high volume hydraulic fracturing? The filtered vs unfiltered argument is not scientifically sound. We need to protect all water supplies from the soluble toxic materials that this drilling process generates.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Himrod	Bobbi	Why do we have to open up 85% of our state to drilling for natural gas? Wouldn't 10 or 15% at most make more sense? These trucks will run roughshod over our towns, villages and beautiful countryside, to say nothing of the environmental havoc they will raise. I am not impressed by the "rules and regulations" that have been published.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	new paltz, ny region 3	Myra	

the DEP of NYC watershed, wants a 7mile buffer zone? the rdSGEIS wants 1,000ft buffer zone?...how will either be proven to be a safe distance, since the claim is that the overall technology is flawed in that it will provide contamination to air, water, soil, enough to harm health via the water that comes in touch with the ingredients that make up the technology, and such altered water will also alter soil and air transforming all three to harm each of these elements and transferred to animals, foods, humans. if you claim water touched by this mechanism will be pretreated...what is the full definition of that and the full and explained process of that. in other words, what will the contaminated water be treated with, when and where, and where will it go after pretreatment? and if it goes to already industrial waste treatment plants, where are these plants in NYS? and, will there be testing of water content before, during and after. and how will you prove to people that the water will be safe for drinking? what will be the standard grading of the quality of water to be drunk. will drinking water be the same quality as is before these new additions? what ingredients will you pretreat the water with? could you demonstrate on a scale such as a classroom of 100 listeners/students the process on a small scale; such as, having on hand a quart of fracking fluid, the correlating amount of sand and water, the process of testing the water with the fracking fluid and the pretreatment application, and the entering into the treatment plant and the testing of its quality immediately upon discharge and all the consequential drinkers of potable water that you permitted. will there be a bonafide study w/o bias by a toxologist, chemist, doctor, biologist, seismologist, other appropo studied persons to verify content, consequence of drinking and adding to soil and air, and remedial measures to return to good health. is there a tested and proven antidotal therapy/medicine to restore to good health the life forms previously mentioned? i have so many more questions on each and every aspect of this method, especailly who advises you, informs you to risk. after all, the previous dSGEIS was deemed inadequate and by comparison, the rdSGEIS also confirms through testimony that public health will be harmed as will economic prosperity, that in one sense provides health. Myra [REDACTED]

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sharon Springs	Louise	Northern Schoharie County sits upon karst, cavernous fragile underground formations, and we boast many caves, homes to our endangered keystone species, bats. We should not be fracked as cave-ins and migration of gas and other contaminants to our aquifers and groundwater will be facilitated by karst. But, from reading the research of hydrogeologists, i have come to understand that migration underground will happen everywhere eventually, karst or not. I will desert two farms when I move away from NYS; they will be useless. Why are you willing to risk your/our water and food? And risk mountains of lawsuits and protests blocking drilling sites?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Onondaga	Lisa	I heard Governor Cuomo state that IF he lifts the ban on drilling there would be regulations in place for protection of our air and water. What kind of regulations would be used, since the draft SGEIS does not include a comprehensive Health Impact Assessment, and the protections being proposed are weak and ineffective? Are we going to ban the use of open pits and carcinogenic chemicals being used? Will there be a mandate for closed-loop drilling? Will there be a ban on drilling in/or around any aquifer so that everyone's water will be protected? Will the oil and gas production companies be held to the same standards as any other industry and be subject to the Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act? Also, who will enforce these proposed regulations the Governor mentioned? I understand the DEC has 15 people to protect the entire State, for surely this will not be enough people needed to inforce any regulations...
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Onondaga	Lisa	If the DEC is expected to protect New York State if Governor Cuomo lifts the ban on hydrofracking, is the DEC up to this task? Isn't the DEC understaffed right now? And if the DEC will be funded by income tax from royalties, how will this differ from the funding you recieve from income tax royalties right now, which currently enables the DEC to have a staff of only 15 people to look after a whole state? How could the DEC possibly protect us will such a small staff, and income tax from royalties will not kick in until wells are already producing, so where is the protection?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Onondaga	Christopher	How will a 3rd casing string prevent methane migration into ground water, when it is documented and the gas industry knows that multiple casings does NOT prevent gas from leaking on the outside of the outermost casing? http://www.scribd.com/doc/65577477/SGEIS-Well-Construction

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Steuben	Neil	Commissioner Martens, will NYDEC with the rules and regulations in the 2011 Revised Draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement, will DEC have more oversight regulating Horizontal Drilling and High-Volume Hydraulic Fracturing than the 16 other States that are drilling and fracturing for the past ten years.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Windsor, New York	Louise	Is there still a chance that the drilling will happen here? We are sitting on the future for many people in this area that have lost so much in the flooding. Your committee has done a great job with the rules and all of our coalitions also have rules that should protect as much as possible. The State needs this so bad and we hope that the Governor lifts the moratorium. You will never make the antis happy -look at what they are doing on Wall Street. I lived in Rockland County my whole life and when they wanted to build the Tappan Zee Bridge people were tied to trees and everything else and look at the great boost that has been to Rockland and Orange County. Thank you so much for your time.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cortland	Mary	Why doesn't the SGEIS contain a thorough analysis of the health effects of HVSWHF you are promoting? There have been legislative hearings on this and data from other states but the DEC is not considering this important aspect of shale gas extraction and production.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	middlefield	Roy	please elaborate how unconventional shale gas high volume horizontal hydrofracking using highly carcinogenic chemicals only allowed due to a 2005 federal exemption from the safe drinking water act, with no health impact assessments, no adequate long term environmental impact studies, no adequate plan to dispose of hydrofracking flowback coupled with no adequate classification of such waste as "hazardous material" is not a gross violation of DEC Mission: "To conserve, improve and protect New York's natural resources and environment and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution, in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the people of the state and their overall economic and social well-being." thank you.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Dryden NY	Linda	Will we be looking at the health impacts of fracking in a serious, comprehensive manner, before we permit drilling in New York State? And how is that to be done?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Jennie	Do you think the DEC should review compulsory integration , because there are potential impacts on neighboring lands that have not signed leases?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	spencer	Stephanie	I believe that there is no way that you or anyone else can guarantee the families of New York that fracking chemicals will not contaminate underground water. Given that this is my belief, what do you have to say to me that counters this belief?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	ithaca	Mitchell Should we not wait until the technology for fracking is better? There's so much water use, and toxic water left behind. Even Texas is beginning to limit water access. If we wait the technology can only improve and we wont risk our water.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	cortland	Tom What does New York plan to do with millions of gallons of fracking wastewater?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	middlefield	Roy if decs wants to achieve its goals through "the empowerment of individuals to participate in environmental decisions that affect their lives" than isn't DEC's current arrangements for "compulsory integration" of unwilling participants into high risk , unconventional , high volume hydrofracking shale gas exploration well spacing in gross violation of DEC's stated mission? http://www.dec.ny.gov/24.html
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Woodstock, new york	Anonymous Obviously it is unsafe so why allow fracking at all? Don't you know that the water table goes for miles underground? Don't you know that all the cement casings in the world will not stop the mitigation of chemicals injected into the ground? Especially if earthquakes occur and people cut corners. What are you going to do if NYC or any other large cities drinking supply is tainted? This gas has been there for centuries and the process for removal is not proven safe or else there would be no exemptions for clean air or water so what is the rush? It is not safe.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Tioga County/ Southern Tier	Nick Landowners Group We commend the DEC on the elimination of open pits and the use of full containment systems. The SGEIS requires that well pads be established well out of the floodplains . A fact will dramatized by recent flooding across New York State. In recent times, DC staff has been reduced. When it would seem it should be expanded in the minerals division of our. Have you explored some fee structures to provide revenue to support additional inspectors and field. Can't the millions of dollars collected in income tax on signing bonuses and increased sales tax revenues in the past and in the future be applied to this problem.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Candor	Brian I want to say I support the safe development of natural gas drilling in New York State. And A job well done on the SGEIS. With these new regulations there should be no complaints from the various Anti-Gas groups or some New York State Government officials. but there still is. So my question to you is-- What is being done or could be done to educate these people on the true scientific facts and not the False fear tactics being put out there ??

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Mid Hudson - Minisink	Ernie Should a company or organization that has a proven history of Environmental violations be more scrutinized and monitored when applying for future projects? What does a company that does hydrofracking do to protect the groundwater/watershed from contamination, particularly in times of unusual flooding? Why are future impacts - known or unknown - considered when applications for projects are submitted? Why are organizations or companies that continually pollute or contaminate our environment allowed to operate at all.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cortland County	Chris Our 44 acres has leased land on 3 sides. Two of those sides are Kennedy State Forest, which was leased for gas drilling in 2008. We don't want drilling under or adjacent to our property. Is it a conflict of interest for the DEC to enforce compulsory integration on us when they are the very agency that put us in danger by the leasing of their forest?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Queens	Jon How close will New York City's water pipes be to hydrofracking, and how safe is that?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Virgil	Bob At the same time that the DEC was negotiating a 90 page lease for the Kennedy State Forest with Chesapeake Energy, landowners all over the region were getting paltry advices from the DEC on what should be included in a good lease. If the DEC felt that the State Forest needed the protection of a 90 page lease, why weren't they helping landowners to protect their properties in a similar manner? Is State Forest inherently more valuable than, say, farmland?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Broome County	Lori The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. Wouldn't the income taxes that will be paid on landowners' lease payments and royalties more than cover the cost of adding the staff and other resources needed to oversee the development efforts?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cortland	Christine What studies has the DEC done on the effects of the gas drilling process on farms? In other states, there have been documented instances of poisoned and quarantined livestock, contaminated farm water supplies, and damaged crops. The high levels of ozone associated with gas fields has well studied effects on some of NY's major crops, such as grapes, alfalfa, and grazing grasses. Since agriculture is the #1 business in my county, how can we be assured that this important contributor to our local economy will be protected and preserved?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Lower Hudson Valley	Nancy Where is all the waste going from the hydrofracking wells?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	The DEC found Chromium 6 in the flowback that the industry did not report. How come the DEC only tested ONE sample for hydrogen sulfide and went strictly by Chesapeake Energies claims that hydrogen sulfide levels were undetectable?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Freddy	Why are we not working on rolling back the Halliburton loophole for the entire natural gas industry? Particularly here in New York State. Also, how do you plan to minimize the the aesthetic impact of natural gas sites on the Finger Lakes region, one of the most naturally beautiful places i the world?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Goshen	Nancy	How is the current infrastructures, i.e. roads, streams, etc., going to be protected? and by whom. Please do not say the DEC because you do not have enough manpower.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	The Ecology & Environment study on speculative job creation clearly states that transients will do the work until year 11. Why were speculative numbers used instead of actuals from Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, and Louisiana that clearly show within 10 years that they gained 50 thousand jobs and lost 50 thousand jobs in Natural Resources and Mining industry all within 10 years. Why weren't actuals from Moody's analytics and the Labor board used instead of speculative numbers within a boom period?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Finger Lakes	Ed	Why is there no wellhead tax on hydrofracking operations?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Catskills	David	Shale flowback is rich in barium, which can cause seizures if ingested in sufficient quantities. Which municipal water plants can filter out barium salt?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011		Nancy	Who will be responsible for the wells once all the resources are exhausted? Will they be dismantled and the land returned to its pristine state or will they become monuments.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Western Hudson Valley	Sheila	The true number of recycled waste water was found to be only 38% because Seneca Resources had misquoted barrels instead of gallons. Recycle just means reuse but eventually it can not be recycled and needs to go somewhere. Are the billions of gallons that are left over being tracked in anyway?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	David	Strictest standards in the nation? Experts who have reviewed the SGEIS deem it cobbled together from Texan standards - and even then less rigorous. Specifically how is this the most rigorous in the nation?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sullivan	Jen	Has this administration weighed the political costs of moving ahead with fracking? What political capital does this administration hope to gain by moving ahead with frackig?

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Long Island	Steven Mr. Martens, I spent most of Thursday at the Assembly sponsored public hearings on hydraulic fracturing and was dismayed at the lack of knowledge of the science and engineering related to NG development that was displayed by the public. You staff has spent thousand of hours at meeting and professional seminars on the topic. How do you intend to educate the public on the efforts your staff put into developing the dSGEIS?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Randi NY State has failed to analyze the health impacts of hydraulic fracturing. Over 250 physicians and medical professionals signed a letter to Governor Cuomo requesting NY to study the health impacts of hydraulic fracturing before issuing drilling permits. The letter refers to a "growing body of evidence" that fracking has harmed the health of people living near wells in Texas, Louisiana, Pennsylvania and other states. Why is NY rushing to issue permits when the health effects of fracking have not been studied? The gas is not going anywhere. Why would NY rush this and put so many people at risk?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila There are 20 chemicals that you claim in the SGEIS that are unidentified. How do you plan on finding out what those are?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Manhattan	David Was this morning, the holiest day of the year for Jews (Yom Kippur fast) chosen intentionally, or was it just an oversight?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Arkville(Catskills)	Joe What are the short and long range plans for Belleayre?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Downstate	David Did Cuomo outright threaten to fire you if you didn't go along with the fracking program, or did he just insinuate it?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Candor, NY	Keith Commissioner Martens, your agency and Governor Cuomo are finally steering NY on the correct and pragmatic course as regards development of the Marcellus shale. Southern Tier landowners have had their ability to lease their legally deeded gas rights held hostage by downstate and Ithaca area politicians for far too long. please do not become unduly distracted by the radical ANTI faction that will be inevitably invading the upcoming public comment sessions. these misguided, largely urban residents consume just as much energy as the rest of us but somehow have adopted an unjustifiably superior attitude... a new 1500 page regulatory document and 3 1/2 years of exhaustive study and delay is enough. NY needs to move forward on this NOW lest it continue its failed fiscal policy and remain the least friendly state to business in the entire country.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn	Randi	<p>On 9/22/11, Paul Rush, Deputy Commissioner of Water Supply from the DEP, expressed concerns to the NYC Council regarding the draft revised SGIES. One of Mr. Rush's concerns was regarding earthquakes caused by hydraulic fracturing. Mr. Rush testified that repeated microseismic events over the course of years could have a detrimental effect on the concrete tunnel liners that supply our water. He said the tunnels were not designed to withstand the subsurface pressure from fracking, and that the Roundout West Branch Tunnel has already demonstrated a susceptibility to cracks under certain conditions. He also said the risk from elevated pressures increases as more wells are drilled and hydro-fracked. (Mr. Rush's full statement is included in the link below.) Knowing that the water supply tunnels could be damaged, why would NY State take such a dangerous risk and allow hydraulic fracturing to occur? Please see attached link for full DEP testimony: http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/testimony/hydrofracking_revised_eis_09222011.shtml</p>
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Owego	Maria	Can you please explain how natural gas migration has been, and will continue to be, prevented in NY?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	the big city	David	How important is Exxon's support for Cuomo's future presidential bid?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	We have private wells and just spent \$850 to have our well water tested and of course, had to guess for what to test. Who will protect us rural landowners and notify us what to test for? Region 9 of the DEC only has 4 personnel and even when they've documented cases of contamination, the industry has continued to say there is none and to prove it. How do the rural private well owners protect themselves?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Camillus	Renee	Yesterday you said "it makes perfect sense" to simultaneously assess and take comments on the draft environmental impact study and the rules and regulations because the two go hand in hand. I think they go hand in hand because one influences the creation of the other. Doesn't it make more sense to have a final study and findings of what environmental, socio-economic, and health impacts fracking will have before we decide to put together regulations and rules for this process?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	The Lobby	Grannis	What is the cutoff which determines where a "primary aquifer" starts and ends? How many people must it serve? Below this threshold, are private wells deemed not to meet this threshold for protection?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Smithville Flats, NY / Woodside, NY	Mary	Do we have enough employees to properly regulate Fracking?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Beaverkill Valley	John	You've changed remarkably since your days at OSI. Why is that?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	Pennsylvania has the same number of steel casings between the aquifer layer and the drilling, what difference is there between that and what New York is proposing? If nothing, what is making us any safer?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Broome	Joe	•The Department of Environmental Conservation is stretched thin due to budget and staff cuts. Wouldn't the income taxes that will be paid on landowners' lease payments and royalties more than cover the cost of adding the staff and other resources needed to oversee the development efforts?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Upstate	N.	How pervasive is support of fracking throughout the rank and file of the DEC?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cortland	Mary	Since we know that open flowback fluid storage is a source of water and air pollution why don't the regulations require closed loop storage of these materials?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hudso Valley	Ernie	Why is the DEC "fast-tracking" Millennium Pipeline's Minisink Compressor application, especially considering their record of environmental violations?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin/Representative Region A	John	Given the flooding in the Marcellus Shale Representative Region A and the communities need to recover shouldn't an extension be granted to these communities to allow them to properly focus of the dSGEIS review perio?. Right now the communities are in the middle of recovery and cannot focus properly. In the same train of thought given we've had 3 50 year, 100 year and 1000 year floods since 2005 how much trust do you put in the current floodplain definitions and have the impacts of the recent flooding on Pa Natural Gas operations been analyzed and incorporated into a holistic water quality model?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Westtown/Orange County	Maria	Is there plan to examine long term health effects of living in close proximity to gas compressor stations?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Minerva/Adirondacks	Sue With all of the hurricane-related destruction in the Adirondacks and the number of hiking trails across the park and the reductions in the DEC workforce, how will DEC handle getting the hiking trails to hikeable condition? I am the supervisor of a very small town with its own trail system and we are figuring out how to get our own trails back up to speed. The state trails in our town had some maintenance issues before the storm and we expect that they (like our trails) had some significant blow down and damage thanks to irene.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Callicoon	Terry How soon will the State allow drilling?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn	Lea I keep hearing from the DEC how safe fracking is. Why are we rushing to bring this to NY so quickly? Why are there only four public hearings set up? And Why are we not waiting until another state can show s no accidents for at least a couple of years before we move ahead with fracking?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	The Cloud	N. With you/your staff filtering questions to answer, how are we supposed to take this "public forum" seriously?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Smithville Flats, NY / Woodside, NY	Mary Is there any chance that the response period will be extended to 180 days as requested by RiverKeeper?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Paula It seems like the DEC is already in favor of the gas industry's proposals. What is the role of the DEC in representing the concerns of the environment? The question below asked if compulsory integration should be reviewed. It's a yes or no question. Not whether it's been in effect for years. Just because it's been in effect for years doesn't make it right.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila It is apparent from reviewing the SGEIS that the gas industry had a hand in writing it. Since you equate the document to being 'balanced', why weren't any environmental, medicinal, or actual economical sides presented in the document other than the DEC's (who took the companies at their word ~ Chesapeake sour gas levels, IOGAs gas production levels)?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cortland	Jim Why is there no comprehensive health impact survey included in the SGEIS?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011		Anonymous .
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Smithville Flats, NY / Woodside, NY	Mary Did the funding for widening Route 17 and transforming it to Interstate 86 really take place because Fracking is a foregone conclusion? Is anyone really going to pay any attention whatsoever to your recommendation and cautions?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Smithville Flats, NY / Woodside, NY	Mary	Did the funding for widening Route 17 and transforming it to Interstate 86 really take place because Fracking is a foregone conclusion? Is anyone really going to pay any attention whatsoever to your recommendation and cautions?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	Will all rural private well water residents need to filter their water because of high volume industrial activity causing sediment and methane migration and possibly spills?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Richford, NY Tioga County	Rodney	At this point I have no questions regarding the process for drilling or fracking for natural gas. I believe you folks have done a great job in checking all of this out for the public. I just want to thank you and let you know I support all you have done so far. I'm sure it hasn't been an easy task.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	If I do not want a royalty and I do not want the industry to drill and pump chemicals under my house, why should they be allowed because of compulsory integration when NY is the only state that has it?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Beacon	Vane	A clean source of energy is the heat of the earth. It is less than 10 miles from everywhere on earth. It is accessible through well-known technology and can be used to generate electrical power through the same tools used to generate electricity by nuclear, coal, gas or petroleum-based fuels. It burns no fuel. It puts no pollutants into the atmosphere. It's not "too deep" to use ... it's simply a matter of engineering to tap it ... the same type used by the people drilling for gas and oil. The only missing element for the drillers is the commodity ... gas or oil to sell and/or trade. The missing element for the citizens of NY is a clean, perpetual source of power that requires less offsite support than windmills or solar farms ... and is more familiar and accessible to maintenance people than either of those. All we need in NY is a commitment for a demonstration plant ... one that could power Dutchess County, for instance, to be created on otherwise condemned ground near Poughkeepsie, Hopewell or Beacon, for instance. A plant of that order could be located on 10 acres and provide 10-17 MW of power consistently and ... forever. Would you support such a demonstration plant and help to get federal and state funding to move forward?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn	Kurt	Fracking has not been proven to be safe. If anything, there is evidence of how unsafe fracking can be. Why is NY going ahead with it even though no long term public health or environmental studies have been done?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin/Representative Region A	John Where I am I have well water and the past mining operations have filter my house filters with sediment. Aren't rural communities dependent on well water , and not city water, unfiltered water supplies like Syracuse and New York City?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Chestertown/Adirondacks	Jill I have visited the camp grounds on the Islands in Lake George, and have seen the ones along Route 28 near Blue Mountain. Are there plans in the future for DEC to enhance these sites, ie erosion control, replanting, restoring stone fireplaces, docks and picnic tables? They seem to be in need of attention. Thank you.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	The Hospital	M.D. How are we supposed to believe that health concerns are addressed, when no legitimate, controlled scientific study of long-term health effects has been conducted?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	bingahmton	Elaine Why isn't the DEC requiring the same level of gas drilling wastewater protection as Pennsylvania where discharges of produced water into municipal treatment plant are totally prohibited? Why are you allowing gas drilling wastewater to be discharged into municipal treatment plants that are simply not designed constructed or maintained in any way to be able to handle that toxic polluting loading?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila PA just passed a resolution last week to put a fee on NG extraction. That leaves New York state as the only state that doesn't have an extraction fee. Does NYS plan on implementing an extraction fee?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Bethlehem	C. Has anyone ever told you that you have a striking resemblance to Steve Martin?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cherry Valley	Cindy Rural areas depend on streams, shallow wells and spring houses for drinking water for both livestock and people. This water is also used for irrigation of crops and gardens. As far as I can see the draft sgeis simply ignores this fact. Small towns do not have the capacity to filter the chemicals which are likely to contaminate water supplies and do not have the capacity to supply water to farms and homeowners outside of towns. How will the state insure that people are not poisoned?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila How come studies weren't done on already existing fracking in Chautauqua Co. who have claimed success after 6000 wells have been drilled, yet, their population percentage decline is greater than counties without gas drilling? Why has there been no inclusion of the long term impact to New York states population decline?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Catskills	Rina Why does the DEC report have that drilling cannot be done 1,000 feet away from local aquifers and reservoirs. Shouldn't it be 10 miles, cause 1,000 feet sounds quite close to people's only water resource.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin/Representative Region A	John	Isn't September 7th when you extended the review period the day Lee Hurricane hit the Marcellus Shale Region and given that it was way more devastating to New York, particularly the Marcellus Shale Region, doesn't Lee warrant a longer extension?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Smithville Flats, NY / Woodside, NY	Mary	Oil companies are using the old "appeal to expertocracy" tactic to raise "reasonable doubt" in the minds of those who could go either way in their thinking on protecting our water. Do you think that if there is "reasonable doubt" that our water is safe, that we should Frack anyway? Do you think the risk to our water is that low?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	tioga County	Mark	Compulsory integration was established to protect neighboring landowners when vertical wells were being used and gas could migrate from a neighbor's land. With hydrofracking, why should neighbors be forced into a unit when gas can't migrate
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	The SGEIS states that flowback water can be in open top or open side containers. This will allow toxic fumes such as benzene and others to emmit into the air. How come air quality is not sampled cumulatively but per device?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Bronx	Thelonius	The experts propose 7-10 mile setbacks from aqueduct infrastructure? What do you think about that?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Queens	Phisticuffs	All you keep saying is how stringent your standards are. Yet there are no facilities to completely and adequately treat the waste. Explain this disconnect.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	Why aren't energy companies required to put colored tracers down their gas wells? Then, if migration occurs, you would be able to tell who, when, and where it came from to protect all citizens.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sauquoit, Oneida County	Doreen	If the Syracuse and New York City watersheds are exempted from drilling because they are unfiltered water sources what about the landowners in Upstate New York that have drilled wells that are unfiltered? Why are we not protected in the same way?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cherry Valley	Cindy	Rural areas depend on surface water, shallow wells, spring houses and streams to supply drinking water for people and livestock as well as irrigation of crops and gardens. Small towns in rural areas lack the capacity to filter the contaminants from their water supply and to supply the outlying rural areas. As far as I can see the dGEIS simply ignores this fact. How will the DEC insure that rural residents and agricultural products are not poisoned?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Broome County	Elaine	Why isn't the DEC requiring the same level of gas drilling wastewater protection as Pennsylvania where discharges of produced water into municipal treatment plant are totally prohibited? Why are you allowing gas drilling wastewater to be discharged into municipal treatment plants that are simply not designed constructed or maintained in any way to be able to handle that toxic polluting loading?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Spencer	Emma	Thank you for all the hard work.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Crown Heights, Brooklyn	Schlomo	We in New York City, with a large Jewish (and often environmentalist) population, take great umbrage at the scheduling of today's town hall on the holiest day of our year. What genius staff member calculated that you could minimize the participation of concerned city residents by hosting the town hall today?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Freddy	Hey Joe Marten, Just wondering how much money the natural gas companies paid you to give politically correct, benign answers? It would be nice for once if somebody in your position said, 'hey, ya know what this needs much more exhaustive review, because in fact, the stakes are really high.' Thanks for catering to your local natural gas lobbyist rather than the vast majority of New Yorkers.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	If much of this toxic fluid stays under ground, what happens to it if an earthquake were to happen in the area being that fluid takes the path of least resistance and we're told that the steel is remediated after the life of the well has depleted?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Financial District	Dimon	Are you looking forward to a rich retirement with the lobbying money industry is promising you once you complete your service?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Johnson City	Christopher	There are a lot of irrational concerns regarding fracking being perpetuated through the public. Some of our elected officials with their own axes to grind contribute to perpetuating the hysteria. Can you guarantee that the review period will not be extended again. Have you considered measures that DEC will take to manage the intense political pressure to set the science aside and succumb to the irrational hysteria?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin/Representative Region A	John	In the SGEIS page 28 Executive Summary you indicate 'limit permit issuance to match Department resources' yet on the same page you previously indicated 'annual limit would be arbitrary'. Is that because you can't quantify either the resources the DEC has nor the work that they will be required to do to be able to provide an accurate number?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cattaraugus County	Glenn
			Good morning. Even though as a geologist I have several technical questions, my main question is: Why has the state always looked at this, not as whether we would allow horizontal hydrofracturing to be used or not, but where and to what degree? In other words, it seems to have been a de facto conclusion that it would be allowed. Knowing what I do about the lack of environmental protection inherent in the horizontal drilling process, and how difficult it will be to oversee and regulate it, I would have suggested that it would be better to wait until the industry had evolved a safer method- the gas will do nothing but become more valuable if we leave it in the ground for a time. So, why not the option to delay?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Mark
			Commissioner, residents in Southwest Brooklyn are deeply worried about the city's plan to open up and operate a waste transfer station at the site of the former SW Brooklyn incinerator. Studies have shown that the bay in which the city must dredge to transport barges to and from the site is filled with dangerous toxins that will be dispersed due to repeated dredging. Secondly, the city made no mention of the fact that in the bay lies hundreds of live ammo shells that capsized off a WWII ship over 60 years ago. These shells can detonate if disturbed by barges or dredging equipment. The US Navy confirmed their existence, which puts into question the city's whole EIS for the project. My question is: How can the DEC work with the affected residents and the city to find a safer alternate site for this project? Thank you!
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Reading/Seneca Lake area	Gita
			Have you seriously considered the negative impact that drilling will have on the growing winery/tourism industry here in the Finger Lakes? This area has been recognized as one of the most beautiful and pristine lake areas in the world. Fracking and the resultant increased traffic/noise and air pollution would seem to be the antithesis and could adversely impact those of us involved in the tourism industry. How can you justify allowing fracking to take place in this area?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Beacon	Vane
			Why not: http://thnktkn.net/drill.html ?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Syracuse	Ted
			As I understand it, according to the dSGEIS, waste water treatment plans are to be submitted to the DEC by the industry and approved by the DEC. Exactly what plans will be approved or disapproved? Also, how far are you willing to track the waste since it may not be within NYS?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hamden	Mary	Many of us living in Delaware County would like to know if the NYS DEC supports or does not support this river to be cleaned up from the flooding debris from the past 15 years. If not, why?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Onondaga County	Linda	Even if pollution of our water from fracking is possible, serious air pollution is an inevitable result of drilling. Given rates of asthma and other respiratory and allergy problems, how can fracking be justified?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Chenango	Steven	We have had an active drilling program here and have had success in working with the industry both to minimize the impacts of drilling and maximizing the benefits to our business community and citizens. Would the DEC consider developing a set of suggestions for local government to use in dealing with the E&P companies?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	manhattan	Tony	there are so many questions about drilling and fracking in ny state...here are a couple: 1) is there any provision in the SGEIS or regulations that requires the companies that drill and frack to restore our scenic countryside and farmland to its previous state once the gas runs out? or are we to be stuck with thousands of abandoned drill rigs, despoiled land, etc. to clean up at our own expense if at all? 2) in light of the evidence that "natural" gas extraction is at least as bad for the environment, or even in the same ballpark, why is there any push at all for further and more extreme fossil fuel extraction rather than a full-on push toward clean, sustainable, renewable energy? and greater support for local, natural agriculture? it is hard not to see this as another way for huge companies to increase their wealth at little benefit and much cost to the people of the state.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Flushing/Queens/NY	Carlos	Are we safer when documented citizens have to share resources, services and benefits with people without an identification; how can a team buy extra uniforms for non-existing members? This is why the economy is bad as is, even if you work off the books your children will require on the books services like school, medical and other.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	The EPA recently disclosed that they found contamination of well water based on migraton through abandoned wells. There are thousands of unplugged wells in New York state. Who and when will these wells be addressed for plugging and migration pats?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin/Tioga County	John	In the SGEIS you indicate you are doing an air quality model but with the biggest risk in water quality has a similar water quality model been done and could that be made available to the community for review?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Reading/Seneca Lake area	Gita	It seems as though the industry has been given a loophole to not disclose ALL of the chemicals used during the fracking process as they can claim their mix is proprietary. If that is the case, how can any treatment plant be 100% efficient? If we don't know what the chemicals are, we can't be certain that the frack fluids will be clean.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	southern tier	Bonnie	Recently there were two letters sent to Gov Cuomo, one from numerous scientists and experts in municipal water systems stating that local municipal water providers are unable to filter contaminants from gas drilling just as in the ny city and syracuse water sheds. Also one from numerous physicians and health service providers warning of an increase in serious health affects to nys citizens especially children from the effects of gas drilling. my question is how are you going to address these concerns when deciding when how and when gas drilling should go forward
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Allegany	Bonnie	I have studied a bit of the SGEIS and I do not see where multiple impact is considered. There is a cumultive effect that I don't see being addressed. How can you say that every possible way was considered to protect us from a technique that is still in its infancy
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	New Paltz, Ulster County	Tourville	How is it that the Nation of France finds it necessary to Ban Natural Gas Fracking for their Entire Nation, protecting it's Drinking Water Supplies forever, yet Andrew Cuomo in his undisclosed bid for the White House seeks Campaign Funding via Natural Gas Lobbies to do so against the best interests of Our State thus opting to Poison a Percentage of NYS Drinking Water so he can run for the Presidency?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	NYC	Gina	Why doesn't NY take more time to study what will happen to all the toxic chemicals that are injected into the ground during the fracking process? We have have no idea what will happen to the chemicals that remain in the ground and how they will impact our health and environment.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	sidney	Lois	with compulsory integration, there is a very strong possibility my well, ponds and creek will become contaminated. who resolves this issue and at what huge cost?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Chenango County	Steven	There seems to be a misunderstanding of how permits are issued. It is my understanding that permits are only issued at a pace that allows the current DEC staff to oversee the wells under development.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	southwestern NYS	Katie	I haven't finished reading the SGEIS, but have as yet seen no mention of the millions of gallons of contaminated water left in each gas well. The Duke University study showed that gas migrates to the surface, and so it's not improbable that the liquids eventually will also. On what evidence does the state base it's implied assertion that it's safe to leave the wastewater in the wells?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin/Representative Region A	John	Where in the SGEIS is the cumulative impact of repeated drilling at different layers Orinskey and Marcellus for example analyzed?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	Is it correct that the industry does not have to notify property owners or neighbors of spills?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	I was told by the DEC that once the cement is poured, they go away and don't come back unless there is a report or a complaint. How can we monitor our neighbors property as that would be trespassing? Why is there no random checking by the DEC?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Afton	Rema	Why are you dismissing the effects on climate change of the large amount of methane which is released by flaring, drilling, pipelines and compressors (both of which leak)when Prof. Howarth and other climate scientists prove that this methane is many times more dangerous then CO2 and that their biggest fear is the melting of the permafrost which will release even more methane? I can (and will) leave New York, but what planet are you and I to inhabit in the near future?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	unadilla	Janice	when do the regulations become law? how are the regulations/laws enforced. a fine to a gas company is like a smack on a wrist. will retainers from the gas company be required in the event of damage, pollution, accidents, and contamination?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hudson Valley / Minisink	Janet	In view of the 9 'incidents' that occurred from 2008 -2010, in which pipeline and compressor safety failed, why is the average citizen supposed to believe the gas industry takes safety seiously? The law of averages ought to kick in pretty soon, at this rate. What steps is the DEC taking to protect our environment, our water, and our health. Profits for a few ought not take precedence over the well being of an entire population.

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CHAT
DATE

LOCATION

NAME

QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

Joe Martens

10/8/2011

New Paltz, Ulster County

Tourville

YOU'VE ALREADY SOLD OUT OUR STATE TO NATURAL GAS CRONIES, GOVERNOR. YOU'VE MANAGED TO TAKE ONE LARGE LEAP DOWN FROM YOUR PREVIOUS STANDING AT HUD. YOU'VE CHOSEN TO ENDANGER THE WATER SUPPLIES FOR THE ENTIRE STATE IN TURN FOR CAMPAIGN BACKING IN A BID FOR THE WHITE HOUSE. WHAT YOU FAILED TO RECOGNIZE AMONG NYS VOTERS IS THEIR DESIRE FOR ZERO FRACKING. INSTEAD YOU CHOSE CORRUPTION AS A VEHICLE TO THE PRESIDENCY. THE NATION OF FRANCE HAS BANNED FRACKING - THE ENTIRE NATION IS PROTECTED FROM POISONED WATER SUPPLIES GOING FORWARD. WHAT HAVE YOU DELIVERED NYS? OLD TIME GRAFT CORRUPTION IN A SELF SERVING BID AT WASHINGTON D.C. HAVE YOU NOTICED THE PEOPLE IN THE STREETS LATELY? YOUR BID TO THE WHITE HOUSE BEING FUNDED BY BIG OIL NATURAL GAS HAS ALREADY ENDED. ENJOY BEING GOVERNOR, ANDREW. SHOULD THIS FRACKING ASSAULT ON OUR STATE GO THRU DUE TO YOUR CORRUPTION & POOR JUDGEMENT, YOU'LL BE SIDELINED WITH THE REST OF THE CORRUPTED SEEKING TO GREASE THE SKIDS in TOXIC TRADE OFFS FOR PERSONAL GAINS. YOU'RE A SINCERE DISAPPOINTMENT ANDREW, AND AS A DEMOCRAT I SHALL WORK TO UNSEAT YOU WITH WHOMEVER RUNS AGAINST YOU NEXT ELECTION CYCLE. AND YOU JOE MARTENS .. YOU'RE A SHILL FOR THE GAS INDUSTRY , OVERLOOKING AND DISCREDITING THE MASSIVE NEGATIVE DATA BASE ESTABLISHED AGAINST HYDRO FRACKING. HOW ABOUT WE HAVE YOU DRINK A PITCHER OF WATER BROUGHT UP FROM A FRACKING SIGHT SO AS TO BACK UP YOUR PREPOSTEROUS DANCING AROUND THE TRUTH I READ HERE TODAY. HERE'S MY QUESTION JOE, .. HOW SOON UNTIL YOU STEP DOWN & WE CAN GET SOMEONE NOT BOUGHT & PAID CORRUPT IN YOUR PLACE? Best Regards.

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	The Duke University study found thermogenic methane levels multiple times acceptable levels in well water within a mile of gas drilling. Your requirements for testing rural land owners well water only extends to 1000 feet. Why wasn't this scientific study included in the decision making process to include testing well water within a mile of drilling operations?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Apalachin/Tioga County	John	This is the third time well drilling is being done in my area. Anecdotal evidence seems to indicate the economic results, jobs and the like, did not live up to the claims. When doing the socioeconomic analysis was a comparison done between the claims of earlier drilling and the actual results?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sharon Springs	Paul	Our area has karst formations and a huge aquifer lies below us. Yet the dGEIS seems to imply that all rock layers in the state is organized in nice neat layers. How will the DEC insure that local geology variations and underlying water is protected when it isn't even recognized.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ithaca	Paula	How can our air and water be protected from pollution by hydrofracking when the oil and gas industry acquired exemptions from complying with the Clean Air & Water Act?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	catskills	John	How do you reconcile the gas industries interests to promote natural gas production with the underlying need for absolute clarity and consistency in gas drilling? There are numerous operators, numerous agenda's and interests, and an underlying need for transparency and honesty within an industry that has done much to rile the public. Our health and safety is on the line with an industry that tells us natural gas is "clean" while ignoring the very real, dirty and necessary industrial process of extraction. We only fool ourselves.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hancock, NY	Jennifer	You said that the reason drilling was prohibited in the Syracuse and NYC watersheds was because they do not filter their water and to protect them from sediment. I depend on a spring for my water, and I don't have a filtration system either. How will the DEC protect my water?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Hancock, NY	Jennifer	You said that the reason drilling was prohibited in the Syracuse and NYC watersheds was because they do not filter their water and to protect them from sediment. I depend on a spring for my water, and I don't have a filtration system either. How will the DEC protect my water?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila	How many permits have you revoked? From what we are seeing, the industry feels that paying fines and violations are a part of doing business, how come permits don't seem to be revoked?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Fly Creek	Dan	Governor Coumo received a letter from 250 plus signatories requesting a delay in drilling permits until further study regarding the potential health effects of natural gas drilling. What is your response the these folks as it pertains to the recently released SGEIS and the environmental and public health protections that are written into it.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brookhaven, Suffolk County	Gail	We need comprehensive legislation and regulation of the many open-air compost plants (and their too-high piles) on LI. What can your office do to help? Will you support mandatory enclosure of existing facilities?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Catskills	Justin	On the topic of waste water, you saide earlier that "the gas drilling industry has made great strides in its reuse of wastewater – 90 percent is recycled". A few questions: Are there any third party organizations that monitor this process and can affirm this number? If so, what are their names? Also what is the criteria for a dumpsite for the remainder of the process? From the remainder, how much water is lost to the Earth in the process? Lastly, if you could give an estimate on the actual volume of water used in total from all the potential gas drills. Thanks.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Triangle, Broome County	Bonnie	What will the DEC and State do to help me when/if my well water is polluted by gas drilling. It is my understanding that once the well is poisoned it's for many many years, making my home unlivable and worthless.
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Albany	Eddie	What did your people do with the Goldfish in the pond in front of Building 8a on the campus?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Albany	Eddie	What did your people do with the Goldfish in the pond in front of Building 8a on the campus?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Cherry Valley	Virginia	People have moved to rural areas to enjoy the peace, quiet, clean air and clean water. Often making huge economic tradeoffs to do so. Most of us cannot afford to move but will not benefit from suddenly living in an industrialized area we did not choose. Will NYS at least hold the gas companies to the standard of the clean air and clean water act?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sullivan County	Christine	Why are we rushing the dsGEIS reports? Is there a reason for this?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Nassau	Eric Why does this feel like NYS is getting sold out to private business at the risk of the well being of people? The case samples are too small, anything at this point is only scientific guess. "DEC carefully considered every possible way that people could be exposed to those chemicals and consulted with the State Dept. of Health about how to prevent that exposure" Are you 100% sure you have considered every possible way? Have you looked at long term effects of this? What happens after 50 or 100 years, the residual effects of leftovers?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Marathon	Bruce why hasn't the revised draft of sGEIS quantified and addressed the health impacts and cumulative impacts of drilling in the Marcellus and other tight shale plays?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Orchard Park, Western New York	Sheila U.S. Energy has left a farm in Wales, New York with lack of site remediation by leaving open pits, unplugged wells. U.S. Energy is also involved in a multi-family lawsuit in Concord for methane and chemical migration into water wells out there, yet, they continue to operate. What does it take, or how many violations does it take before an energy company is told that they can not operate in New York state anymore? Has an energy company EVER been told they can not operate anymore?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sullivan	Ray What type of setback if any will there be pertaining to the Delaware River?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Ovid, Seneca County, Finger Lakes	Jan Hundreds of thousands of us in the Finger Lakes depend on the lakes for drinking water, and we have to filter it ourselves. We also use to irrigate our vegetable crops. Moreover, the NY wineries continue to generate billions of dollars of revenue for the state, and provide thousands of jobs in the tourism and hospitality sectors. The visitors come by car from NYC, PA and NJ via the Southern Tier. Industrial drilling, tourism and good drinking water don't mix. Fracking will SUBTRACT jobs and put our economy and water at risk. Over half of the wineries have signed letters asking the Governor to ban fracking statewide, and have asked to meet with him. After 2 months, they still are not granted a meeting. Will the DEC either ban fracking state-wide, or explain WHY you would put our health and economic survival at risk?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	york	Davies Why are the watersheds of NYC and Syracuse protected but not the rest of the state's watersheds?

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Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Binghamton	Lee	The NYS Upstate area needs help. We have been crushed with taxes and many have lost there jobs and have looked to move out of state. Will hrdrofracking companies be forced to help pay to develop/improve the infrastructure they will be using or will this also be be financed by the taxpayers?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Brooklyn	Kurt	At the NYC Council public hearing, the NYC DEP testified that the 1,000 foot setback proposed in the draft SGEIS is inadequate to protect NYC's water supply. How will the DEC respond to this?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Fly Creek	Dan	Recently several towns and communities have passed local zoning ordinances effectively prohibiting hydraulic fracturing. What is your position or expectation if any on the outcome of several lawsuits now filed?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Tioga County	Gerri	Your focus appears to be on water quality. Your answers to questions on air quality go wanting. Will you please direct more attention to air quality?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Manhattan	Anne	According to the film "Gasland" and other sources, hundreds or thousands of truck trips will be required for every drill installation and fracking procedure. Other than the impact on infrastructure, which the SGEIS purportedly consider, what about the impact on Quality of Life for those in upstate regions? Drilling and fracking are extremely invasive, disruptive procedures. Why expose our state, our land, our residents to this? Why not put all this energy into less destructive and invasive development?
Joe Martens	10/8/2011	Sharon Springs	the library gang	Since you haven't answered any of our questions will you be responding at some later time?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Central Square	Jeff	<p>Please tell me why Project Labor Agreements are good for the State? They SEVERELY limit competition on public works construction projects, and cost taxpayers EXTRA TAXDOLLARS as a result. The Davis Bacon Act (Prevailing wage) levels the playing field somewhat, but still slants the field in the Unions favor. The employer gives the benefits to the employee in his check, and pays taxes on those benefits where the Union employer does not have to pay payroll tax on the benefit. Regardless, 85% of the contractors in NYS are NON UNION. PLAs essentially prohibit the Non Union workers a chance to work for THEIR OWN TAX DOLLARS. Now, please dont insult my intellegence with longer schedules or less quality work. Theres completion dates with Liquidated Damages in the contract for these projects. Quality is verified by the Construction Manager, PRIOR to payment. So both arguements are WEAK at best. Your own State Wage Investigators can audit Manpower Utilization reports filed by the general contractor against Certified payroll reports provided by the subcontractor for every monthly payment application. The ball is in your court. WHY ARE WE PAYING EXTRA FOR PLAs?</p>
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Lakewood, NY	Gary	When are the laws on illegal going to be enforced so the jobs they are taking are opened up for US Citizen. These would be a good place for on the job tranning for unemployed.
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Plattsburgh	Debbie	We have a beautiful facility in Chazy, NY and another in Rouses Point. The Chazy plant is state of the art and would be a great research/pharmaceutical facility. Why is there not being more done to market this and retain some local jobs? Also, we need more manufacturing jobs up here. Umemployment is killing us!
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Brooklyn	Pher	What is the ESDC doing to restore the pace of job creation and affordable housing development at Atlantic Yards back to the original project schedule?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Sullivan County	ELizabeth	<p>Can New York State begin to look into Growing producing and manufacturing Industrial hemp this is not Marijuana or medical Marijuana it contains untraceable THC (the drug in Marijuana) this is a source of textiles,food and energy it seems no one is talking loudly enough about the jobs this industry could create for our state and Country we need to make something to Market. We need to help farmers and we need to renewable energy source, that don't compete with our own food supply and Hemp does all three. Why is it not being looked at? Can we please start looking into what could be the answer to our state and nations financial issues</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Rochester, NY	Carol	Have the drilling companies revealed the chemicals they plan to pump into the earth. If not, how can the DEC develop guidelines to protect the environment. Thank you. PS Think you're doing a great job except for this issue.
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Endwell	Angela	Given the limited amount of funds, how are you going to decide what regions get a share of the money available for economic development. I think that a community's need should be a factor. The Southern Tier suffered a lot of damage from the floods and they have a greater need for assistance.
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Hector, NY	Susanne	As the gas companies push into NY to hydrofrack for natural gas, they claim to be creating jobs. However, most of those jobs are temporary during construction and fracking of the wells, and mostly go to out-of-state drilling specialists rather than to the local population. The number of permanent jobs created through fracking is small, while the burden on the local population during construction is huge: Inflated rents, huge costs for maintaining roads and emergency personnel, price spikes for basic necessities. When drilling ends, the majority of the jobs will go away, the environment will be negatively impacted or destroyed, as will other local industries such as agriculture, wineries and tourism. Why allow hydrofracking in this state when the experience from other states points to short term gains and long term destruction?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Chenango County	Steven	Why do you think there was so much resistance to the discussion of Natural Gas at the energy subcommittee meetings of the Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council? Do you feel that it would be beneficial for NY to start training programs at all educational levels to train a workforce for the NG industry?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	bronx	Moises	we don't need no more gun control we need crime control. Guns don't kill people, people kill people. Semi Auto rifles are not Assault weapons so why can't I have one we need to protect our 2nd amendment with all your heart .
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Stamford/Catskills NYCity Watershed	Linda	There is a perception in the rural areas of the state that all the economic development focus will be on the cities (both large and small) leaving nothing for the rural regions. Can you please comment on that?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Fort Greene, Brooklyn, NY	Diana	Have you even spent a considerable amount of time walking around the neighborhoods that border the Atlantic Yards site? Do you have any real, first-hand knowledge of the area in order to experience how this area will be negatively impacted by over-development? Do you even care that Atlantic Yards will butt up against, and negatively impact, a historic district? Don't allow our neighborhoods to be further ruined!

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	North Country (plattsburgh)	John	Are there any updates with the proposed facility and is there any progress being made scheduling a meeting with the General Contractor (cianbro const.) and the Plattsburgh/Saranac Lake Building Trades??? Thank You
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Brooklyn	Norman	At a community meeting at Brooklyn Borough Hall on Sept. 26, Mr. Adams was asked if he had seen AtlanticYardsWatch.net, which archives a steady series of community complaints about Atlantic Yards construction impacts. He said no, but he would check it out. I'm interested to know if he has checked it out, and to what extent he's concerned about further mitigating those impacts.
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Brooklyn	Susan	What is he doing to accelerate the delivery of affordable housing and creation of jobs at Atlantic Yards? Does he agree with ESDC's December 2010 argument that 25 years of construction is no worse for the local community than 10 years? Why is his agency appealing a July New York State Supreme Court decision ordering ESDC to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement analyzing the effects of the 2009 modified Atlantic Yards plan on the surrounding neighborhoods?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	New York City	Jean	Why is your agency appealing a July New York State Supreme Court decision ordering ESDC to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement analyzing the effects of the 2009 modified Atlantic Yards plan on the surrounding neighborhoods?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	New York	Jean	Do you agree with ESDC's December 2010 argument that 25 years of construction is no worse for the local community than 10 years?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Prospect Heights, Brooklyn	Susan	Will you support the formation of an oversight board to promote and protect the public interest in the development of the remainder of the 22 acre Atlantic Yards sight.
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Binghamton	Jeff	Health care is a leading economic engine and major employer in the Southern Tier and throughout Upstate New York. Where and how does health care fit in the state's economic development planning and strategy?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Canandaigua	Peter	Our Universities are producing skilled high-tech entrepreneurs. What can the state do to help get small high-tech firms through the difficult start-up period?

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Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Brooklyn, New York	Peter	Right now the operational, security and transportation demand management plans for Barclays Center are being developed behind closed doors. The locus of the development of the plans rests almost entirely with the for-profit developer FCRC. In 2007 ESDC made a public promise to institute a monthly interagency working group that would review plans, and a transportation working group that included local elected officials and representatives of local civic organizations. Why are you and Governor Cuomo providing less opportunity for community input, less transparency and less accountability to the public in relation to traffic, pedestrian and parking issues than Chairman Foye and Governor Spitzer promised in 2007?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Utica	Alyssa	Green jobs are the future of both US and New York's economy? What are you and the governor doing to help this industry?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Erie county	Sue	It has been reported that the Buffalo Bills are considering leaving Buffalo which would be a big blow to Western New York. Do you know if the Department of Economic Development is working to keep the Bills in Buffalo?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	North Greenbush	Sue	Why are we giving hundreds of millions of dollars to companies like Global Foundries when we have 9.5% unemployment and laying off 3, 500 state employees? Wouldn't it be better for the economy to use that money to help people get and keep their jobs?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Bronx	Joe	What are you doing about the high costs of energy that is driving jobs out of the state?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Queens, New York City	Leslie	Due to significant reductions to NYS Early Intervention in both services and reimbursement rates, children are not being served, small and large agencies have and continue to close their doors, independent contractors and subcontractors ninety-three percent of whom are women are unable to pay their bills. How do we support an administration whose lineage initiated early intervention in NYS and who initiated Executive Order 8 to supposedly protect NYS Women in small businesses and yet has done little to enable NYS to be the premiere state in Early Intervention.
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Nassau	Josie	What is the State doing to promote clean energy as an economic development strategy?

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Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Nina	In 2010, your agency argued that 25 years of construction would be no worse for a community than 10 years of construction. Do you agree with this? Why is your agency appealing a July New York State Supreme Court decision ordering ESDC to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement analyzing the effects of the 2009 modified Atlantic Yards plan on the surrounding neighborhoods?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Lower Hudson Valley	Andrew	I see big high-tech companies going to other states all the time, how come NY can't be their home? We need new jobs that are going to last. What are you doing to bring new jobs to NY?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Hudson Valley	Joan	I've been hearing a lot about the Regional Councils What are they and how do they work?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Endicott/Binghamton	Angie	How do you feel about hydrofracking in the Marcellus Shale?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Huntington, Long Island	Rebecca	The Solar Jobs Bill proposed last year is expected to create thousands of jobs. Do you believe solar energy deployment is a good economic development strategy and do you support legislation that will spur greater investment in solar?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Huntington, Long Island	Rebecca	The Solar Jobs Bill proposed last year is expected to create thousands of jobs. Do you believe solar energy deployment is a good economic development strategy and do you support legislation that will spur greater investment in solar?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Baldwin/Long Island	Gina	The State has among the highest energy prices in the country, and this is driving heavy industry and jobs out of NY. What are you doing to lower the cost of doing business?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Town of Union	Donald	What are the potential economic benefits and costs if hydrofracking is allowed in NYS?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Town of Union	Donald	What are the potential economic benefits and costs if hydrofracking is allowed in NYS?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	North Syracuse	Joe	I've lived and worked in Upstate NY for decades and have never seen things so bad. What are you doing to make things better so I can support my family without having to move to another state?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Utica	Deanna	Why did New York get rid of the Empire Zone Program?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	scotchtown, NY	Greg	You'er doing a great job so fall, how do you propose to keep up your momentum and continue to restore integrity to Albany?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Frankfort	Michael	What are you doing to help Upstate in particular?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Southern Tier	KEVIN	Agriculture is important for upstate communities, can New York help preserve and grow this industry?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Mohawk Valley	Frank	Are you doing anything to help find re-uses for the 11 closed / closing state prisons and youth facilities?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	suffolk	Nick	I am graduating from college in the spring. What can you do to ensure there are jobs for me so I don't have to leave the state or move back in with my parents because I can't find work?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Amherst	Naniette	How do you ensure that the jobs created through state incentives are good paying jobs?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	North Country	Roxanne	The Adirondack Park is protected land and development here is difficult leaving many communities struggling. Are there plans to retool development in the park?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Brunswick	Kevin	Could NY have done more to win the GE Solar Project?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	New York, NY	Peter	What do you think about the Occupy Wall Street Protests?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Schenectady	Jennifer	What assistance is out there for those of us who were flooded by Irene?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Bronx	Michael	What incentives will be given to developers/investors to engage in the creation of living wage jobs and affordable housing in the urban areas throughout the State?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	New York, New York	Mark	How does the ESDC plan to rectify some of the violations that groups like Atlantic Yards Watch have documented?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Floral Park	Ralph	Thousands of teachers all across the state are losing their jobs due to the arbitrary 2% tax cap facilitated by the Governor. At the same time he refuses to get rid of tax breaks for millionaires. What is the Governors plan to put teachers, teacher's aides, and other vital workers back to work in our state's schools?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Norwich, NY	Patrick	How are you going to bring back the jobs NY has lost to other states and overseas?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Bronx	Annie	How do you plan on keeping the State solvent while funding new economic initiatives without fairly distributing the tax burden and equally taxing those with income over \$1 million?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Sidney/ Southern Tier	Rob	What are you doing to make sure this company with over 1000 jobs, does not leave after the 2nd severe flood devastated their plant? this area can not afford to lose its biggest employer.
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	Sidney/ Southern Tier	Rob	What are you doing to keep Amphenol of Sidney, from leaving the area, and taking 1000+ jobs with it? This region can not afford to lose its biggest employer.
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	WILMINGTON/LAKE PLACID	JERRY	WHAT IS THE CUOMO ADMINISTRATION DOING TO HELP SMALL BUSINESSES IN NEW YORK?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	long island	russell	We have no new construction because there is no demand. Why can't we follow a tax structure like Florida? That would create millions of jobs and stop the e@odus
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	New York	Chudney	What will it take for Governor Cuomo to stand with the citizens of NY and hold the banks that committed widespread fraud during the housing boom accountable criminally and financially, most of which are based in or around NYC? Additionally, why are banks allowed to hit the reset button and get 0% interest loans from the Fed and taxpayers and write off their losses over the past few years but the rest of us that are weighed down with consumer, mortgage and student loan debt in most cases cannot?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011		Marie	Good morning. Times are changing. What we need more than anything is no more NYS educational Mandates. Towns need to decide what to teach their children and they need to learn life skills not how to get into college. What are your feelings on this?
Kenneth Adams	10/15/2011	plattsburgh/north country	John	Will the new regional council criteria for funding applications protect the local construction workers jobs?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	BRONX	Michelle	If health homes are being created to keep people out of the hospital why would a hospital be approved as a Health Home? Seems to me that it is contradictory.. Also, if CBOs has demonstrated that they save NYS money with their level of services and understanding on how to provide those services why not expand on current successes instead of changing everything?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Columbia county	Dawn	As the parent of a college student with Aspergers What assistance can my son receive when he graduates to obtain employment in his field of study and independent living skills... There is nothing in this rural area that I know of.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	St Lawrence County	William	NYS is one of only 11 or so states that does not have outpatient competency training for non-violent individuals with developmental disabilities who have been deem incompetent to stand trial. Instead, non-violent or not, these individuals all get sent to an inpatient setting, which is rather inappropriate. At least 35 other states make the distinction between violent and non-violent offenders and have outpatient competency training options included in their penal codes for the latter population. Why is this not the case in NYS?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	staten island ny 10312	Linda	why would you not sign a health bill for people who worked their whole life for your city/state .
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	greenville ny	Carol	What r u going to do about the children who are not really disabled and can be in school with other children but the parents lie and send them to special schools and claim them as disabled to get their disability check. Every child should be tested every year and if need be put in a regular school and mainstreamed!
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	New York City	Catherine	My son is currently using CSS with great success. However, the process to become approved for CSS is extremely complicated. Can this be streamlined? In addition, he has a fixed budget that he can use in a very limited way. Can this be more flexible? For example, if he decides to rent an apartment he will need CSS, ISS, SSI, etc. All of these sources of support function separately and are very difficult to navigate. Could the "People First Waiver" provide a fixed budget that is totally flexible? I also wonder if it's really necessary to evaluate him with both a psychological and psychosocial every three years just to confirm that he has Autism, over and over. Would it be possible to eliminate these useless evaluations unless there is a true need? This only benefits the evaluators, not my son.
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	entire state	Margaret	Please clarify by name which of the big agencies you feel will become the MCOs. What is the range of capitation you envision applying for? How will the State of New York absorb the unemployment from the pool of providers who will be closing down?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	oakdale, suffolk county	nancy	1, What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Rochester	Kevin	When is the State going to get serious about cutting Medicaid costs and and take a hard look at the discrepancy between what the personnel and fringe benefit costs are between what is paid to the voluntary agencies and the State run services in NYS, providing services to the developmentally disabled ?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	westchester	Susan	Are you aware of the major cuts in salary, amounting to over 20% in Westchester, that Early Intervention Providers have taken in the last two years? Are you aware that services are more and more being denied to children 0-3 years old who present 33% or more developmental delays? Are you aware that at times families get either speech or special instruction services when both services are really essential and warranted? Are you aware that the costs that will be incurred on the CPSE level if service is denied at the EI level will end up costing taxpayers that much more? Is the Deputy and Commissioner's offices really aware of the DOH cuts to Early Intervention and their impact on families, children and providers?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Brighton	Kevin	My son is 20 years old, has Down Syndrome and will be graduating this year, and is severely developmentally disabled. We have always dreamed of him living in a residence with friends, having a life with his peers, just like any parent would dream for their child. However, this State has entirely ceased any development of Group homes. How will the 1115 waiver address the increasing size of the wait list and what will happen to those adult children whose parents become frail or can no longer take care of their adult children.
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Yonkers, NY	Denise	What is being done about the fact that Early Intervention is becoming a disgrace in which the state has attempted to close the budget gap on the backs of disabled babies? Early Intervention, which saves the state untold millions over the long run, is being destroyed by the following factors: First, providers who never had a raise for 15 years, have had their pay cut twice in one year, resulting in at least 20% reductions in pay for therapists. 20% cuts from levels that were set in the early 90's. Providers are leaving the field in droves. Secondly, services to children are being cut and underprescribed, and those who do get approved for services can't get therapists to provide them. Due to the ridiculous pay cuts. Thirdly, new procedures in the administration of EI are requiring New York State licensed professionals to work outside their areas of expertise. Physical therapists are being told to work on speech therapy goals and vice versa. So NYS issues my license and tells me the areas in which I can and cannot practice. Then NYS agencies tell me to ignore the rules attached to the issuance of my license and provide therapy for which I have no training. This can be extremely dangerous, and is a ridiculous practice. The financial ramifications of this nonsense are huge. But the cost to disabled children cannot be measured. Who will take responsibility for this?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	suffolk county	Honore	Is Commissioner Burke aware that E.I. providers have received only 1 cost of living raise of 2% since 1993?? Is Commissioner Burke aware that NYS E.I. providers just received a pay cut from 15 - 40% (depending on the municipality)?? So that is 13-38% less pay than in 1993!! Providers are being forced out of the field because the cost of living has gone up 60% since 1993.. E.I. providers are 93% women and we feel we are being targeted! What about section 8?? Who will address this grave injustice???
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Oxford	Valeda	Has the Deputy Commissioner attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings and has she provided feedback to you about Early Intervention?

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	grew up in the Bronx	Nhsam	When is the govenour going to investigate the obvious stalling of the assembly to give members of the adoption triad the civil rights that the state of NY tokk from them in 1935 when it sealed records of adoption. What is the agenda of Silver and Weinstein in this matter?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Suffolk County	Liz	Why, when early diagnosis and treatment have been determined to impact a child's future response to education and learning have cuts been made in this program? We early intervention professionals, have received 15% cut in our rates in the last 18 months, while our colleagues who work with the same population from age 5-21 are protected by unions that provide yearly increases, pensions and health plans?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Twin tiers region	Valeda	Are you aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses and/or their own interests?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Twin Tiers region	Valeda	Commissioner Burke, do you recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars in the future education of these children?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Oxford	Valeda	Dear Cmsr Burke, Do you realize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Syracuse	Joe	You talk about new standards for employees now being hired. What do you mean by this?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Rochester	Darius	Good Morning, Commissioner. I was wondering how unions have reacted to cleaning up your agency?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011		Anonymous	5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011		Anonymous	6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%?

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	mahattan	Lisa	QUESTIONS TO ASK INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: 1, What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Buffalo	Naniette	How do you sort out real cases of abuse and false allegations?

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Julie	<p>As you know, the NYS Early Intervention Program has taken a tremendous hit this year as well as last. 1) Have you learned about the EI program from the Deputy Commissioner of OPWDD? If so, what have you learned? 2) Has the Deputy Commsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICCs? 3) Has She provided feedback to you about Early Intervention? 4) The term membership of SEICC meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on the Committee more than 15 years and are representing their own interests rather than families and children? 5) Does the CMSR recognize that reductions to EI will result in greater state expense? Every dollar invested in kEI saves greater than 7 dollars. 6) Do you and the CMSR recognize that EI HAS BEEN DECIMATED AND THAT THE PROFESSIONS HAVE ALSO BEEN DECIMATED, AND THAT CHILDREN ARE NOT RECEIVING APPROPRIATE SERVICES DESPITE THEIR ELIGIBILITY? DOES SHE KNOW THAT PROVIDERS ARE LEAVING THE FIELD IN DROVES DUE TO REIMBURSEMENT REDUCTIONS GREATER THAN 40%? 7) Does the Cmsr realize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment, i.e., licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals OUTSIDE THEIR EXPERTISE? 8) Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the Office of the Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this? 9) THESE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ARE EXTREMELY VULNERABLE AND ARE NOT RECEIVING THE SERVICES THEY NEED AND DESERVE IN ORDER TO BE PRODUCTIVE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY AND BE SUCCESSFUL IN SCHOOL? DOESN'T ANYONE REALIZE THAT NEW YORK STATE WILL PAY DEARLY FOR NEGLECTING THESE CHILDREN?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Brooklyn	Laurie	<p>I have been a Speech pathologist for over 30 years, serving the deaf and hard of hearing children of New York City. Recently 2 things have happened which are serious concerns. 1. The mandates for children to receive Speech therapy has been drastically limited and 2. My salary and reimbursement rates have been drastically reduced, in some parts of the State 30% reduced. The cuts to Early Intervention merely mean that children will have to receive services later in their childhoods and for a longer period of time. Cutting Early Intervention services is like cutting your nose off to spite your face. Why would you do that? Do you recognize the gross disservice you are doing the children on my Community? Please respond and tell us when our services will be restored? Thank you so much for your consideration. When will you consider</p>

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	orange county	kay	<p>1, What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this? 9. do you know how you are paying your mortgage in the months to come? 10. i hve been servicing 2 counties for over 15 years and have NO benefits, NO time off, NO incentive, NO retirement... while this is not a reflection on you at all, please be reminded i have made less this past year than i did the year before. gas has gone up, clothing, food, etc. still nothing. 11. do you know anybody who has rec'd early intervention services?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Binghamton	Kevin	How have parents reacted to the changes you have been making?

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Huntington, NY (Suffolk County)	Margaret	1, What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Campbell hall	Debbie	Will the changes in the process of allocated funds, limit the choices available for individuals for a day program? My son is experiencing a great deal of success at his program because it is an excellent match for his challenges. I am hopeful that the upcoming changes will not limit his ability to be at a program that meets his needs.
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	New Rochelle	Leslie	Where does a developmentally disabled person who is nonverbal; has mental retardation, functionally severe; who will need constant care and/or supervision all his life; also braces, scoliosis jackets, wheelchairs, perhaps surgeries, fit into a cost-reducing plan that so far seems to represent only people able to live more independently if the delivery of their services were restructured?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Saratoga County	Kim	I am a Speech/Language Pathologist a small woman owned business... I have many question and these are just 2 of them: Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? Making is almost impossible to do my job or/and keep my business operating.

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	central NY	Theresa	<p>I have worked with people of all ages with special needs for 33 yrs. I have learned without a doubt that earlier is better than late in terms of intervention. My next statement will seem implausible but I assure you it is true. In the county where I've provided service for the past 22 yrs. the reimbursement rate has changed only twice. The first time it was decreased by 5 dollars and several years later the 5 dollars was reinstated due to a lack of providers. While requirements, paperwork & the cost of doing business have grown exponentially reimbursement is the same as it was in 1989. The small business I had worked for 15 of the past 22 yrs. was forced to close its doors in 2004. I am now a private practitioner. I am responsible for funding my health insurance, malpractice insurance, license fee, NY required continuing education & the full 15% for Social Security. I work in a rural, underserved community. I love my work & am dedicated to the children and families I serve whose needs are so great but there is nothing left to pare down. To ensure the needs of our most vulnerable citizens are met I am asking that you examine closely the reimbursement system for early intervention providers and consider the true cost in lost potential if we are simply unable to continue our work in NY state.</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Bedford	Susanne	<p>1, What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?</p>

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Bedford	Gerri	1, What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	nassau county	Irene	Are you aware that professionals are being asked to provide services that they are not qualified to perform? Are you aware of the new mandates stating that a child must have -2.00 Standard deviations from the mean on standardized tests which is 1% of the population? Many children were able to receive services who had an Expressive language delay however NOW children must have a TOTAL delay of -2.00 SD. This is causing many children to be ineligible? Our children is our future and if we don not take care of them when they are young it will lead to a tremendous increase of children with special needs in the public schools.
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	NYC	Dan	My question is, what do you think about NY State's millionaires' tax expiring soon and the lost revenue to the state, how will it effect quality services for people with developmental disabilities and would you support renewal of the taxes?

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Wantagh	Daria	<p>What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	New York City	Leslie	<p>How do you feel the reductions in NYS Early Intervention will impact the State of New York long term? What input has your Deputy Commissioner provided to you relative to the SEICC Meeting and the future of Early Intervention? What can you do to ensure that children in NYS Early Intervention receive appropriate services so that these same children do not become wards of the State?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	huntington	Lisa	<p>What do you know about Early Intervention from the Deputy Commissioner? Has the Deputy Commissioner attended and actively participated in all SEICC meetings? Has feedback been brought from the commissioner about Early Intervention? Does the commissioner realize that reductions in EI will be more costly to the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? Does the commissioner realize that EI has been decimated and that providers are leaving EI due to reimbursement reductions greater than 40%? Providers with advanced degrees and certifications to effect change in these children are unable to survive the pay cuts... Does the commissioner recognize that what is occurring in Early Intervention is encroachment (licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside their expertise? Is the commissioner aware that Doug Lentivech from the office of professions has been contacted and been unwilling to answer?</p>

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Brooklyn	Ellen	Is the Commissioner aware of the fact that EI has been decimated by budget cuts and that the professionals have also been decimated and that the children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive as a result because therapists are leaving the field due to the fact these reductions total 40%?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Hewlett, Long Island	Igor	<p>1. What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Brunswick, NY	Kathleen	1, What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	KATONAH	William	DEAR MS. BURKE, COULD YOU EXPLAIN TO THE PARENTS OF EI CHILDREN WHY MANY OF THE PROVIDERS HAVE HAD A 20% REDUCTION IN PAYMENT FOR THE SERVICES THEY PROVIDE. COULD YOU ALSO EXPLAIN TO THEM WHY THEY AREN'T GETTING THE SERVICES THEY'RE ENTITLED TO BECAUSE PROVIDERS ARE LEAVING THE SYSTEM DUE TO THE REDUCTION IN PAY? THANK YOU.
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	rockland county	Cindy	Are you aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years but some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Commack, NY	Sheila	<p>What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	NYC	Chandr	1, What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	rockland county	Cindy	5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? Are you aware of the ways EI and the professional therapists that work for the EI program are being decimated with the result that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive? Are you aware that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? Are you aware that highly experienced therapists who receive NO benefits can no longer afford to work in early intervention due to 25-40% reduction of wages following 8 years without any increases in wages?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	New York, New York	Leslie	Commissioner Burke: I listened to you speak at the October 12th Cabinet Meeting. The changes that you have instituted are meaningful. Similar changes are needed in the Department Health and in particular the agencies that provide services to NYS Early Intervention. Do you see similar changes occurring in this agency?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	rockland county	Cindy	Do you realize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment because licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	east rockaway	Cheryl	<p>Is Cmsr Burke aware that arm membership of SEICC meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the children and families that need intervention but rather their own interests? Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services that they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of 40%. We have not received a raise or cost of living increase in 15 years, but only a reduction in salary. What other field has been decimated like this in addition to the children who are not receiving services. No one seems to care about the children. What would you do if you had a severely autistic children who was not receiving services and losing an opportunity to succeed. Does anyone really care about this children? Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this? Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will rest in more expense on the part of the state and society because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and Actively participated i ALL SEICC meetings and learned about the benefits of early intervention?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	New York, New York	Leslie	Commissioner Burke: How do you feel that the programs for children with developmental disabilities are supportive of Governor Cuomo's mantra "People First." Specifically comment on NYS Early Intervention.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	NYC	Dan	I am very glad to hear and read that you are working so hard on improving the quality of care for people with developmental disabilities. I work every day of the week in a day habilitation program for people with developmental disabilities and I think we do provide quality services - the participants love their program and love volunteering in the community. My question is - how are we supposed to maintain our quality while being faced with funding cuts, OMIG taking away money, and regulations requiring more and more paperwork which takes time away from providing staff spending quality time supporting individuals with developmental disabilities. Thank you for your time and thank you for being so open to public input and feedback.
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Rochester	Randi	How do you plan to address the nearly 12,000 individuals with disabilities who are on the New York State waiting list for homes, the majority of whom need 24/7 care?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Albany	Eric	Can you please explain how your system actually works?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	NYC	Dan	This question is about the Willowbrook campus on Staten Island. I teach a college class on developmental disabilities and sometimes take students to show them the location of the former Willowbrook State School. One question that always comes up: Why is there a big long fence dividing the OPWDD part of the campus from the College of Staten Island part of the campus? It seems like an outdated symbol of segregation ... Thanks for considering this question.
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	bellerose,ny	Sero	Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Queens, NY District 28	Alicia	What resources is the State prepared to give in support of training staff and parents/cargivers of persons with disabilities?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Bronx, New york	Mary	<p>What is being done to restore rates for Early Intervention to providers providing therapy in the homes? what is being done to make sure children who should be receiving EI are not getting the service they should. Also EIODs who have no training in Speech, OT, PT etc should not be determining what the mandates these children should receive. it should be up to the doctors and the the Speech Language Pathologist who had to go to school to get a Master's degree in order to evaluate, diagnose and treat. The SLP knows what a child needs when the particular child is evaluated and should be able to determine what type and how often the therapy should be received. Also the frequency of therapy in new York city should be 30 minute sessions. Many times a child cannot sit or attend for an hour session especially a very young child. It is crazy the mandates they are putting into place. Therapists work diligently for these families in bad weather, difficulty parking, travel time, dealing with unsafe areas and difficult homes, providing the therapy to these deserving children, no medical benefits, no pension, and tons of PAPER WORK that takes up numerous amounts of hours. Agencies are now deducting money from therapists if you don't have your paperwork mailed within a week so therapists are now getting paid less on top of the cuts. What is going to be done to restore the RATES to therapist so they can be paid as professionals and so that children who cannot speak for themselves receive the services they need. Stop making cuts at the expense of the children and their families. When are therapists going to get the respect that they deserve?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	bellerose, ny	Sero	Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	bellerose, ny	Sero	Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise?

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Chester, NY	Joel	<p>1, What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Brooklyn	Laura	<p>I'm writing to ask whether Deputy Commissioner Suzanne Sennett who is a member of the State Early Intervention Coordinating Council (SEICC) has kept you informed about the cuts to Early Intervention and the effect this will have on our children's future. Having reviewed the OPWDD website I realize that the scope of what you do is broad, so I just wanted to be sure you realize that Early intervention is a service provided to infants and toddlers age birth to 3 years of age (BEFORE they go to school). This program provides services to children in their homes or day care centers and is entirely separate from the Department of Education Specifically I am concerned that you may not be aware of the fact cuts to Early Intervention services will result in INCREASED EXPENSES in education for our government for these children later when these children go to school. Do you know that the American Medical Association reported that every \$1 invested in Early Intervention \$7-\$10 was saved in future special education costs and decreased grade retention. To extrapolate this further, when children with cognitive delays are not able to function in the classroom they are often put in a special ed classroom and never get out. If they fail to learn to read, they often drop out of school and are unemployable. Then they go on welfare, disability or, worse, resort to criminal activities and end up in jail. Therefore the cuts to Early Intervention services are pound wise and penny foolish. I ask that you please look into this issue. The future of the children of the state of New York depends on you! As a special educator who has provided Early Intervention Services since 2002, I have seen amazing changes in the children I have worked with over the years, particularly those on the autism spectrum. Thank you for your time and attention. Sincerely, Laura.</p>

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	Endwell/Broome County	Colleen	Are you aware of what is happening in early intervention? Providers (physical, occupational and speech therapists, teachers) have not had pay increases in 15 years, and have sustained pay decreases of up to 40% over the last 2 years. Providers are leaving the program. There is not ANY incentive for new providers to work for early intervention. What will happen to these programs? How will NY provide for its' young children in need of services? What will NY do for its' hard working EI providers?
Courtney Burke	Woodbury, Nassau County	Diane	Are you aware of the massive cuts in terms of tax dollars affecting early intervention? EI has been decimated. Children are not receiving the services they have been deemed eligible to receive and therapists are being forced to leave Early Intervention due to the massive pay cuts which amount to greater than 40%. What do you believe can be done to reverse this terrible problem?
Courtney Burke	Nassau County	Roslyn	My daughter is an early intervention therapist. She is knowledgeable, caring and a thorough professional. She has been working in EI for 12 years. During that period are you aware that she has NEVER received a raise? In fact in the past 2 years she has received pay decreases!! What other costs have decreased in the last 12 years??!! She loves her job but I am encouraging her to leave it so that she can afford to continue to live in her home.

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011		Anonymous	<p>1, What has Cmsr Burke learned about Early Intervention from her Deputy Commissioner? 2. Has the Deputy Cmsr attended and ACTIVELY participated in ALL SEICC meetings? 3. Has the Deputy Cmsr provided feedback to her about Early Intervention? 4. Is she aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests? 5. Does the Cmsr recognize that reductions to EI will result in more expense on the part of the state because every dollar invested in EI saves greater than 7 dollars? 6. Does the Cmsr recognize that EI has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%? 7. Does the Cmsr recognize that what is occurring in EI is encroachment ie. Licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise? 8. Is the Cmsr aware that Doug Lentivech from the office Office of Professions has been contacted numerous times and is unwilling to answer to this?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Endwell/Broome County	Colleen	<p>Do you know how the Early Intervention Program works? Do you know the tremendous benefits to children AND society early intervention offers? Do you know why ONLY the providers received "across the board" cuts in rates over the last 2 years? Do you know how much work being an early intervention provider is? Do you know providers do not have benefits, pay for their own travel, have an excessive amount of paperwork, and the demands of the job continue to increase?</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Long Island, New York	Marion	I realize that the state (as well as the rest of the country) is in financial stress, but it has been shown that Early Intervention--the treatment of babies when they are young --will save those same children from needing services when they get older (and it will be more services due to compensatory effects of the initial condition). How will the state face these increaesd needs in the future?? and what effect will this have on the child and the child's family. Talk about "penny wise and pound foolish"....
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Saratoga County	Karen	Assuming Service Coordination will remain the role it was meant to be(autonomous), and that most are qualified, what will the process be for a private SC agency be to become a DISCO under the new People First Waiver? What exactly are the educational requirements of the Care Coordinators in this situation?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Clifton Park	Kerri	With the new 1115 waiver, are service coordinators going to eventually lose their positions? Are the positions being abolished?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Queens, NY	Alan	Does the Commissionerr recognize that Early Intervention in New York State has been decimated and that the professions have also been decimated, that children are not receiving services they are eligible to receive and that providers are leaving the field due to reimbursement reductions in the amount of greater than 40%?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	New York, NY	Robert	Is Commissioner Burke aware that the term membership of SEICC Meeting is three years yet some members from the private sector have been on this Committee greater than 15 years and are not representing the families or children, rather simply their own businesses, their own interests?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Brooklyn, NY	John	Is Commissioner Burke aware that in the Early Intervention program, that licensed professionals are asked to engage in goals outside of their expertise
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	North Greenbush	Paul	What is considered to be a developmental disability?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Long Island	Terri	<p>Thank you for speaking with us this morning. I am the mother of a seventeen-year-old son with moderate/severe autism and I am employed full time by one of your provider agencies as well. I've been told by a Trustee of another provider agency that, despite the plethora of information you've disseminated to the contrary, when April 1st arrives, all stakeholders, not just those who choose to participate in a DISCO pilot, will provide and receive services under their regional DISCO. In other words, all agencies will lose their rates as of April 1st and be will be mandated to join a DISCO in order to continue providing services. Can you please state whether this is true, and if it is true what specific plans are in place to ensure continuity and availability of services. It's hard for this mother to envision provider agencies losing their rates for a presumably much lower rate under the DISCO, without jeopardizing their fiscal sustainability and ability to serve their clientele and expand to meet the needs of the tsunami of children aging out of the educational system. Thanks again for your time.</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Orange County	Patricia	<p>If your adult child is currently in an IRA with one agency and attends Day Habilitation with another Agency will he/she have to attend Monthly Community Day Habilitation with the agency providing residential services.</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Monroe, NY	Richard	<p>My daughter is covered under my health insurance and her Medicaid is secondary. Will she still have the option to choose her health provider or will she have to see a provider contracting with DISCO.</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Monroe, NY	Patricia	<p>Can a agency who provides services such as Residential Habilitation and Day Habilitation contract with more than one DISCO.</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Freeport	Terry	<p>I was very happy to see the agency remove the "R" word from its title. What are you doing to educate people about this hurtful word?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Hudson Valley	Holly	<p>when and where will advance information be posted for families to have input to Medicaid 1115 waiver planning? I only learned of this web chat on 10/21, and some families may be unable to participate due to religious observances. Thank you.</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Walden New York	Marisa	How does OPWDD plan to promote employment for people with disabilities
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Smithtown/Long Island	Scott	Why are autism rates increasing?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Hudson Valley	Neil	If OPWDD wants a leaner system why not take 3 simple steps: 1. Rebase all agencies plus use a transition period for service overhaul 2. Foster an environment for positive consolidation of agencies by having DDSO's bring private agency heads together and incentivize mergers 3. Privatize all services using a RFP model which also delineates an acceptable financial rate range. Regards,
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	manlius, NY	Julie	How do I view all questions and answers for this chat session?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Saratoga/Capital Region	Steve	How do we make sure that nedded resouces go dircetly to service provision and don't just end up in the pockets of program administrators? Greater transparancy is needed.
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Manhattan	John	I'm sure you saw those disturbing articles in the New York Times- what are your thoughts? How did you react?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	nyc	Kate	having troucle joining chat
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Westchester	Susan	do you have any insight into what The New York Times is going to surprise us with next?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	manlius, NY	julie	View all chat or obtain transcript
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Helen	core compancies for staff,
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Elmira	John	Are people automatically eligible for services? Who should we contact for help?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Queens	Aimee	Your office began with the scandals at Willowbrook. How, 30 years later, are we still reading about people being abused? What happened?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Schenectady County	Carol	<p>Giving people with developmental disabilities more freedom, choice and independence sounds like a wonderful goal. However, those of us who have family members with these disabilities understand that the nature of their disability means that giving them this is often NOT what is in their best interest. By definition, they have a inability to think, reason and function as a typical adult. They are developmentally not able to make good choices about their own living arrangements, goals and expectations for life. I'm one of many people with a loved one who is higher functioning and as such, I've not gone through the extensive work and expense to become her legal guardian. What safeguards will be in place to be certain that she will not be talked into a 'less restrictive' environment she can not handle? For people without a legal guardian, who will be determining what freedoms and choices a particular individual can really handle? How will crisis situations be handled if/when developmentally disabled adults end up in situations with more freedom and independence than they can handle?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Bronx	Amanda	What is the most significant change you hope to result from the new 1115 waiver?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Saratoga	Sue	Is Service Coordination going to be absorbed by the care coordinators? In other words, will their educational requirements need to change to become care coordinators or will they simply lose their jobs?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	New York, new York	Leslie	Can you state your familiarity with the recent changes to NYS Early Intervention and how you feel it will impact your program long-term?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Hudson Valley	Holly	Under the proposed new plan, will families retain some choice regarding the Medicaid Service Coordinator?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011		Anonymous	With the new changes coming, will consumers still have the choice of where their day services are given?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Schenectady County	Carol	Am I understanding correctly that the medical funds will also draw from pool of 'designated' funds for that individual? What will happen if that person experiences a major medical injury? Will those medical bills eat up the funds for their residential situation? Their day programming?

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	rochester	Taraneh	<p>Dear Commissioner Burke, thank you for this opportunity. Since your appointment, being asked by Governor Cuomo to take the task and give voice to People with Developmental disability, how much of your time have you personally spend to meet with the families of the victims of abuse in your system? As a family member and legal guardian, I have reached out to your office requesting a meeting with the Commissioner for the last 9 months. I have presented to you and your administration my testimony and asked for a meeting. However, your administration have denied my request. Can you tell me why this case is not responded to appropriately to address the dire needs of one of the victims of abuse and violation of her rights in your system? Do you have any suggestion or advice? I would be grateful for any advice you can give me. Thank you for listening.</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Bronx	Gina	<p>My daughter is 6 yrs old and autistic. She is being moved to a distic 75 school because she couldnt funtion in a community school with 12 children. Yet i have been told your office will not help her because her iq is 72 and your limit is 65. She can not go to regular afterschool or enjoy camps or dance classes due to her disability but she cant get help for your agency. If the disability means they cant funtion in a regular setting no matter how smart they are shouldnt they still be helped?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Campbell hall	Debbie	<p>With the new changes coming, will consumers still have the choice of where their day services are given?</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Poughkeepsie/Taconic	Phil	<p>Will all Discos be required to offer all supports/services? There is a concern that if a family chooses a Disco close to their home, it may not offer all the services their family member is receiving.</p>
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Syracuse	Bill	<p>With all of the concerns raised recently about the quality of care two things become apparent and raise a serious question. Everyone is shocked to say the least at horrible stories about abuse to vulnerable people. But part of your response has been more regulatory oversight. How does this jive with the major cuts that people are facing? Isn't there a natural relationship between quality and cost?</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Schenectady County	Carol	I've only just learned about the waiver planning despite being heavily involved in advocating for my sister and son who both have developmental disabilities. Is this a done deal? Is there no more opportunity to stop this from happening? Is this just to 'get the info out', not actually change what you plan to do?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Dutchess	catherine	My son lives at a Residential school setting, and is under 21 years of age. How will the new Waiver affect him?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Brookhaven	Matthew	What changes do you foresee in OMRDD's Family Care Program. There are so many layers family care providers must wade their way through
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Poughkeepsie/Taconic	Tina	Where can we locate information on the specific assessment scales being considered for use under the 1115 Waiver? How and when, can we provide input to this topic? The current DDP forms are too limiting in the questions asked and too limited in the response choices.
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Clifton Park	Sue	You did not address clearly the issue of Service Coordination. Will it be abolished or absorbed?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Poughkeepsie/Taconic	Tina	What will happen to the existing programs receiving FSS funding and will new annual funding still be expected to continue? Who will oversee these services - DDSO's, Disco's ? Will the Family Support Service Councils go away?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Nyc	John	What does a parent do when their income prevents the child from quilifing for assistance but most programs will not let you pay cash. Also its a situation that while on paper a familly might look upper middle class but once you subtract mortgage ect there isnt the amount left for special programs needed
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Troy	Tammy	I love my service coordinator. I have worked with her for many years. Am I going to lose her?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	the Bronx	Ann	When local DDSOs turn away families because they say the money is not there what choice does a family have in obtaining CSS? There is talk about individualized choices but how does a family get through the system which appears to be blocking access?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Ballston Spa	LeeAnn	Can Service Coordinators be requalified as DISCOS or part of them?

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Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	case manager	Mary	I don't want to lose my casemanager. Is there a way to keep her?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Queens, NY	Betty	Because of my own health issues, I find it very difficult to care for my granddaughter with severe CP. She needs at least 10 hours a day of care. I applied to CASA and was turned down due her intense needs. She is not eligible for the lombardi program or the MLTC and CHHAs will no longer take her because of high need. I want to keep her home as long as possible but my MSC is throwing up her hands. What should I do?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Schenectady County	Carol	How often will 'assessments' to determine how much funding a person gets for services take place? These processes are extremely stressful for family members who are burdened with the task of fighting for reassessment or trying to pick up the slack from their own pockets if an assessment doesn't cover everything the disabled person needs.
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Bronxville	Kathy	Will this allow for more or less placements for Community people
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Hudson Valley-Rockland County	Daniel	How will the DISCOs (Managed Care Entities) preserve the kind of local collaborative decision making that has been one of the more positive hallmarks of the current system? To spread risks DISCOs, it would seem would need to be large entities. Our system, however, has demonstrated that, in many respects, that smaller is better and that is exemplified by smaller census residences. How do you see the 1115 environment encompassing this combination of big and small attributes?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	new York, New York	Leslie	Cmsr Burke -- After listening to your presentation as well as Clarence's at the Governor's Cabinet Meeting, I became much more hopeful than ever before that perhaps meaningful reform will occur in the Governors Administration. I am hoping for the same in the Bureau Of Early Intervention. Your thoughts?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Ballston Spa	Karen	We are a private SC agency. How does our agency applied to become a DISCO and possibly a pilot for the 1115 waiver?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Cornwall	Debbie	With the new waiver, will smaller agencies that provide services still be funded adequately to still exist?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Taconic	Tina	How can OPWDD strike a balance between offering person centered services which are self directed and/or family directed while working within the confines of Managed Care with a maximum amount of dollars allocated per consumer/per year?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	St Lawrence County	William	NYS is one of only 11 or so states that does not have outpatient competency training for non-violent individuals with developmental disabilities who have been deemed incompetent to stand trial. Instead, non-violent or not, these individuals all get sent to an inpatient setting, which is rather inappropriate. At least 35 other states make the distinction between violent and non-violent offenders and have outpatient competency training options included in their penal codes for the latter. Why is this not the case in NYS?
Courtney Burke	10/22/2011	Bayside, New York	Leslie	Who would be determining what the appropriate supports are for each individual with developmental disabilities?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Pleasantville/Westchester	Tara	In your crucial role in modernizing our state operations and helping to restore performance to state government, have you begun to address the issue of unfunded mandates or pension reform, which are crushing taxpayers? Mike Bloomberg has started to make some real progress on this in NYC. When will we learn what the Governor's game plan is?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Quogue	Jude	I dont this bill should be repealed...I dont think most people in NY State want it repealed. We are cutting back on everything out here. Seems to me that all of you in government could offer to cut back on your pension contributions, health care, office staff (and their pensions and insurance) and travel budgets.
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	East Berne	Lorraine	Many many banks knowingly gave out mortgages people couldnt afford, recommended higher priced homes the mortgagees couldn't afford, or refinanced to their benefit instead of the mortgagees. All these banks made commissions, all their lawyers made comissions and they knew all along how shoddy their business was. The "mortgage refinancing" companies who ripped people off got off scott free. will there ever be a push to have them return their comissions to consumers who went into foreclosure as a result?

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RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	albany	michael	Good Afternoon RoAnn I work for a company which we sell controls for boilers with savings up to 26% for fuel savings. We would like to offer these controls to the state facilities. Is there a main cintact we could speak with ?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Albany county	Edward	Why was it your intention to infringe on American citizens first amendment rights and create a police state with occupy Albany as you have with occupy Wall Street? Then I guess the first question beg the follow up question of how can you and why do you promote the continued terrorism on our nations citizens? At your very hand the police are forced into confronting a PEACEFUL, NON-VIOLENT,GRASS ROOTS movement, are you not using the very people's public servants against them? The police departments job is to protect the people not the interest of big business or political agendas of politicians, or am I misinformed?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Albany	John	With money so tight how come your still working on the roof at the capital?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	North Syracuse	Joe	How did all that space get empty in state buildings?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	New York City	Bryan	The MTA is using the toll increase to illegally funnel money to the rebuilding of the World Trade Center. Triple A is suing to stop this. Why is the State of NY being complicit in this illegal activity? Additionally, why would the Governor allow the MTA, a dysfunctional and corrupt organization that refuses to fully open its books up to independent accounting auditing raise tolls on the overly taxed people who work and live in the city in a time of such desperatte economic troubles. Don't we already pay enough in taxes and fees? When does it stop?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Binghamton	Kevin	I saw you on the news during the storm – what were you doing out there?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Utica	Alyssa	How do you like being the Commissioner of OGS?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Long Island	Igor	How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS Early Intervention, the majority of those providing services -- over 93% -- are women. Yet, most of our independent contractors have no work and most of our small agencies are closing. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Brooklyn, NY	Yelena	How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS Early Intervention, the majority of those providing services -- over 93% -- are women. Yet, most of our independent contractors have no work and most of our small agencies are closing. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	ithaca	Shelley	How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS Early Intervention, the majority of those providing services -- over 93% -- are women. Yet, most of our independent contractors have no work and most of our small agencies are closing. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities. I am an independent contractor with a master's degree in speech language pathology. I have 25 years of experience. My pay has been reduced in the 10 years i have worked here. I do not receive any benefits, insurance , materials etc., pay for my own travel and jump through endless new state guidelines and requirements. I have been rewarded with a pay cut. I am not feeling the love for women in business in NY state.

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CHAT
DATE

LOCATION

NAME

QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

RoAnn
Destito

10/29/2011

Bedford - Westchester

Susanne

How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS Early Intervention, the majority of those providing services -- over 93% -- are women. Yet, most of our independent contractors have no work and most of our small agencies are closing. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities? "The Office of Minority and Women-Owned Business (M/WBE) and Community Relations is responsible for ensuring that the Office of General Services (OGS) and its host agencies comply with the provisions of New York State Executive Law, Article 15A and the rules and regulations set forth in 5NYCRR, Part 140 â€" 144. These policies are intended to promote and encourage participation by minority and women-owned businesses in state contracting opportunities."

RoAnn
Destito

10/29/2011

roc

Cindy

How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS Early Intervention, the majority of those providing services -- over 93% -- are women. Yet, most of our independent contractors have no work and most of our small agencies are closing. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities?

RoAnn
Destito

10/29/2011

Clifton Park

Jackie

How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS Early Intervention, the majority of those providing services -- over 93% -- are women. Yet, most of our independent contractors have no work and most of our small agencies are closing. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities? "The Office of Minority and Women-Owned Business (M/WBE) and Community Relations is responsible for ensuring that the Office of General Services (OGS) and its host agencies comply with the provisions of New York State Executive Law, Article 15A and the rules and regulations set forth in 5NYCRR, Part 140 â€" 144. These policies are intended to promote and encourage participation by minority and women-owned businesses in state contracting opportunities."

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RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Clifton Park, NY	Jill	<p>How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS Early Intervention, the majority of those providing services -- over 93% -- are women. Yet, most of our independent contractors have no work and most of our small agencies are closing. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities? "The Office of Minority and Women-Owned Business (M/WBE) and Community Relations is responsible for ensuring that the Office of General Services (OGS) and its host agencies comply with the provisions of New York State Executive Law, Article 15A and the rules and regulations set forth in 5NYCRR, Part 140 â€ " 144. These policies are intended to promote and encourage participation by minority and women-owned businesses in state contracting opportunities."</p>
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Gansevoort/Northern New York	Bree	<p>How OGS going to insure that the livelihoods of the women who contract with counties to provide Early Intervention Services are kept viable? These independent contractors (93% women) are barely making ends meet because of the recent changes to Early Intervention, including a decrease in the reimbursement rate (that was instituted 15 years ago when the cost of living was exponentially lower), a decrease in the number of visits allocated, and changes in requirements to be considered an agency provider. Isn't this in direct contrast to the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities?</p>
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Albany	Tess	<p>What concerts are you going to have at the Plaza this summer?</p>
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	east rockaway	cheryl	<p>How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS Early Intervention, the majority of those providing services over 93% are women. Yet most of our independent contractors have no work and most of our small agencies are closing. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities?</p>

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RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Clifton Park	Ed	Many procurement contracts are not being renewed. Isn't there a danger some agencies may have to pay more for goods and services while waiting for strategic sourcing to become available?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Saratoga	Preston	How do you balance the cost savings you will have by moving people out of leased office space into state buildings with the impact on downtown businesses?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Throgs Neck, BX	Melissa	What does OGS do anyway?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	New York	Josh	How tall is the Corning Tower?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Troy	Hank	Why is the cafeteria food so bad?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Smithtown/Suffolk County	Scott	Is that a real Jackson Pollack in the art collection?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Capital District	Ann	I read in the paper that the state is doing a new contracting process that might make it harder for local companies to get work. Is that true?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	suffolk county	honore	What is the OGS doing to protect the rights of women working in E.I.P. in NYS? Women are being targeted with a rate cut 15% less than rate of 1993. Please advise if you are aware of this prejudice??
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Saratoga	Rob	What's going on out at the Harriman Campus?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Salina	Cindy	I'm not sure if this is something you handle, but is there a way that would make it easier to pay off back taxes on property so the risk of having your home auctioned off doesn't happen? We are in desperate need of finding a way to pay the back taxes before Oct. of next year or we lose my dad's home. We are unemployed and cannot find a job the corporate greed has crucified us.
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Plattsburgh, NY	Debbie	With cuts in state funding and the 2% tax cap, we're seeing staffing and program cuts in school. Yet, NYSUT is giving their execs double digit percentage raises. The Governor has gone after CSEA and PEF and their members to take salary freezes and increase their benefit contributions. Why is he not taking action with NYSUT?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Bayside	Leslie	Although the majority of our members have been to the Capitol to advocate against reductions to Early Intervention and to advocate for FULL RESTORATION, we are nevertheless proud of the building as a symbol of NYS. Continue the necessary repairs.
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Bayside	Leslie	We look forward to working with Governor Cuomo to ensure full restoration of Early Intervention reductions. Do you enjoy working with him?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	bayside	Leslie	Although in your position you do not have the opportunity to work with children, do you feel that the Governor values children?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Niagara County, NY	Bonnie	I am a woman; currently own a small physical therapy business contracting with Niagara County DOH. We provide Early Intervention (EI) services to birth-3 yr olds in the community. I just informed my County that I have to close the business due to: decreased reimbursement rate for provision of services, lack of referrals, NYS DOH regulations relating to min # of employees, increases in Workers Comp/NYS Unemployment/Professional Liability Ins (malpractice)/Health Ins contribution for employees, and newly increased admin & clerical duties set forth by the State and County. How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS EI, the majority of those providing services -- over 93% -- are women. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Flushing	Michael	Can you share as to your role in adapting facilities for the disabled?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Queens	Leslie	In this chat format we don't know who we are talking to. Why doesn't the Governor use Video chat for these meetings?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Albany	Brandon	You answered "what does OGS do"...but you left out one thing...they make up rules banning activism in parks at the request of King Cuomo. I'm not one of the protesters, but I support what they represent. You're making all the right moves with the King of NY, wouldn't you agree? (I knew that I had to have a question in there some where...and there is no doubt that they won't publish this post, but I figured I'd make my point with the techs that are making this happen).

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RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	new york city	Robin	How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS Early Intervention, the majority of those providing services -- over 93% -- are women. Yet, most of our independent contractors have no work and most of our small agencies are closing. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Seneca County	Virginia	I appreciate that you are having this forum. I had a small EI agency in this county for 17 years. Last year, because the EI population in this county was too low to allow for a small agency like mine to operate, we sadly closed. Four women, 3 Speech Pathologists and a 1 PT lost part-time employment. I miss my involvement in this fine work. Small counties have small agencies, and to close us down is just plain wrong.
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Springfield	Maureen	Please ask Governor Cuomo why he persists in the pursuit of gas drilling, when it is dangerous, dirty and will destroy our #1 and #2 industries in NYS: farming and tourism. It will affect the air, and water quality and bring noise and heavy traffic and increases in road damage, accidents and spills. Please tell him we need to BAN this terrible industry, which only promises to export gas to other countries. We need green energy to increase local workforces and re-build NY, not give transient, out of stat people jobs NY needs. Thank you.
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Schenectady	Bill	It seems Acting Mayor Gary McCarthy for Mayor will not answer a simple question from me. Have you Gary ever walked into the DAs office and at 1:00 PM, unplugged your office phone and conducted Metroplex, City Council and Acting Mayor business on the taxpayers dime and then charge overtime for actual DA business, making you the highest paid overtime county employee? I as a Taxpaying Schenectady Resident call for a special prosecutor to investigate this.
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Sullivan County, NY	Harry	I was an SHTA (retired for 4 years now) at MHFPC and no one save A. Gunther worked for us like you did and still do. I am grateful and will never forget, Thank you.

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RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	woodmere, ny	Gayle	How is the OGS doing in terms of increasing contracting opportunities for women and minorities? In NYS Early Intervention, the majority of those providing services -- over 93% -- are women. Yet, most of our independent contractors have no work and most of our small agencies are closing. How does this reflect the Governor's initiatives to increase opportunities in contracting for women and minorities?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Elmont, NY	Brian	Hello, I am registering a new business and would like to know where can I get a business loan for those starting over on credit?
RoAnn Destito	10/29/2011	Albany	Ted	Ms. Destito, As a vendor, doing business with OGS has become a bureaucratic paperwork nightmare. The amount of paperwork, audits, etc... has disenfranchised vendors in my industry to the point where several of my competitors refuse to do business with OGS; I am considering the same approach. What is OGS doing to encourage vendors to "want to do business with OGS"?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Buffalo	John	Who came up with the idea for this site?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Southern Tier	Sean	I recently exhausted my UI benefits. What state resources are available to me?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Schoharie County	Peter	I lost my job as a result of one of the storms this summer. Is there any assistance available to me?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Meredith NH..formertly The Bronx	Paul	If you were adopted in NYS you have lost your Civil Rights. As an adult I am refered to as "the chiuld". We are not allowed to know are nationality and where we came from, much less to know are birth family. Are you aware in many instrances we cdan't efen get a passport. Why, we are not allowed to have or original birth certificate. It's has been changed in other states by opening records, why not NY?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Smithtown	Shelbi	What would you say to a business that wants to hire but is reluctant to expand in this economy?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Utica	Stacy	Did the Labor Department have any online job search mechanism before Jobs Express?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	richmond county	cathleen	Why does the federal government keep postponingthe the grants? I have been unemployed since 12/08/10. I need this to help me get back in the job market. I worked 29 years for "NYCOTB. Now I have no job, skills or health insurance.. where is the help for us. One thousand of us laid off.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	verona	tammie	Parents, where do you see parental rights going? Government is stepping in and forcing parents to do what they want or theior children are being taken from them, this includes forced vbaccinations, where do you think parent rights will end up?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Whitestone NY	Sonia	In 1991 i began to provide PT services to children birth to 3 under the early intervention program. I have worked full time (under agencies as I work in NYC) since until this past august. My rate was the same from 1991 until last year when it was cut and now I only have two to three days of work. Is this right? The same rate since 1991, then get a cut to then not have enough work? ! Something is very wrong, I might have to sell my home and move out of state. So many years providing care in poor areas, projects, hard neighborhoods with pride and now end up with not enough. This is not right, not right.
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Gansevoort/Capital District	Bree	How will New York State work to keep the thousands of Physical, Speech, and Occupational therapists, most with well over 10 years of experience, employed in the jobs that they love and that are helping save our state 7 dollars for every dollar that is spent in Early Intervention (a fact supported by peer-reviewed research)? The short-term cost saving measures that are stripping the Early Intervention program of its ability to effectively service children with special needs in New York state are also pushing therapists and special instructors out of the businesses that they have spent years building because they can no longer afford to work in Early Intervention.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Bayside	Leslie	<p>Most Early Intervention providers are independent contractors and seasoned therapists or educators. While the DOH has reported increases in the numbers of applicants to work for NYS Early Intervention (and these numbers are not accurate), there is little if any work. Service authorizations for children with special needs 0-3 have been decreased significantly across the state (not because the numbers of disabled children have decreased) and particularly in NYC where the administration is simply focused on spearheading "decentralization advocacy" rather than following their moral compass, enabling progress to occur, and society to benefit. I have reviewed your website and there is little if any work posted for special educators and therapists (physical, occupational, and speech)to work with children 0 to 3 with special needs. Do you anticipate that there will be work posted or should we plan for our professions becoming obsolete? The majority of those who work for Early Intervention are independent contractors and we can not, therefore apply for even unemployment. We are claiming bankruptcy, foreclosing on our homes, unable to pay off our debt, fulfill our financial obligations because of excessive cuts to reimbursement rates and service authorizations. I might add that approximately 93% are women and many are heads of households, who have owned their own business/practice but no longer can. Didn't Governor Cuomo sign Executive Order 8?</p>

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CHAT
DATE

LOCATION

NAME

QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

Alphonso
David

11/5/2011

Wantagh

Daria

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Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Uniondale	Cynthia	How does the page search for jobs?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	East Rockaway	Joanne	How does an employer post a job on the site?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Pelham Bay, New York	Meghan	How can employers be assured that they can find qualified people using the job bank?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Syracuse	Joanne	What is the unemployment rate in my region? I live in Syracuse.
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Vestal	Kevin	How many unemployed New Yorkers are looking for a job?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Westchester	Denise	

Most Early Intervention providers are independent contractors and seasoned therapists or educators. While the DOH has reported increases in the numbers of applicants to work for NYS Early Intervention (and these numbers are not accurate), there is little if any work. Service authorizations for children with special needs 0-3 have been decreased significantly across the state, not because the numbers of disabled children have decreased. Babies with disabilities are not being treated, and the taxpayer is unwittingly incurring a debt of care for it's young disabled. This debt will last the lifetimes of these untreated children. I have reviewed your website and there is no work posted for therapists (physical, occupational, and speech)to work with children 0 to 3 with special needs. Do you anticipate that there will be work posted or should we plan for our professions becoming obsolete? The majority of those who work for Early Intervention are independent contractors and we can not, therefore apply for even unemployment. We are claiming bankruptcy, foreclosing on our homes, unable to pay off our debt, fulfill our financial obligations because of excessive cuts to reimbursement rates and service authorizations. I might add that approximately 93% are women and many are heads of households, who have owned their own business/practice but no longer can. Didn't Governor Cuomo sign Executive Order 8?

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CHAT
DATE

LOCATION

NAME

QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

Alphonso
David

11/5/2011

Albany, NY

Jill

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Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Averill Park	Alfred	Does the site have jobs in states that border New York
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Saratoga	Preston	What is a One-Stop Career Center? What services does one offer?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Central NY	Jack	Why was the jobs connects web site developed?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Hudson Valley	Joan	The job search tips and videos on the site look are helpful. Will you add more videos on job search tools such as networking and job searching for mature workers as examples
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Batavia	Donna	Is there anything available in my area?

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Alphonso David	11/5/2011	NYC	Melvin	is there any hope on extending the number of weeks of unemployment insurance benefits... i've been looking for work and there are no jobs out there.
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	NYC	Faye	what do you like best about the site?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Syracuse	Pete	what does the governor think of the jobs express site?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Endicott	Michael	What is the unemployment rate in New York by race/ethnicity?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Union	Taylor	Has anyone secured a job using the site in that time?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Nesconset/Suffolk County	Stacy	I'm interested in going back to school to train for a new occupation. How can I find out about the types of jobs that will be in demand in the future?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Port Jefferson Station/Long Island	Arona	How does the site function--how do you use it?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Hempstead	Lina	Why 25 miles? What if a great job is 30 miles away from Albany?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Hudson valley	Andrew	Can anyone use this site? Are there any restrictions or qualifications? Do i have to give any personal information?

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CHAT
DATE

LOCATION

NAME

QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

Alphonso
David

11/5/2011

NYC

Oliver

Most Early Intervention providers are independent contractors and seasoned therapists or educators. While the DOH has reported increases in the numbers of applicants to work for NYS Early Intervention (and these numbers are not accurate), there is little if any work. Service authorizations for children with special needs 0-3 have been decreased significantly across the state (not because the numbers of disabled children have decreased) and particularly in NYC where the administration is simply focused on spearheading "decentralization advocacy" rather than following their moral compass, enabling progress to occur, and society to benefit. I have reviewed your website and there is little if any work posted for special educators and therapists (physical, occupational, and speech)to work with children 0 to 3 with special needs. Do you anticipate that there will be work posted or should we plan for our professions becoming obsolete? The majority of those who work for Early Intervention are independent contractors and we can not, therefore apply for even unemployment. We are claiming bankruptcy, foreclosing on our homes, unable to pay off our debt, fulfill our financial obligations because of excessive cuts to reimbursement rates and service authorizations. I might add that approximately 93% are women and many are heads of households, who have owned their own business/practice but no longer can. Didn't Governor Cuomo sign Executive Order 8?

Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Niskayuna	Michelle	Do all One-Stop Career Centers have Jobs Express?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Bayside	Leslie	A good percentage of jobs posted are out of state. Can you post ONLY NYS jobs.
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Throgs Neck, NY	Melissa	Is there a cost to posting jobs on the site? Are there any restrictions on what can be posted and if so, where can I find those restrictions?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Bronx, NY	Debra	Have many New Yorkers visited the site?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Westchester	marianne	<p>Most Early Intervention providers are independent contractors and seasoned therapists or educators. While the DOH has reported increases in the numbers of applicants to work for NYS Early Intervention (and these numbers are not accurate), there is little if any work. Service authorizations for children with special needs 0-3 have been decreased significantly across the state (not because the numbers of disabled children have decreased) and particularly in NYC where the administration is simply focused on spearheading "decentralization advocacy" rather than following their moral compass, enabling progress to occur, and society to benefit. I have reviewed your website and there is little if any work posted for special educators and therapists (physical, occupational, and speech)to work with children 0 to 3 with special needs. Do you anticipate that there will be work posted or should we plan for our professions becoming obsolete? The majority of those who work for Early Intervention are independent contractors and we can not, therefore apply for even unemployment. We are claiming bankruptcy, foreclosing on our homes, unable to pay off our debt, fulfill our financial obligations because of excessive cuts to reimbursement rates and service authorizations. I might add that approximately 93% are women and many are heads of households, who have owned their own business/practice but no longer can. Didn't Governor Cuomo sign Executive Order 8?</p>
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Albany	Karen	The region I live in is quite large, can I also customize the job search for a specific city or reasonable commuting distance from where I live?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Queens	Katherine	Are there employer incentives for hiring those from certain communities or backgrounds.
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Bayside	Leslie	The link above is not functioning.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Albany	Eric	How does the jobs express choose what jobs are put in the bank? I'm curious on the criteria, the technical reasons why or why not an employer or job is added? I'm also curious if preferential treatment is used? Is this used to promote small and local business or large corporation or this is a neutral, transparent initiative? The last question is a side question, but why is someone that is a Deputy Secretary on Civil Rights answering jobs related questions?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Cortland	Stephanie	When I'm looking for work, I go to idealist.org because I know I'll find Non-profits easily. When will the Job Express site catch up and offer a Non-profit category to search under?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Walkill	Leslie	Add a section to the sight for job. Seekers as well eg a place to post their resume for potential employers
Alphonso David	11/5/2011		Greg	How does the division of labor, by region help the already stagnated employment market. Isn't that like reshuffling 52 cards?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Otsego County	Anna	I immediately responded to a job advertised on the site by emailing the contact person, requesting an application. I received an email saying the job had been recently filled. How often is the site updated? It was not a big deal in that case, as I hadn't wasted time filling out an application, honing my cover letter and resume, etc. but only because there was none to fill out.
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	verona	tammi	I am disabled is there a way to make money at home, that will sustain my home, I am disabled.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Brooklyn	Michael	The unemployment rate in the Bronx and Brooklyn are amongst the highest in the state. I used to be an independent contractor working with NYS' most vulnerable in Early Intervention. Cuts to my rates in addition to cuts to the services children need have left me without a means to support my family. My independent contracting status leaves me without unemployment and without a future. There are NO jobs posted for my work because services have been decimated. Has our Governor lost his moral compass.
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	verona	tammie	Will the site help you find grants to start your own business?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	mohawk	tammie	Does this site include work at home for those that are disabled?
Alphonso David	11/5/2011	Vestal	Kristine	Are jobs still available to help clean up from Lee and Irene?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Oswego	Phil	Our friends who were DOCWG (Defending our country while Gay) who were given a less than honorable discharge because he was gay during the Vietnam era. Can he now get that changed to honorable discharge and get VA health benefits?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Hudson Valley	robert	Why do we have to pay so much extra for Vet plates. We should get them without paying extra!
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	root	Jim	Why in New York state does it take years for a disability decision and in other states months.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Niagara County	Kim	My father is a surviving WWII Merchant Marine Veteran and I have received correspondence from a veteran's group that these veterans are not receiving the full benefits that vet's from other branches receive, such as the US Army, etc. Mt father went thru Parris Island and served his country proudly as all his brothers did too. My question is...is this true? Are WWII Vets that served in the Merchant Marines considered different from other Veterans?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	YONKERS	DAN	HQW CAN WE LOWER OUR TAX BURDEN BEING NEXT TO NYC AND HAVING THE HIGEST UTILITIES RATE IN THE COUNTRY.WESTCHESTER COUNTY DOES NOT GET ENOUGH OF FEDERAL AID FOR SOCIAL SERVICE THAT IS REQUIRED
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Long Island - Stony Brook	Jim	Why not ask Gov. Cuomo to introduce legislation that would provide a Retirement Incentive to any NYS employee who is a Veteran,age 55 or older, and with 25 yrs of service with NYS. This would then provide job openings for VETS who are unemployed since the legislation would have a Provision that the job opening after a VET retires would have to be filled by a VET. Pls present to the Governor. TKS US ARMY VET and NYS - SUNY employee for 28 yrs.

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CHAT
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QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

Bill Kraus

11/11/2011

Staten Island

Linda

I'd like to know why Desiree Wong and Bob Tamburri are allowed to represent your organization when they only seem to be able to help people who are trying to scam the system and not widows like myself who have relevant concerns and needs? I tried getting help from both of these people only to be told they couldn't help me file a DIC claim in a timely manner, nor could they even explain what benefits me and my 3 young children are entitled to. They both told me that my DIC claim would take approximately 5 to 6 years to be processed. I ended up filing the claim myself and receiving benefits after 9 months of red tape. They are rude and nasty for no reason. I also had a question about how long it might take for my daughters' Dependent Educational Assistance check to be processed and spoke with a woman who only gave her first name...Earline...she told me if she was a fortune teller she'd be working somewhere else. I didn't call for information to spoken to like I was asking for something my child wasn't entitled to, I called with a valid question. Please go over the rules of etiquette with your employees. I taught my children manners as toddlers and they respect other people, maybe your employees need to take a refresher course!!

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CHAT
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QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

Bill Kraus 11/11/2011 Brooklyn, New York Goldie

Dear Mr. Kraus. I am giving you my case [REDACTED]. I spoke to you in March one month after my husband passed away. We were waiting for him to be awarded 100% due his being 80% disabled,(after fighting the V.A. for 7 years) this was due to occur. We all 3 came from [REDACTED]? Do you remember us? I had this hugh problem with [REDACTED]. Well, they stalled until he passed away. You called me and said you would try to help me. My Senator's office had contacted [REDACTED] and she instructed me to fill out 9 pages of faxes. She told me I can Substitute and process his appeal as his widow. This was done. [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED] has my power of attorney, he helps me fill out all the forms. I have been harassed over the past few months from the [REDACTED] office as they insist on checking if I am remarried, I keep sending them my marriage license, we were married for 5 [REDACTED] years, I was gravely insulted. Now they have no service Record for him? I do not have a VSO to help my claim, who is [REDACTED]? No one can call the MANAGER, A [REDACTED], (I can call you) I have tried, [REDACTED] has tried. The paper work goes on and on I now have between my husband and myself, 29 Form letters stating they are looking into my case. I am sure your office and Governor Cuomo have no idea of this incompetence, ineptitude and incapability of personnel to handle claims in a responsible and adequate time frame. No wonder one million vets are waiting. The Veterans Administration is the Nightmare of the returning Veteran and their family. To Add insult to injury, I was told and given in writing that the V.A. would contribute [REDACTED] towards the cremation. THIS TOO HAS NOT HAPPENED, AND I MAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS AMOUNT OF MONEY. Please, Mr. Kraus, I do not want to contact Governor Cuomo, or the Press, or even Bill O'Reilly? I don't want to cause problems. I am not the V.A. just a struggling widow whose husband gave his life for our country and I only ask what is due me due to his death. I await a speedy solution, I can be reached at [REDACTED] or e mail : [REDACTED]. Thank you in Advance for your help. Now I know what you look like, All [REDACTED] men are handsome. I await a reply from you.

Bill Kraus	11/11/2011		Jim	How do I contact a State Veteran Counselor?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Utica	Frankie	How much of a benefit will I receive under the Veterans Tuition Award?

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT	
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Binghamton	Angela	How do I qualify for the Veterans Tuition Award?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Riverdale, NY	Rebecca	What is the unemployment rate for young veterans in New York State?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Buffalo	Janet	How much of a benefit will I receive under the Veterans Tuition Award?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	North Country	Frank	What is SMART?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011		Anonymous	What benefits exist for veterans in NYS?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Holbrook/Long Island	Chris	I just got off active duty and am not working can I collect Unemployment Insurance?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Syracuse	Mike	How do I get a veteran ID card to qualify for veteran discounts at stores in my area?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Sand Lake	Sam	I am a veteran and out of work - where can I get help finding a job.
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011		Anonymous	How do I apply for my education benefits?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Mohawk Valley	Deanna	I hear NY has a program for blind veterans, how does it work?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Buffalo	Sheila	How do I check the status of my VA education claim?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Buffalo	Salvatore	How long does it take to get an answer on my VA claim?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Stony Brook - Long Island	Jim	Ask the Governor to submit legislation for any current NYS employee that are veterans with at least 25 years of service and 55 yrs or older to receive a Retirement Incentive and also have a Provision that their job can only be replaced by a veteran. Pls ask the Governor to consider this suggestion since it would create jobs for vets and also save the state of NY money by allowing higher paid vets to retire with an incentive.
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Cayuga County	Kimmi	My father in law is a WW II veteran. He is now required to be in an assisted living facility. His montly income only covers about half the cost of the assisted living facility. At the moment he is using his assets to make up the difference in his monthly income and his cost of care. His assets will only last for another six months and then we do not know what we will do. Are there any programs through the VA that could help him?
Bill Kraus	11/11/2011	Nasau Coounty	janet	i recently received an Email saying wounded or disabled Veteran's only get half their pensions while congressmen get all their pension after only serving one season in Congress. If this is true it's an outrage & doesn't it warrent a change???

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Lisa	Why are conditions at the NYC/ACC shelter system so horrible??? Are you aware how many dogs/puppies/cats/kittens are killed there every day??? Please consider making changes to this shelter system by contacting Borough President Scott Stringer and reading his PAWS initiative. By taking the shelter system out of the control of the Dept of Health changes can be made to make this shelter a true No Kill Shelter !!!!
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Nassau	Kevin
			Why does NY mandate "nutritional information" in restaurants but does NOTHING to mandate that ALL produce and packaged food must post if it is GENETICALLY MODIFIED? GM foods has been found to pass through the human digestive system intact and some of the produce actually defined as pesticide. http://foodintegritynow.org/2011/05/19/gmo-study-omg-you%E2%80%99re-eating-insecticide/
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Ithaca	Elizabeth
			Hello Dr. Shah, On the subject of how the State is working to improve New Yorkers' health, could you please talk to us about the health implications of the chemicals used hydrofracking? I would especially like to know if the Department of Health has read and incorporated the findings of independent studies into any recommendations it makes to the Governor on the subject. Best wishes to you and your staff for your work.
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Central Square	Dave
			Will New York State continue to follow the antiquated guidelines for school lunch nutrition? Do you believe pizza is a vegetable?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Mohegan Lake, NY	Kathleen
			What proactive measures is NYS going to take in the wake of the federal government's disastrous bow to food lobbyists in keeping school lunches unhealthy? What can our state do to improve the guidelines for our children?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Cheektowaga	Beth
			I have multiple sclerosis and cannabis is really the only medicine that can help me to live a normal and productive life. Please be my advocate and legalize my medicine. I'm suffering every day. I need it regulated, available and inexpensive or I will have no choice but to move to Canada or Michigan. It is my right to treat my MS anyway that works. By keeping it illegal, you squash my freedom to fiction normally. If you had this disease, wouldn't you feel differently about the matter? I guess my question is, are we going to evolve and let people use this medicine, or do I have to move?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Niagara County	James	Do you think it is wise of the DEC to omit any serious discussion of the health effects of fracking from the Draft Environmental Statement for drilling policy in the state?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	ulster county	Jeanette	Why are Chemtrails, aerosol spraying of the troposphere not being investigated. The water safety of the Ashokan Reservoir is being comprised as is the health of our children and families.
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Johnson City	Dan	Just how have you prepared for the the health problems that will come when a=our water and air is polluted due to fracking? Those problems are well documented in areas where fracking is going on.
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	ulster county	jeanette	our lives are in danger everyday with the potential and probable breakdown of this dangerous nuclear plant so near millions of tax paying citizens. No evacuation can ever be successful when this occurs, and we know it will occur. 'when will this health hazzard be closed, as we know the majority of people do not want this Why do we not put money and talk into creating jobs that would create health by investing in solar and wind energy ?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	ulster county	Jeanette	What do you feel are the healthy benefits of consuming genetically modified organisms that are know to destroy the life cycle of bees, create digestive disturbances among humans, cross pollinate organic crops, thereby destroying their virtues. Do you think this is a healthy alternative when we know farmers by the thousands are committing suicide in India because these seeds do not pollinate but need to be purchased at a higher cost with a lower yield Do you feel this adds to the health and well being of our society? if not would you suggest banning or at least call for labeling of these substances. What is your idea of a healthy food?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	ulster county	Jeanette	Don you think fracking , with known problems is a healthy solution for our future? If you had the choice would you choose Solar and Wind energy that would produce jobs and a healthy clean place to live?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Finger Lakes Region	Jennifer	How does the state plan on protecting the foods grown in New York from the hazardous carcinogen ridden produced water from hydrofracking? Aren't carcinogen cancer-causing chemicals? How will consuming tainted New York state produce preserve my health?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Columbia County	Judy	What measures are being taken in New York to protect farmer's crops from being contaminated by genetically modified seed?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Lockport	Kristine	I'm very worried because fracking will soon be coming to our farmland. That means we will likely have a contaminated water supply like in PA. What can we expect in the area of health over time?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Minerva	Sharon	Our town has lost it's gleaned food program because whoever was delivering it to us can no longer afford the gas due to budget cuts. A program like this that has an immediate effect on hungry families should be fully funded, why are you cutting money to programs and then turning around and asking how can we help?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	nassau county	Steve	I read a billed recently passed by a very wide margin that would prohibit insurance company's from forcing us to mail our prescriptions to them to be filled. When is the governor going to sign. I would love to use my local pharmacy it is more convenient, the service is better and I wouldn't have to deal with medication showing up late or wrong. plus the way I see it it will keep billions of of prescription sales in New york state instead of sending it out to other states. It would also make my life and the lives of many of my c0-workers easier. for the record I am not opposed to mail ord prescriptions if that is what the patient wants. I am opposed to MANDATORY mail order of prescriptions be the insurance company thank you
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Buffalo	John	What is the extent of the problem with hunger in New York?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Endicott	Angie	If my child is in day care, how can I know if she is getting healthy meals?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Albany	Mel	How does the Department of Health help people get access to healthy foods?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Bronx, NY	Katie	I'm really worried because my child doesn't eat much meat. How can I make sure he gets enough to grow?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Parkchester, NY	Nina	Who is responsible for the food that can be served in schools? My children complain about the school food.
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Holtsville/Suffolk County	Tom	Food is so expensive these days and I'm supposed to be eating healthier- what can I do to eat healthy that won't cost more and take a lot of planning and preparation time?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Buffalo	Jim	Where can I find the latest information on good nutrition recommendations?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Syracuse	Joe	My neighbor gets food vouchers for herself and her two children through the WIC program. What is WIC? Can anyone get food from WIC? What foods do you get
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Binghamton	Darcy	My toddler only wants to eat the same foods every day. What can I do to get him to try something new?

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Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Binghamton	Darcy	My toddler only wants to eat the same foods every day. What can I do to get him to try something new?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	NYC	Ana	I'm really worried because my child doesn't eat much meat. How can I make sure he gets enough to grow?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Oswego	Mark	I tried a food pantry a long time ago and the food wasn't anything I'm used to eating. Is there any way I can get only the amount I need and just a small amount of the things I'll use? I hate to waste food.
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Syracuse	Steve	If I want to donate to my local food pantry, what foods are needed most?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	East Greenbush	Edward	I saw the ichoose 600! Campaign sponsored by the Department of Health. What does ichoose 600 mean?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Albany	Kaii	I'm a senior on a fixed income. Are there nutrition programs in NYS that can help?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Cazenovia	George	I see that restaurant menus include calories now. How many calories should I be eating?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Buffalo	Susan	How can there be so many hungry people in New York State when there is an obesity epidemic? Do we still need to be providing hunger programs for people?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	WILMINGTON	JERRY	Where can a parent find healthy recipes that feature fresh vegetables?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Huntington Bay/Suffolk County	Rob	Does DOH participate on the Governor's Council on Food Policy?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Huntington Bay/Suffolk County	Rob	Does DOH participate on the Governor's Council on Food Policy?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Huntington Bay/Suffolk County	Rob	Does DOH participate on the Governor's Council on Food Policy?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Utica	Gina	What are the biggest nutrition concerns for kids today?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Shirley	Leonard	Does DOH participate on the Governor's Council on Food Policy?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011		Abby	Who should get a flu shot?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011		Scott	I heard the flu vaccine is the same as last year- if this is the case, do I need to get it again?

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Mohawk Valley	Deanna As a mom, what can I do to make sure my pre-schooler is eating healthy?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	hauppauge	Nancy HOw do I log onto this event?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Oneida County	Cathe A recent comparison of the value of Food Stamps by state showed that for a family of four in NYS, the food stamps only cover about 77% of the food needed to feed them per month, while the same food stamps in Texas covers 114% of food needed per month. Why aren't food stamps indexed to insure uniform value to a family in states?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Queens	Art When might NY's beleaguered doctors expect meaningful medical liability reform?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Freeport	kevin In light of Europe's decision to stop using backscatter X-ray technology because of safety concerns. When will NY State follow common sense safety concerns citizens by removing these questionable machine from NY airports?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Finger Lakes	Glenn When is the DOH going to take a proactive stance on th potential heath impacts on drinking water and cancer rates from VOC releadd to the air from HVHF?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Bronx, NY	Bianca What are ways in which South Bronx residents can access healthier quality foods in their local grocery stores?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Mid Hudson Region	Carol This got defeated in the last try in NYS. In honor of Dr. Daines, will you try again?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Utica	Richard It seems that many allowed dental and medical procedures for Medicaid patients have been reduced or eliminated completely. To treat only a portion of the patient's needs because of financial problems in NYS seems to violate the Standard of Care. Your comments, please.
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Freeport	Kevin When can we expect NY state to mandate the labeling of genetically modified food so New Yorkers can choose between food that has been made to create it's own pesticide and food that has just been treated with pesticides.
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	New Paltz, NY	Kamilla High volume slick water horizontal Hydrofracking, if approved for NY state will effect farms that supply organic, healthy food to the population, will effect the quality of drinking water and air, all of which will in turn effect people's health, as seen in other states (children, the elderly and people with weakened immune system are especially vulnearable). How do you propose to protect the residents of NY state and what kind of measures are in place to deal with a public health crisis that will result from gas exploration?

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Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Jamaica, Queens	Andrew	Kids today have awful eating habits and are tempted by all the wrong types of food. What are we doing to help them make smart choices?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	New Paltz, NY	Kamilla	How do you propose to deal with the adverse health effects resulting from hydrofracking?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	New York	Mary	Will you be among those protecting the integrity of the drinking water for millions in New York State by vetoing and proposals for hydrofracking on November 21st? What advice do you have for Governor Cuomo since we know that there are many proven safe sustainable energy alternatives available today.
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Long Island	Barbara	How come health effects are not in discussions about Fracking?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	New York City	Josh	Dear Dr. Shah, I am working with a company that has developed curricula and treatments for helping patients (and EMS) cope with, prepare for, and recover from disaster related trauma. Who can I contact who would know if the Dept of Health is interested in such a program?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Glens Falls	Luther	I like to walk and bike in my community but find it hard sometimes. Does DOH have any programs in place that increase physical activity?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Brentwood	Alice	How do any of the emergency food programs supported by the State of New York address the diversity of it's citizens when providing food. Someone from one culture might not eat the food provided and therefore not benefit from the service.
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Hudson Valley	Debi	Water is good for us & necessary for us & our children instead of sweet drinks. Why is it that we jeopardize our water by allowing FRACKING? What will we give our children & grandchildren when our water is polluted by the chemicals from FRACKING?
Dr. Shah	11/18/2011	Hudson Valley	Debi	Water is good for us & necessary for us & our children instead of sweet drinks. Why is it that we jeopardize our water by allowing FRACKING? What will we give our children & grandchildren when our water is polluted by the chemicals from FRACKING?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Morrisonville, NY	Sharon	I worked PT temp. for ESD up here several years ago. Is ESD involved with helping to get Laurentian Aerospace to open a Plattsburgh plant? The "Press Republican" announced early this year that Laurentian was to have signed by 4/1/11 & would break ground then. People in this area DO NOT NEED false hopes, they needs jobs. Any help you can give would be appreciated. Sharon xxx-xxx-xxxx

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	North Country	Brian	We have an educated, underemployed workforce in the North Country. Many firms I work with continue to send their IT/Data entry and (increasingly) their analytical work (law, tax, accounting) overseas. Are there any programs in place to encourage firms in NYS (principally NYC) to keep those jobs onshore. Call it onshore outsourcing or insourcing, but it could be the engine that jumpstarts the North Country.
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Amherst	John	I've heard the Governor say time and again that we are "One New York." How are the Regional Councils benefitting our state as a whole if the process pits regions against each other in a competition?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Western New York	Anonymous	Can the state give farmers who need help with operating monies to expand or transition their business to meet changing consumer demands?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Western New York	Anonymous	Can the state give farmers who need help with operating monies to expand or transition their business to meet changing consumer demands?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Rotterdam	Chris	The process to complete each region's strategic plan was condensed into a very short time frame. Do you think each region had enough time to create a thorough evaluation of their region and its needs?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011		Christin	Each of the Regional Councils' five-year strategic plans is hinged on specific priority projects. For the regions that are not awarded the \$40 million in funding to go forward with their plan, how can we expect them to move forward and implement their plans in the five year time period?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011		Ralph	This is all very exciting news and makes for good news coverage, but our communities are hurting now. When will we actually see some real jobs being created?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Ronkonkoma/Suffolk County	George	Many of the people on the councils are heavily involved with businesses that have projects in front of the council. How do we know that the people on the councils grading these projects aren't just going to pick the ones they are invested in?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	hudson valley	eleanor	What events does ESD participate in to help promote businesses in New York and promote products and industries made in NY.

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Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Bayside, Queens, NYC	Leslie	Commissioner Adams: Each provider of NYS Early Intervention is essentially a small business entrepreneur. The reimbursement rate for EI services as well as changes to regulations have forced many competent and seasoned providers out of this field. At the NYC LEICC Meeting, Dr. Marie Casolino reported that 10 of 98 Early Intervention programs have recently closed -- that is 10% of NYC agencies. What can you do in your capacity to limit these closures and also make jobs available for the newly unemployed professionals who are pediatric specialists?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Mohawk Valley	Mary	No doubt there will be good projects that just didn't make it in the first round of funding. What will happen to those projects that are left on the table?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	New Hartford	Chelsea	Concerns over the economy have been heightened in the last month after Governor Cuomo's budget division reported that the state faces a significant budget deficit. How can the state still be handing out money for economic development under situations like this?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	hudson valley	andrew	What happens if a business that gets money for a project doesn't create the jobs it promised?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Kirkwood	Mark	Small business is a cornerstone of New York State's economy. How do we ensure that small projects compete on equal footing with larger ones? I live in small town where a project with 10 new employees is just as valuable to the community, if not more so, than a project with 50 new jobs in New York City.
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	union	michael	Our Upstate urban cores are tragically falling victim to suburban sprawl. Do the Regional Councils address smart growth and other issues critical to Upstate, such as non-existent population growth?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Cooperstown, Otsego County, NY	Adrian	My understanding is that the economic region including Lake Placid and the Adirondacks based at least part of their proposal from their Regional Economic Development Council on developing sustainable resources and industries. Is it possible to obtain a copy of their proposal?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Cortland	Billy	We now have 10 strategic plans but we've had economic plans in the past. How will you ensure that these plans are carried out?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Baldwinsville	MaryClare	This is a great process but with NY facing a \$3.5 billion budget deficit, how do we know there will be money for these projects next year?

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Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	North Country Region	Mary	Please enlighten me... If you had to choose between keeping a utility wind development project or one of the country's major US Army installation operating, which would you choose? Apparently, the North Country Regional Economic Development Council chooses the former and feels it has to put money into developing a process that attempts to mitigate the problem of radar interference and the security of the Army base and the US/Canadian border, thus allowing the base to remain open. 10 permanent jobs versus thousands of jobs? Please explain where the logic is in that thought process particularly given the fact wind development in NY State has already proven it can't deliver what it promises and all previous attempts to mitigate this type of problem in other areas and countries have failed.
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Utica	Erick	I've been closely following my Regional Council's progress in the news. How can I get involved?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Perinton	Jane	I like the idea of the Regional Councils with a community-driven approach but I still think New York State's biggest obstacle is its business climate (high taxes, red tape, etc.). Will the Regional Councils tackle this issue?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Cheektowoga	Chaz	I'm a business owner interested in learning more about the state helping to support my new project but I heard the new Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) deadline is already past. That was fast. What is the next chance I'll have to apply for funding?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011		Tammie	Sherill MFG has just opened up a store, does the Government plan on helping the company stay open! They are making silverware and coffee joulies
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011		Pam	As property owners we are all too aware that our property taxes are a big hinderance to exciting people and companies to move here. Do the regional councils include the local school districts and BOCES? If we could shift local districts administration and purchasing to BOCES responsibilites it would go a long way to reducing local property taxes. Have these entites been included?

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Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Adirondack Park/Northern Warren County	Jill Dear Kenneth: I live in Northern Warren County in the Adirondack Park. I applaud the efforts of young Gov. Cuomo to put together these 10 Regional Councils, however, I am perplexed that the Adirondack Park was not afforded it's own unique region, as the rules that apply here (by NYS Constitution) do not apply anywhere else in the State. Please explain. Thank you.
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Long Island	David Will each region have a marketing/advertising budget to promote their specific region?
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011		Kenneth Can you talk about the state efforts to help fill Eastman Business Park
Kenneth Adams	12/2/2011	Finger Lakes Region	Ken Eastman Business Park is tailored to business growth and new jobs! What can you tell us about the efforts the state is doing to help Kodak bring in new business and jobs to fill Eastman Business Park.
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Fairport	Bonnie Are there any plans to investigate whether there has been a concerted effort among publishers and retailers of ebooks to fix the pricing so that they remain high? There seems to be a huge disparity in price between the print versions (even hard covers) and electronic editions of many of the same books when they do not have even close to the same utility as physical books, and physical books have far more labor involved in the production and shipping process.
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Chemung	Sonja Are you going to protect us and ban fracking in all of NYS?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	East Greenbush	Kandi How do I know a website is safe to order from?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Rochester	Darlene I have been receiving a lot of offers that seem great, but I am not sure they are legitimate. Do phishing emails and scams increase around the holidays?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Cortland	Anna How do I choose a toy for my grandson, who is under 3 years of age?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Cortland	Dom My son bought a toy for my grandson but Im not too sure about it. Where do I report a product that has not been recalled but that I think is unsafe?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Rotterdam	Rachel How do I research products to make sure they are appropriate for gift giving?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Utica	Ashley Do refund policies apply to the items I buy online?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Sratoga	Preston How do I stay within my budget and not overspend this holiday?

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Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Albany	Evelyn	It seems there is an increase in suggestions to consumers to purchase extended warranty on relatively inexpensive items such as watches, clocks,disc players, etc. Is is this necessary?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	woodstock	helene	SOOOOO Mr. Cuomo When are you going to wake up and BAN HYDROFRACKING ????? save your water save yourself!!!!9
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Mohawk Valley	Deanna	If I am mailing a gift this holiday how can the recipient return it if they need to?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	New York City	Jennifer	How do I choose a safe toy for my child?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Catskill	Antonio	I am considering buying gift cards this year for family and friends. Are there any specific rules I should be aware of in New York?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	New York City	Justin	Many stores give discounts if you open up a credit card on the spot, is that a good idea?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	NYC	Mike	Do I need to buy the warranty they offer me at the check-out?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	St.James/Suffolk County	Bryan	I've heard about something called dynamic pricing. What is it?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Mastic Beach, NY	Jeremy	Is there anything I can do to protect myself from dynamic pricing?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Mohawk Valley	James	HOw long should it take for me to receive my rebate and what if I don't receive it?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Syracuse	Ericka	I am considering purchasing gift cards this year for my family and friends. Are there any specific rules I should be aware of in New York?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Syracuse	Mary	Am I entitled to a rain check if the store runs out of the item I want to buy?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Riverdale, NY	Amy	I hear lots of stories about people who have had their identity stolen. Is it more prevalent during the holidays?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Hudson	Jeff	What is the safest method of payment to use while shopping online?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	Bronx, NY	John	I want to make a charitable contribution this holiday season and would like to know how I can confirm if the charity is legitimate?
Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	albany	aron	what do your opinion regarding the price chopper gift cards concerning other retail stores and are they really a savings
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Lisa Harris	12/9/2011	albany	aron	what do your opinion regarding the price chopper gift cards concerning other retail stores and are they really a savings
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Chautauqua	Denise	I would like to know that since it is illegal to talk on a cell phone while driving when the police are going to actually start enforcing the law? I see people driving all the time using their cellphones.
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Buffalo	Susan	I am traveling from Buffalo to Pelham for Christmas. My dates are flexible. When would be the best time to travel? How might I check travel routes ahead of time?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Buffalo	John	Everyone knows that there are Holiday office parties in the next few weeks, many involving alcohol. What are the State Police doing differently to combat this?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	claverack	ken	Why does N.Y. continue to allow cell phones while driving? I tried it. Very dis-tracting. Texting near impossible. Passengers can use, but NOT DRIVERS!!
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	smithtown	Kerri	why do troopers violate speed Laws when they are not driving to emergencIes and don't have lights or sirens operating??
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Josh	Anonymous	Why are the state police allowed to stop motorcyclists and inspect them even when they have broken no laws? Isn't this discriminatory?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Melville	Josh	Why are the state police allowed to stop motorcyclists and inspect them even when they have broken no laws? Isn't this discriminatory?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Oneonta	Angela	Are blue headlights legal?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Scotchtown/orange county	Gregory	Almost every holiday, I open a newspaper and read about, a drunk driver killing innocent victims. How can I travel and avoid my chance at a drunk driver colliding in to me. Should I travel early in the day?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	ROTTERDAM	CAROL	My question-statement: in order for the traffic to flow through the tolls, would it be possible to change the speed limit from 5 miles an hour, why don't they change all of the EZ pass limit to at least 20 miles. I noticed when there is only 1 20 EZ pass lane people have to gun it trying to get way over to the lane and when you have the non-EZ pass cars in grid lock it is total chaos because most of the drivers Freeze up and stop in the flowing traffic after or before you get through the tolls. Your thoughts? I look forward to your anticipated response. Respectfully yours.
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Mohawk Valley	Deanna	Some of the new headlights are blinding. Are these bright lights illegal?

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Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	NYC	Michael My son drives home from college from Florida and only stops for gas. How often should drivers take a break?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Rochester	Barbara After the addiction to gambling reaches greater proportions and counselors and families are stressed and destroyed due to the endless lure of the gambling 'kick,' will you be able to justify this increased revenue? Do you understand how many stressors are on families?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	LAKE PLACID	LINDA WHEN I DRIVE IN A SNOWSTORM, SHOULD I HAVE MY HIGH BEAMS ON?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Syracuse	Joe Is there any way to protect myself against a drunk driver?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Buffalo	Sam What should I do if I see a police car on the shoulder, but I can't move over because there is another car in the left lane?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Nassau	Maria Are troopers required to wear their big hats when they issue a ticket?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Bronx	Josh I see Troopers using cell phones all the time when they are driving. Why don't they have to abide by the same laws as everyone else?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Westchester	Melissa I hate wearing my seatbelt, but do it because of the law. Can't I wear it under my shoulder?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Central New York	BJ With the high number of commercial vehicles on the road during the holiday season mixed with the increased travel, is there anything out of the ordinary being done for safety.
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	STATEN ISLAND	DOREEN YOU ALL TALK ABOUT PEOPLE USING THERE PHONES IN THERE CARE ETC WHAT ABOUT IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCERY AND U NEED TO CONTACT SOMEONE WHAT THAT. WHAT ABOUT THE POLICEMAN I SEE ALOT OF THEM USING THERE PHONES DO NOT GET ME WRONG I THINK THERE SHOULD ME ALOT OF CHANGES IN THIS STATE NO ONE CARES ABOUT GOING TO JAIL CUOMO NEED TO GO BACK TO THE OLD TIMES THROW THE MATTRESS ON THE FLOOR BREAD AND WATER THEN YOU WILL SEE HOW MUCH MONEY HE WILL SAVE TODAY NO ONE IS AFRAID CAUSE THEY GET ROOM FOOD AND COME OUT OF JAIL FIGHT FOR A KIG OR QUEEN EVERYTHING IS PD FOR WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE RUN OUT OF JAIL SPACE THEN WHAT
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Central New York	BJ Can commercial vehicles be stopped for safety inspections without a reason to be stopped (no probable cause)?

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Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011		Anonymous What happened to the failure to keep left rule on the interstate? Shouldn't tractor trailer trucks be confined to specific roads and a 55mph speed limit? Why do State troopers find it necessary to exceed the speed limit continually? I think if those 3 things were managed the highways would be safer?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011		Pam My dad drives a tractor-trailer for a living. Cars are allowed to whip in and out in front of my rig all day and troopers do nothing about it. Why are they only looking for speeders?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Cobleskill	Chris What do I do if I get into a crash?
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011	Niagara	Jamie Aren't tinted rear view windows illegal? It impedes long vision ahead which I typically can see two cars in front of me. Do troopers ticket for that? I find it so hard to drive safely behind a driver with dark tints, making it difficult to anticipate an abrupt stop.
Kevin Gagan	12/16/2011		James NYS traffic law forbids alteration to motorcycle exhaust to make it loud, decibel level doesn't matter, the mere alteration is illegal and can be determined by EPA stickers on the handlebars and muffler. Why doesn't the state police enforce the law against loud motorcycles?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	staten island	Georgine when will the next court officers class open? It's been a while
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Bronx	Fabian Why can't I seem to land a job?! I believe I have a great resume and can't even get to an interview. The governor is not signing State job waivers either.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Staten Island, NY	Donna If you are truly concerned about jobs and NYS economy-how about putting strict regulations in place and begin giving out permits to drill! I mentioned this a couple of years ago-make the gas/oil companies put a certain amount of monies into an account for collateral-if there are any "mishaps" those monies can be tapped into to correct the problem. If all goes well keep a pre-determined amount in the account for future mishaps and release the rest to said companies.

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Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Candor	Cynthia	We have a bridge that is closed and I was just wondering how come they aren't out there working on this bridge or even make another way for and emergency vechile to get to the other side to save a life. We just had a case where it took the Ambulance longer to respond to a call just across the bridge and the man died because it take longer to get around to the other side of the bridge now. I feel with the weather the way it has been the they could have started working on this bridge to repair it so this doesn't happen again. They are4n't planning to start work on it until 2014 they said
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Penn Yan/Finger Lakes	Brenda	I would like to know why our governor, whom I worked to elect, is intent on selling us out to big business? Jobs, jobs, jobs, nothing!, What about protecting our natural resources?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Penn Yan/Finger Lakes	Brenda	Bet it won't be added to the queue
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	saugerties/ hudson valley	shawn	being that nysesda and nypa both have insentives out for instalation of solar, is there a way to have new york installers buy new york materails first with additional insentives? I work for a pv panel manufacture in new york and it seems like on large utility jobs we loss out to both out of state installers and out of state & out of country panels. we need to think new york first with insentives to new york installers to use new york manufactures, so that more of the money stays in the state. IS THIS POSSIBLE?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	CANADICE ONTARIO COUNTY	DON	ARE WE GOING TO UPDATE THE STATE PARKS CAMPING SITE WITH ELECT THE PARKS THAT ALREADY HAVE ELECT SEEM TO BE FULL WHEN TRYING TO BOOK A CAMP SITE SO IF WE UP DATED THE PARKS WOULD WE NOT GET A GOOD RETURN ON THE TAX MONEY WE SPENT LATER OVER TIME??? THE PARKS IN THE FINGER LAKES WERE BUSY LAST YEAR.. ARE PARKS ARE BOOKING CAMP SITE FASTER THIS YEAR ALL READY ???THANKS DON

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Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	ONTARIO COUNTY	DON IF SOMEONE WAS GIVEN A JOB TO WORK IN THE STATE PARKS FIXING THEM UP ADDING CAMP SITE OR UP DATING TRAILS WOULD THAT BE GOOD WAY TO USE TAX MONEY ??? SOME DAY THE RETURN IN CANPING FEES WOULD OFF SET THE MONEY SPENT??THANKS DON
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Capital District	Cathy I was a Town Clerk for 12 years in the area. At that time, there was quite a bit of correspondence about the "Mohawk Heritage Corridor". It seemed to be a push to revitalize the economy along the Hudson-Mohawk Rivers. My question is, is it still in existence and does the Governor's economic plans for jobs incorporate that idea along those two rivers. I'm sure some of the depressed areas along these two main shipping and boating areas would benefit from his plans for jobs, jobs, jobs.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Erie County	Susan If there is to be a Billion for Buffalo to create jobs the need for child care is likely to increase. Is this being considered as part of the economic recovery of this area? Not only does child care support the workforce, it creates a part of the workforce - teachers, cooks, bus drivers and so on.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Maspeth	Vanessa My daughter graduated 3years ago with her masters in Guidance Counseling. She has yet to get a job with the NYCDOE. The first year she worked as a SAPIS worker in an Elementary School. She was let go a year later due to budget cuts. She has been on unemployment for over two years. She had desperately tried to get a job but now the DOE will only hire guidance counselors who are bi-lingual which is discriminatory. All regular positions are frozen unless you were excessed. This is disgusting, she went to school to become someone who could help children and she is not given the opportunity to do so. PLEASE HELP!!!
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	north babylon long island	Chris Will the governor properly aid schools so school personel can keep their jobs?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Westchester County	Jill The mature worker (55-65 yr old) has a more difficult time getting a new job and yet needs to be gainfully employed to support their family and continue paying into retirement plans. They are downsized most frequently, discriminated against in hiring (companies typically will hire younger cheaper labor) and too young to collect social security which is not an optimal solution. What type of job stimulation is planned for this age group of unemployed workers.

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Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Rockaway	Ronald	year has past will otb reopen hiring laid off displaced union workers who dedicated most of their lives for their job by leting catskill otb take over ? if its all about jobs jobs jobs isnt it .
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Saratoga Springs	Peggy	Please, please, please do not use environmentally damaging projects to "create" jobs. The long-term future of our earth outweighs our short term economic issues. Thank you.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Cortlandt Manor	Gloria	Why is a job difficult to obtain for a Hispanic female with a graduate degree and years of healthcare experience in Westchester?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	NYC	PAUL	THE GOV TALKS ABOUT JOBS JOBS JOBS HOW ABOUT GETTING FORMER NYCOTB WORKERS BACK TO WORK.A NEW NYCOTB WOULD NOT ONLY ADD JOBS BUT ALSO THE STATE COULD MAKE MONEY.PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU THINK THANKS IN ADVANCE HAVE A NICE DAY
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Rochester	Ken	why isn't the state going to be more fair for upstate ny every time we get passed over i belive they want to do away with us also why is the tax rate so high here in upstate we never get anything and we are tired of paying for the rich ding bats down state please make it more fair
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Brooklyn	Michelle	I was employed at NYCOTB for 28 years until the state shut us down Dec.2010. I'm still unemployed after applying for 100's of jobs. Myself and many of my former co-workers are penniless, losing ours homes, cannot feed our families, and most of are a few more Unemployment checks from becoming homeless. At least 17 people have died. Many from stress related illness. Our retirees have lost there medical coverage. My son and I will soon be living in a shelter. Why has'nt the Governor done anything to help us. We need jobs!!! The same people we voted for and put in office, put us in the street. And then turned their backs on us. After countless letters from us for help. No one has come to our aid. WE NEED JOBS NOW. It is now life or death for us. Can you possibly address this Ms. Eve.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	new rochelle	warren	stay the course. you cannot have sheldon silver dictate terms regarding matters such as education. Governor, you have to also support the rights of cooperative shareholders as they are tenants, many elderly who have tenant status under their proprietary lease. include them in your tenants protection program please.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012		Beth	What is the Governor doing to help small businesses, create jobs?

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Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Vestal	Tom	I'm a New Yorker, and unemployed. What advice do you have for helping me find a job?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Johnson City	Kristin	What role do farmers play in our state's economic recovery? What plans does the Governor have to help farmers out in 2012?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	broome	william	I agree our state need jobs Just like every other state in the country But how those new job are created is the problem My question is How is he going to create any jobs When we have 2 billion dollar short fall already & all his plan depend spending more money like tax credit or borrowing money We don't have And if he his plan's includ cutting state work jobs How is putting more people out of work do them or the state any good
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Bronx	Michael	From what I read hydrofracking has not been a problem in Pa and we are importing natural gas from Pa. I also read an upstate town, bordering Pa., is doing well, economically, from the business by Pa. workers. Won't it make sense, to produce natural gas in NY state, where it would produce much needed jobs? This would generate taxes and revenue for towns. I think if people were able to work, it would instill a sense of pride in them. NYS should be the #1 state in this country and our residents should be proud to be a New Yorker. We need jobs created by hydrofracking.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Clifton Park	Charlie	How can we find out what projects the NY Works Fund and Task Force will support?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Coram, Suffolk County	Thelma	Are there plans to reduce taxes further this year? The MTA Payroll Tax cut and income tax reform was a good start – will there be further reform this year?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Blue Point, Suffolk County	John	What is the Governor doing to expand job opportunities for minority communities?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Mohawk Valley	Mary	What are you doing for the unemployed and others who are struggling during these economic times? We're not out of the woods yet, and I'm wondering how I will get by if I don't find a new job soon.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Ellenville/Ulster County	Elizabeth	I have been unemployed since November 2010. I have over 25 years experience as a Senior Executive Assistant, have great references, giving myself a 100 mile radius to work, but my attempts to find work have been futile. I recently contacted the Social Services office in Ulster County to ask them if they work with any employment agency but they informed me that they do not. What are the plans for helping people that have been unemployed for a long time fine work?

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Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Brooklyn	Chireau	Do you think that by increasing jobs for high school and college students there will be more of a stimulation to the economy than an increase in job growth for other age groups?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Verona	Tammie	There's Sherrill MFG in Sherrill NY, also known as Old Oneida Ltd, sat this time they are producing silverware and coffee joulies, they have manybe 30 people working but they are up and trying to stay on top,why not drive business toward them. Why not bring manufacturing back to CNY. Why not give them stimulus money to stay here and keep them going, why give it to banks.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	New York	Cathleen	Where is the help for NewYork citizens?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Brooklyn, N.Y.	Anonymous	What is being done to cut medicare payments for Hospital and doctors. I may self as a patient and Registered Professional Nurse have experienced how doctors are not accepting patients with medicare. This cut in payments will result will be disaster. Health Care is changing with medicare & medicare reimbursement causing Hospitals to close and Doctors to go bankrupt. What is your office doing to help avoid the medicare cuts.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Southern Tier	James	How does making an energy highway help businesses in upstate and downstate NY?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Ulster County	Lance	Will the Governor consider re-establishing an aggressive investment tax credit for strategic business investments (e.g., manufacturers) such as we could offer under the Empire Zone program. We've dropped from a maximum of 10% ITC to a maximum of 5%, which makes competing with other states difficult in our recruitment and start up marketing. The ITC costs money to the State, but that money is generated by the projects and investments being incentivized -- which often won't exist without the ITC. Excelsior is good but is missing the higher ITC incentive.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	The center of the State	Steven	Do you have a strategic plan to take advantage of the jobs the industry is creating right now for workers from NY Southern Tier? Do you have a plan to train workers for the industry should the SGEIS be finalized? Do you have a plan to advise small businesses on how to work for the industry? Do you have a plan to bring manufacturers of products the industry uses to NY? Do you have a plan to facilitate the development of products for the industry using University / Industry Partnerships? All of these things are being done in PA, OH, Texas, WV, WY etc. Why must NY be the last to the table and take the crumbs that are left?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Rockaways	Ron	Give laid off otb back their jobs some hove worked 20 30 years are not ablke to work in construction or any a of the governors job proposel
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	The center of the State	Steven	Do you intend to respond to natural gas related questions?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Corning	Brian	I am the owner of a vineyard in the Finger Lakes region. What is NYS doing to help wine producers?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Watervliet	Scott	How does cutting taxes help the economy????
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012		Anonymous	How will having the largest convention center in American help our state's economy?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Troy	Jeff	What are we doing to keep jobs and companies here in our state?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012		Anonymous	What is Governor Cuomo doing to make sure young people in our inner cities are part of the state's economic recovery?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Long Island	Anonymous	I'm a small business owner. Where can I find state resources and support to expand and grow my business?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	east bloomfield	jack	whats the future of hyrofracking? these are jobs waiting to happen.
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Brooklyn. NY	Virginia	What will Gov. Cuomo being done to avoid medicare cuts to physicians & Hospitals,
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Verona	Tammie	Once again I see banking stimulus, what about granting exsisting companies money so they Dont go under
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	nyc	andrew	Why was the Aqueduct site selected as a place to build a new convention center?
Leecia Eve	1/13/2012	Brooklyn. NY	Virginia	What is being done to stop the cuts to medicare to hospitals & doctors. I am a registered professional nurse. I going to start searching for a new job son?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Rochester	Suzanna	is they any way seized Cars could be donated to those in need -instead of sitting in an inpund lot???
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	staten island	georgine	I'm getting the run around, all we want to do is get a termination letter from hip so my daughter can apply for health care ,they are saying she has coverage with hip but she hasn't been covered for 7 years.it is impossible to speak to someone or help her.can you please get someone to help out this situation. or people who actually do their job.call me at [REDACTED]enough is enough.we need help and i don't know who else to turn to. everyone connects you to someone else .. hey if they don't want to work , i would be happy to take the job.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Suffolk County Long Island	Ed	Vending Massage Chairs in DMV and Local State Museums--Totally EFFORTLESS INCOME STREAM for the State of New York and a relaxing service for patrons and customers. [REDACTED]
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Margaretville	Lori	When is NYSDEC and your office going to bring charges against the current Manager of Belleayre Mountain for using State Monies for his own leisure and also when do I Lori Knapp get notice and recognition for doing the right thing and turning the bullying tyrant of a boss into your office and the Investigator Generals office?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Ontario, NY	Matt	Will you support the legalization of internet poker in NY? Will you push for a law to be passed this year as a way to collect additional revenue for the state?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Poughkeepsie	Theresa	How does he think the process went for the closure ofHRPC (1/26/12) and does he have any thoughts on the 200 or so who will be unemployed. Any ideas for regional revitalization?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Fishkill, NY	maureen	

Glad to hear of projects planned to help the economy :) The question I have is why is the state so hell bent on prevailing wage on these public projects? The rates are completely obscene regardless if they are based on bargaining agreements!!! They cost the employer and cost the citizens 3-4 times more than the project should cost. In addition, the economy has been so very hard on construction, the undercutting to bid for projects is so out of control and jobs are being done illegally - this now costs the state investigation and money to chase down. Companies bidding so low end up not capable of fulfilling the requirements to complete the work and the job is back out to bid. The waste that goes on and has been allowed - change orders for example!!! That is just \$\$\$\$\$\$ and it is just paid out!! Prevailing wage bid projects completely eliminate an entire work force - a work force that can complete these projects for far less! This is one example of how the unions have just taken over and the state allows and approves of it!! Have you looked into the cost factors of eliminating the need for "prevailing wage" process? Reform, right?!!! Thank you :)

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	elmont	steven	Your claiming there is no funds to ratify contracts with the new york state corrections officers so how are you find money that you claim you dont have to fix a convention center.why are you releasing all these ex convicts into society to bring down prison population numbers so you can close jails down.people getting hurt and your main concern is the dollar in your pocket.why is it im driving 4 hours each way to get to work after you closed my jail down your way of doing things is the wrong way union bashing should not be tolорated.i cant wait to move out of new york state you have made it that the poor and the rich survive me making 40 thousand dollars a year i cant do it in this state.your painting a lie to the public i get paid 40k a year pay 300 into my health insurance every month my pay check amount to 850 dollars every 2 weeks how can us as state employees live like this.you lie to the public and say we live great your a liar
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Staten Island	Bill	When will you make a decision on hydrofracking? Upstate NY is an economic basket case. The jobs that this industry will provide far outweigh the risks involved. Many other states have allowed this prtice, with a great safety record. As an avid outdoorsman who loves camping and fishing, I have no problem with this. To me, the people who are so against this are the ones whom you would put in the woods for 1 day and they would go crazy without their IPad, cell phone, and laptop. Tax growth should be fueled by economic growth, not by raising rates and fees.
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Adams	Andrew	New York has been labeled one of the most business unfriendly states. What is being done to change this?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	westchester	Deborah	when will it close?????????
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Queens	rince	As a landlord! What is the reason NYCHA and the SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.doesn't honored 100% their contractual agreements, with landlords in regards to payments?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	howard Beach NY	Michael	<p>honorable Gov Cuomo. You vetoed bill a5785 which would restore health benefits to deserving retirees. You stated that they were in fact entitled yet the appropriations were missing. Should our legislators come up with the means to pay for this will you kindly incorporate it into the budget? We have lost so many innocent souls in 2011 as a result of this injustice. Please address this as we are mourning for our fallen co workers and can't bare to bury any more. RIP [REDACTED] age [REDACTED] died [REDACTED] of a brain tumor who waited 3 weeks for treatment with this diagnosis due to health costs. Sincerely, Michael [REDACTED]</p>
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	patchogue new york	cindy	<p>Considering the changes you are making to early intervention and preschool special education, I wonder what kind of changes you will be making to the ridiculous policy and laws surrounding the "universal" pre-k grants? The laws of these grants require a random lottery selection (because there isn't enough money to provide universal access)All this system is doing is shuffling the preschool population from privately paid to a publicly funded and forcing small business to close their doors. I know this first hand as I am an owner of a private preschool. The policy as is - is not addressing the achievement gap. All preschool funding should prioritize funding to those most in need. Whether it be special education, early intervention or targeting toward the poor.</p>
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Plainview	Mark	<p>I have not disagreed with much of what you have done thus far, but to slash twenty million dollars from the preschool special education budget is quite harsh. These kids need the most help of all. The work that goes on in these preschools is absolutely amazing. Would like to know what your justification is in taking away from such a vulnerable part of the population? These kids deserve better!!</p>

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT	
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	suffolk county	Perry	<p>At the same time that the state is cutting the education budget(which I agree with),last year by 1.2 billion dollars ,why do we have a program like UPK, a grant for \$400 million? This program is not based on economic need, it is chosen by a random lottery, and the children who need this service the most get shut out. UPK ,has done nothing to close the achievement gap,in fact, by not basing it on financial need ,is contributing to widening that gap. Not one more child in this state is attending preK because of UPK. it is just shuffling children from the private sector and making taxpayers pay for a service that private families used to pay for themselves. The program is decimating the private sector, as more and more private Preschools close their doors and increasing unemployment. Non-profits like SCOPE are enriching themselves with taxpayers money at the expense of private industry.if the goal is to increase the tax base, employment and give children a better education UPK should be stopped and reallocate the \$400.million to actually benefit children and the private sector. We have to stop letting special interests, lobbyists and NYSUT determine educational policy in this state.</p>
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Brookfield (Madison County)	George	<p>Our town had an energy audit done on its buildings and an estimate of work to address the problem. Because of prevailing wage laws, the labor will cost the town about twice what a business would pay. Fuel costs go up, too because of this horrible law. The state needs to get out of towns' business. How can a law that costs towns more be good for anyone but the special interests of labor? It should be repealed.</p>
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Dobbs Ferry, ny	jonathan	<p>Building a new Tappan Zee without mass transit is a wate of time and money, it will incapacitate the state. We NEED to have mass transit go into the Western Hudson valley for planning,k urbanistic, health safety and better life style, in addition to the smarter growth and better economy it will achieve. Why Not NOW?</p>
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Richmond	Rosylin	<p>Will I live? My health benefits (unscrupulously and illegally denied), must be re-instated, Included in NY Executive Budget (2012-2013).</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	brooklyn,ny	joe	Governor Cuomo Sir, i'm asking , pleading with you to incorporate the NYCOTB retiree health benefit cost into the budget so that retirees & retirees like myself that are disabled may once again have the health care that was taken away from us. i worked for 23yrs @ OTB before i was unable to due to heart disease.can you please due the right thing & restore our health benefits that were rightfully ours but taken away from us??? ty Sir in advance for your reinstating our health benefits, joe
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	staten island	cathleen	i WORKED 29 YEARS FOR nycotb and now no health benefits. WE had a few people die from no benefits. [REDACTED]- heart attack, [REDACTED] brain tumor, [REDACTED] had heart attack, and a few more past employees have passed away this year. Not to mention now the health risks we are facing, my friend [REDACTED] almost had a heart attack, [REDACTED], her story was told in the New YORK times about her high blood pressure and couldnt afford the RX. God only knows what I need, I am 53 with no health coverage. So my question is how can we get health coverage to us. We worked many years for the city and state and then we get nothing. I forgot to mention my poor Aunt [REDACTED]who has stage4 cancer with no coverage. What a disgrace to the once hard working middle class people of New York. Help us please, we need it now. I thank you for your time.
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	rockaway	Ron	As far as the money for the the bill for nyc otb retirement bill can you also include all tier 4 otb workers 50 years and older get instant pension for a bankrupt company which tier 1 people has that umbrella of protection with nycers .
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Astoria	katina	What is government doing to crack down on medicaid fraud?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	astoria	katina	Does the administration plan to ever convert defined benefit plans for government workers to defined contribution plans, as has been done in the private sector for decades?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	astoria	katina	Is anything being done to capture lost tax revenue of approximately \$500 million from real estate that has changed hands from non-profit entities that are tax exempt to for-profit entities that should be paying real estate taxes, but are not doing so?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	astoria	Katina	What, specifically, is being done to tighten up oversight of government contract awards to prevent another CityTime fiasco that cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Central NY	Valerie	How do people who get medicade & Fidelis afford to go to Europe for vacations? We the working taxpayers would like an answer for that one.
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Ulster county	John	Why isn't the stae taxing state retiirees pensions why do they get another free ride the tax payers back
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Woodside/Queens	Marie	What is the status of the OTB Retiree Benefits Bill??
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	NYC	Beth	The current trend of education 'reform' is appalling on many levels. As it relates to the budget, WAY too much money and time are spent on testing and state test scores should NOT be such a factor into teacher evaluations. The tests are flawed and true 'progress' means different - sometimes unmeasurable - things for different children. NY should look at how Montgomery County Maryland is doing it; they declined their RTTT money on the grounds that testing would end up driving curriculum. they have a teacher evaluation that works and that everyone is happy with (but, of course, they are penalized financially for their rebellious success). My question? has the Governor looked at the PAR system in Montgomery County, and, if so, why is he so hellbent on his wrong-headed path? (http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/06/education/06oneducation.html?_r=1)
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Elizabeth	Steven	In the last legislative session both houses voted in favor of giving OTB retirees their Health Insurance after losing it when OTB was shut down. Workers with decades of service and even those already reitred lost benefits promised them leaving them at risk. The Governor vetoed the legislation because it lacked funding. What steps are being taken to address this issue and end a year of turmoil for these workers ?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	staten island ny	linda	how could the new york state/city stop health benefit for the retirees of off track betting

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Manhattan	Phillip	Will you incorporate the NYCOTB retiree health benefit cost into the budget?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	bloomfield	jack	did I hear right that social service recipients are getting a 10% raise? This seems a little(lot)excessive seeing as how social security only went up 3.6%.
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Bethpage, Long Island	Kenneth	Last year you vetoed bill A5786 saying it had no source of funding. This year the plan is to introduce a bill with funding as part of the bill. Will you give the OTB retirees their health care that was promised?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Cortlandt Manor	James	If the OTB Retirees Health Bill, formerly known as A5785, is re-introduced for the current 2012 Budget Year with the appropriations that it needs, will you then sign this bill into law?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	New York City	Ana	Where will the funds come from for Governor Cuomo's NY Works infrastructure investments?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Henrietta	Chaz	Will my school being getting more aid in Governor Cuomo's budget?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Rochester	Sheila	How will education performance grants help improve our schools and make sure our students get a better education?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Buffalo	Margaret	If schools don't put the teacher evaluation system in place before next January, what happens to the education dollars slated for those districts?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Buffalo	Maggie	How much of the education funding will go to public schools, and how much will go to charter schools?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Albany	Sean	Why did you shut Anton Konev out?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Brooklyn	Colin	The New York Times reported that a paragraph repeated throughout the budget would allow the Governor to shift money around between various allocations himself. Would it be better to allow some legislative input when it comes moving large amounts of money from one program to another?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	North Hudson, NY, Essex County	Marianne	How will the Health Exchange work, and will my health care costs go up as a result of it?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Hudson	Hank	Are funds budgeted for the next round of the Regional Council competition?

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Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Syracuse	Carla	What other areas of the budget will be impacted by the elimination of all automatic growth inflators?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Staten Island	Todd	Will the NY State Government finally honor its commitment and restore the supplemental health insurance benefits to retirees of NYC OTB? These people worked for those benefits and had them taken away through no fault of there own. Please do the right thing.
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Oneida	Ike	I have a young child in Pre-School, but her school is tight on funds. How does Governor Cuomo's budget help Pre-School programs?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Cny	Tim	How will Governor Cuomo's executive budget help create jobs here in New York?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Kings	Stephen	Mr Govenor,you claimed that the retirees were entitled to earned and promised health benefits but you included no appropriation in your budget.Why Not?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Utica	Daniel	Many area school districts in Central New York are facing structural deficits, yet the governor's budget only slightly increases aid, their main source of revenue. Two examples - Utica expects to be \$10 million in the red, Ilion \$3 million. Why isn't more money allocated to these schools?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Albany	Damien	Are judicial or district attorney pay increases part of the Governor's proposal?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Schenectady	John	Will the new Tier VI system impact current state workers' or retirees' pension systems?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	test	Test	test
Division of Budget	1/20/2012		ryan	test
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Ithaca	Linda	I keep hearing all this talk about teacher evaluation. What is this about and why did Governor Cuomo include these measures in his budget?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012		Anonymous	How will Governor Cuomo's budget affect retirement plans for state workers?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Binghamton	Sara	How does Governor Cuomo's budget help ensure that New York's environment remains clean and beautiful?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	NYC	Angela	Does Governor Cuomo's budget support public transportation in NYC? Specifically the MTA?

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Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Schenectady	Betsy	Clarify please about teacher evaluations: All teacher unions across the state or just the 10 districts that have been negotiating and SED pulled their School Improvement Grant funding or SED and NYSUT?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Buffalo	Ally	What is mandate relief and why is it so important? I keep hearing local leaders talk about it.
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	new york city	steve	why does state government care how much people running non-profit agencies are paid?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Port Jefferson	Ira	How does Governor Cuomo's budget help ensure that New York's environment remains clean and beautiful?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Bayville	Maureen	What is mandate relief and why is it so important? I keep hearing local leaders talk about it.
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	NYC	Eisha	What impact will the Judiciary's FY 2012-2013 request of \$25 million for Civil legal service programs have on NYC service providers?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Rochester	Mike	I live in Brooklyn and my wife and I have a baby on the way. I am over income for any of the city-subsidized daycares, but the non-subsidized ones are well out of our price range. Is there anything in there to help middle-class parents with daycare costs?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Albany	Marie	Could you please explain more about the proposed upgrades to the state's power grid? The governor said it will be entirely privately funded.
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Albany	Rachel	When will the regional councils begin meeting again, and what will they be tasked with doing this year?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012		Ryan	The budget calls for an expansion of credits for residential purchase of solar panels. It says residents will be eligible for a 12.5% income tax credit, but the current credit is 25%. How is that an expansion of credits? AND are residents eligible for sales tax breaks like commercial buyers?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Capital District	Marie	The governor said in his State of the State address that he believes \$1 billion in state investment to Buffalo will leverage \$5 billion in private investment. How can you be sure about such specific amounts?
Division of Budget	1/20/2012	Ulster county	Joe	I work in the NPP program to be cut, we fought this battle last year to get ourselves back in the budget. Why again must we prove how valuable our work is? Can't changes be made to NPP program than axing it altogether?

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Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	hofmeister	Mary	Research shows that children who experience high quality early care and learning programs are less likely to drop out of high school, more likely to have a job as an adult and less likely to commit crimes. Do you consider early care and learning investments a public safety issue?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Massapequa	White Feather Curtiss	why do we continue to keep an unsafe outdated monster in use, Indian Point Nuclear Plant. when is it closing? Who cares for the safety of millions of people . there is no safe way out!!!!!! Closing of Indian Point should be a priority in this administration. Put the energy into more solar and wind and geothermal, we have the technology and certainly enough unemployed people to go to work and be educated. thank you and lets close Indian Point now!!
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		Cherylrose	Isn't this a serious invasion of privacy rights?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		Fritz	How would the collection of DNA for the database be conducted? Would it be mandatory for people being convicted of a felony? I think that's the way we should go with this, if you choose to break serious laws, then the state has the right to record your DNA profile. Do you agree?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		Jean	Long Island has been plagued with wrong way drivers. Is there any way to put those spikes in the road that if you drive over them backwards they blow out the tires? At least if someone goes the wrong way, they'll be driving on 4 flat tires and won't get too far.
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Delmar	David	New York State already uses DNA evidence, I don't understand why you need more people's DNA
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Rochester - Park Avenue	James	I don't like the government having access to my DNA. They don't need to know my medical history – it's too BIG BROTHER!
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Rockland	bob	expanding the Databank, building a new lab and paying the thousands of dollars it costs to test DNA samples is not worth it. I don't want to pay a tax to process DNA samples!
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	North Country	Anonymous	I just read about a triple murder that was solved from more than twenty years ago in the newspaper. If expanding the Databank means more of this, then I say do it!
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Manorville	Jerry	What would happen if the Databank was hacked and all that sensitive, biological information got into the wrong hands?

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Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		Jean	It was reported in the news that the Nassau County Crime Lab had to close because it didn't properly handle evidence and wasn't even using the proper equipment. How do you know the state lab won't have the same problems after the databank is expanded?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Troy	Jeff	I've made some mistakes in my life and have a criminal record. I haven't committed another crime in more than 30-years and don't plan to. Will I have to give you a DNA sample? And why should I if I haven't been in trouble in more than three decades?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		Bruce	I was convicted, but my conviction was overturned. Can I get my DNA sample back?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		Michelle	Will the proposal require kids involved in family law courts to give a DNA sample?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Great Neck	Helene	The newspaper says that there are huge backlogs in the police crime labs and they can't handle an expansion. Is that true?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Amsterdam	Rayn	Will this law apply to me if I get arrested? Who has to give DNA samples now?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Port Washington	Bonnie	What happens to a lab worker who uses the DNA Databank inappropriately?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Kingston	Garth	What will happen if you don't expand the Databank?????????????
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	New City	Kristen	What types of tests are done to get DNA samples? Do you have to give blood?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	freeport	kevin	If I am convicted of a misdemeanor and I refuse to give up my DNA for this database, Will the government use force to take it from me?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		Anonymous	Why do you need to take DNA from people convicted of minor crimes?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Brooklyn	Showcat	Why do we have to do this now? What's the rush?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Long Island	Tyler	Under what circumstances does our constitution allow you to take DNA from my body and put it in a database?

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Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		Anonymous	I am concerned about privacy and security. My DNA is my property and I have a right to keep it secure. Can you guarantee that this database will not be hacked, or that the information kept will not be used in an expanded capacity in the future?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		Jessica	Deputy Secretary Glazer - you keep talking about the power of DNA. What are some real life examples from our neighborhoods?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		Ellen	How will you handle transgender individuals? Original sex or new sex?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012		John	What do you mean when you say DNA can prevent crimes? If you're taking it from people after they're convicted, how could that crime have been stopped?
Elizabeth Glazer	1/27/2012	Suffolk County	Ryan	If you are truly trying to protect the public, shouldn't you allow us to defend ourselves? Concealed carry is only possible here on Long Island if you are carrying a lot of money, which means that cash is worth more than me and my family's life.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Dutchess cty	Maureen	Why aren't our teachers teaching our kids? These state tests have completely taken over and stressed the entire system. I am beyond upset and my child is not being given fair opportunity to learn!!! these tests need to stop there is no useful purpose to them!! My tax dollars are not being put to their proper use!!! I am absolutely fuming over this and fed up with the damage it is causing!!
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Patchogue NN	Edward	Why are you letting so many kids come into High School who can barely read or follow simple directions on test or everyday task. Who still believe that showing up at school and doing assignments are voluntary and not mandatory. Why are the parents not held accountable for their part and the teacher is responsible for both parts and it is the teachers fault that they are this way.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Verona	Tammie	<p>With the chnages to NY states regulations of the Commissioner and the alignment of NY with IDEA, I see where the students with disabilities will fall through the cracks. MANY students that have IEPs have some sort of reading issue, either comprehension or language its self, what is NY state doing to correct this, how come many students are falling through the cracks including those that are typical. Why cant NY get back to basics and teach these children to read and to understand language the first couple of years in school. Why can't NY change the standards to meet the needs of ALL children and teach ALL children early on the basics of reading this includes phonics, comprehension etc. MANY reading specialist have done studies about children and their lack of the language and reading abilities. They have proven that INTENSE programming early on leads to the declassification of many with IEPS. I can provide that data</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	verona	tammie	<p>What methodologies are acceptable according to the Commissioner in the event that a district isnt making progress in ELA?</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Bethlehem	Barry	<p>If we are truly serious about reforming the NYS property tax system, and we have identified high property taxes as the major impact on business recovery, shouldn't we eliminate the STAR program completely? Exemptions in general merely shift the tax burden off one favored group and onto the backs of another. The STAR program was nothing more than a political manipulation (from the reportedly pro-business GOP) that flies in the face of everything we are trying to accomplish today. It provides a tax benefit to those that are actually using the services, places a tax burden on business, and is in essence a double tax because it is funded with tax payer dollars to cover the reimbursement. Eliminate the STAR program!</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Brooklyn	Sheila	SLDS & Race to the Top put our children at risk because of the legal & legal sharing of personal & sensitive information about students. How likely is the Governor to support s.2357 a.8474, a bill that restricts profiling and sale of student information AND requires parental consent to release any contact information. This bill fills the hole in FERPA, a flawed law when it comes to protecting our children. I believe protecting students' privacy & safety falls under the Governor's role as "student lobbyist."
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Springville	Julie	When will you start requiring districts to consolidate? Why, instead of limiting (and in some cases, decreasing) funds for districts that are not quite poor enough yet still suffering, resulting in much larger class sizes, cuts in student programs, and massive teacher layoffs, do you not address the problem of every teeny tiny district paying out huge salaries to superintendents and business administrators. Consolidating/combining small districts would help eliminate our entirely manufactured shortage of superintendents (who can now command huge salaries because of this so called shortage and/or work as "interim superintendents" during their retirement while still collecting their state pensions.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Middle Island	John	With the nation's emphasis on creativity and innovation - and the fact that the arts are listed as a Core requirement - what are you doing to ensure that music, art and theater classes remain a vital part of a child's education, despite the cuts that our schools will endure over the next few years?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Utica, NY	Christine	As a teacher in a very high needs district, with a very large population of ELL and special education students, I would like to know how using a system of competitive grants in order to receive additional state aid is fair for the students in my district. The UCSD is been under-funded for years and the most recent cuts will raise class size, limit programs, and cut teachers and staff. The teachers and administrators in our district are dedicated to helping and educating our students. The competitive grant program for state aid will only hurt our kids.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Southern Tier	Marilyn	<p>Despite the additional funds the governor has added to the State aid package, districts are still coming up with less funds because of the gap elimination adjustment adjustment (only the State of NY could come up with a name like that) and the fact that ARRA funds are now gone. Districts in upstate NY are devastated and struggling to survive. The Commission of Education had discussed on on-line classes, etc but in Upstate NY citizens of some districts are still using dial-up. High speed Internet access does not exist. Schools here are the centers of their communities. Districts cover large areas and consolidations will have students on buses for hours. We need help. What are the chances that the competitive grant money will be limited to \$50 million and that \$200 million will be added to foundation aid to help school boards run their districts?</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Schenectady	Steve	Why do you support funding for charter schools when studies consistently show that charter schools don't get better results than regular public schools?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Schenectady	Betsy	What is your position on using student test scores for teacher evaluation? Are you aware that there is a large body of research by testing experts warning that it is wrong to judge teacher quality by student test scores?

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	Clintondale/Hudson Valley NY	Christine	<p>When will NYS make up the difference between the cut in aid and the property tax cap so that schools can run? Most can not even have a roll over budget due to the reduction in funding. Consolidation is at least a few years off if other districts will agree. What should we do now so that our children have a decent education? For our district, Highland CSD, the cumulative loss of state aid since the 2009-10 school year is \$6,288,174. That combined with the tax cap will leave us with no JV sports, no electives in HS, loss of electives and teaming in the middle school, huge class sizes in elementary and a large reduction in staff...and that is if we pass a 6.5% tax increase with a 60% voter approval. NYS needs to make up this gap with funding from other taxes or state aide. We were also not given mandate relief from 350 mandated items, of which only about 28 percent have associated funding. This is untenable. The 4 percent increase that was advertised and promised by his office did not materialize for Highland; in fact we lost another \$102,269. This is because most of the aid is expense-driven, and Highland has been operating fiscally conservatively...so now new money for us! How can our children survive?</p>
David Wakelyn	Highland	Christine	<p>Will the state assist with the consolidation of school districts in to one county district? This will not happen without direct support from the state. There are too many "fiefdoms" in NYS and the cost of multiple district administrators is drowning school districts in unsustainable costs. Governor Cuomo cut school aid, cap property taxes and gave no mandate relief, how does he expect schools to survive?</p>
David Wakelyn	Albany	Kathy	<p>Why would a web chat to discuss educational reform, encouraged by the Governor, and being hosted by the Deputy Secretary of Education, be held at time in the day, (11 A.M.) when teachers are not available to participate?</p>

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Ballston Spa	Gloria	<p>According to "The Civil Rights Project" published by Harvard University, "During the 1990s, the proportion of black students in majority white schools has decreased by 13 percentage points, to a level lower than any year since 1968." Assembly bill 2895 is, " AN ACT creating a temporary state commission to examine the degree and effect of segregation in primary and secondary schools; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof." This bill has not made it far in the assembly. Why do you think that is? Do you find this bill to be controversial because of it's social, political and economical underpinnings? Would you support it? Do you believe NYS Board of Education would endorse this bill? What stance do you think Governor Cuomo's would take on the bill?</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Averill Park/Ravena-Coeymans-Selkir	Sarah	<p>How can we be getting MORE mandates and declining revenue from the State? I thought the "GAP adjustment" was for one year under Patterson? You told us (meaning our small-medium upstate school) to use our "rainy day fund" to offset this. Both my home district AND the district I work in are now OUT of funds! We have cut entire programs, closed school, laid off employees...there is NOTHING LEFT! Please, no more mandtes! Take some away please an get rid of the GAP adjustment. How are these two schools going to close a 4 million and 4.7 MILLION GAP?? You are bankrupting public education! What are you going to do to help? From a parent and loyal NYS teacher</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Western NY	Bob	<p>How can the Governor's proposed budget justify a district in Westchester County - South Hampton, whose free and reduced lunch program is 1% receive more state aid than a district in WNY whose Free and Reduced lunch is 49%? These numbers can not be justified, other than the rich get richer and the poor - well too bad - you get nothing! What a horrible mismanagement of power.</p>

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Schoharie	Martin	<p>Could you ask the governor to celebrate achievement in our schools as much as he celebrated the New York Giants victory? Concerning reform, why only cite one statistic when it comes to how our students do? Why not celebrate the high achievement of many students in our public schools? These include: a CNBC study ranks New York's education system as first in the nation for providing what business needs. New York schools have more Intel semifinalists — 105 — than any other state. New York ranks second in the nation for the number of students successfully completing Advanced Placement courses. Education Week ranks New York third in the nation.</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Mount Sinai	John	<p>As a teacher I am very concerned with the real world experience of the commissioner. As far as I can discern his teaching credentials are limited mostly to very short stints (and mostly a charter schools). If possible could you provide his public school teaching experience and the how his students preformed based on the AARP standards according to the Danielson model?</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	East Durham	James	<p>Why is this web chat on education being given when the very people the governor is villifying, teachers, are TEACHING and not able to participate? Is he afraid of what we have to say?</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	East Durham	James	<p>How can the governor fairly assess teachers based on how students achieve on state tests? He is not taking into account that every child is different and learns at different rates. He is also not taking into account what the child's life is like at home and what, if any supports, they have at home. His plan is devoid of any rational thought process and will have an adverse effect on education. He will be remembered as the man who destroyed education. Lobbyist for the students indeed!</p>

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	staten island	Linda	Please tell me why the academic advisers give students the wrong information regarding classes needed to complete the requirements for graduation. Both of my children now attend CSI and have been given "advisement" to take classes that aren't necessary or required in order to graduate. My daughter was smart enough to figure out how to apply for only the classes she and her brother need much to the dismay of the staff. The advisers can't give an intelligent answer as to why they tell these kids to take classes they do not need at all and are not happy that my daughter has figured out how to graduate on time with enough credits and classes that she needs. Maybe the staff needs to be retrained or just own up to the fact that they're trying to make more money for the school at the expense of the students.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Rochester, NY	Dan	Isn't it time for Secretary Duncan and the President to step-up and be honest and courageous with the public by confirming all the research on family income and its impact on student performance? Given, that the most important external factor that impacts students is family income (up to 80%) and that the only factor that has demonstrated a positive, long-term impact on poverty-stricken students, is socio-economic desegregation, would it not be in the best interests of students, to provide incentives to those urban and suburban school districts who voluntarily engage in desegregation programs, rather than devote time and money to charter schools, more standardized test emphasis?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Orangeburg	Mark	How and where can local student leaders interested in peer-mentor programs go for more information?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Pearl River	Mark	My sister is passionate about education and wants to be a teacher in New York. However, she is having no success finding school districts with job openings. What is your administration doing to increase employment opportunities for prospective teachers?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Town of Florida, Montgomery Co	Peter	Among the proposals is relieving counties and NYC from the costs of Medicaid growth. . Do you really think this will lower our taxes? Our taxes will not be lowered until NYS gets the cost off the counties back and cuts all the Medicaid mandates passed on to them. Its about time we cut the Cadillac of Medicaid programs to more reasonable levels. Also it's about time we started mandatory testing all welfare recipients for drug use like many companies do. Use drugs no check!!
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Poughkeepsie	Mary	as charter school numbers increase, how are you planning to balance the growth so it does not negatively impact public schools that are not charters (stated specifically as charters are public also)?

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Bronx, NY 10463	Jerry	<p>As you might know, Mr. Cuomo, we coop shareholders live in a legal limbo, in a "private-unaccountable" secret housing system in which all constitutional guarantees are suspended, and can get no redress, no recourse under the law. Our boards of directors, secretly appointed and sustained by the Sponsor, violates all of our ByLaws, conduct illegal sham elections, and exploits us ruthlessly, impoverishing us and putting us in serious peril of losing our equity and our homes. The Attorney General refuses to help us and investigate, with the excuse that we are a private club and should resolve these problems by ourselves, either by negotiating with the board or suing in State Supreme Court. This is a cop-out. We cannot afford lawyers to sue a corporation in State Supreme Court, and we don't even know any lawyer that would consider taking our case without a serious retainer of \$25,000 minimum. What are you going to do to protect us, our rights, our equity, our investment, our HOMES? WE demand that you appoint a SPECIAL PROSECUTOR to investigate the Coop situation, which is a true mafia (secret society, full of lies & prevarications) under the control of foreign nationals, generally Rumanian-Israelis, using Russian mafia capital to massively buy real estate in New York coops, and remain there as exploitative medieval landlords in perpetuity. [REDACTED]</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Westerlo, NY Albany County	Rachel	<p>Mr. Wakelyn -- my question is: At what point does the governor's office plan to hold a forum or web chat during a timeframe when those of us employed in education are able to attend and give feedback? As a teacher, I am in the classroom working with my students on Fridays at 11 am. As much as I would love to give feedback to the governor about his education reform agenda, I feel my time with my students is more important. What forum may I use to voice my opinions about the reform agenda?</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Utica	Carole	<p>First, what grades have you taught? What has the Governor taught? Have either of you taken the state assessment tests?Have you had any thoughts on how it is to teach in a class of 34 middle school students - share how you manage it?</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Rensselaer County	Angela	<p>What is the Governor's position on school mergers, specifically? What is the Governor doing to control all of the new, costly mandates such as APPR local assessments and does the Governor plan to fund or contain these costs?</p>

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Lower Hudson Region	Howard	<p>As you know, the pension reform that the Governor has proposed will not provide any significant relief for school districts in the short term. Is any consideration being given to a state retirement incentive as a means of making reform more palatable to the teachers union in addition to moving high salaried senior teachers who are currently paying nothing into the retirement system out so they can be replaced with less costly Tier 6 teachers? This would also save jobs of low seniority teachers who are at risk of losing their jobs due to budget cuts. A more flexible formula than the 55/25 model that has been used in the past that would make teachers with 80 years of combined age and service eligible would undoubtedly shake a lot of senior teachers loose, particularly older teachers with lower years of service due to gaps in their service associated with child rearing.</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Maine, NY	Ron	<p>How is it possible to put in place a fair method of teacher evaluation when the raw product (the pupil) is subject to prior years of teacher shortcomings, poor/destructive/abusive home life, malnutrition because of lack of food in very poor households, all of which greatly affect the pupil's current ability to learn.? How do you discount all these outside influences which any specific teacher has absolutely no control over.? It would seem to me, the higher the grade you teach, the more probable you will be found incompetent because of reasons you have no control over (as stated in the above questions).</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Sherrill/Central New York	Chuck	<p>What is being done to address the inequity in the school aid formula?? High need, low wealth school districts continued to get pummelled by the Gap Elimination Adjustment in this year's budget. The Governor proposed a 4% increase in state aid, but is withholding \$250 million for competitive grants that those same low wealth districts can't realistically compete for. It's like the local high school football team trying to beat the NY Giants!! It's not going to happen!! Suggestion--Return at least \$200 million to the poorest districts instead of continuing to supplement low need, high wealth districts with additional state aid!! Thank you!!</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Riverhead NY	JoAnn	<p>I work in a school district and would like to know why taxes cannot come from our income taxes. I feel that if a parent is paying for school taxes from their income they would be more diligent in having their child attend school. If you are paying for a service you will make sure that you are getting what you are paying for. It is a shame that we have high cost students that are getting many services and are not showing up. I could go on and on, so please give me an answer</p>

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	NYC	Tori	Hi, Tori from [REDACTED] here. What time is the live chat on Friday? Can you tweet about it so our teachers can have more info? Thanks!
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Yonkers, NY	Marc	I am a teacher in the Yonkers Public Schools where nearly all electives have been discarded. There are no more bands, choruses, drama, etc. With all of the attention on standardized test scores and budget cuts, what place will classes that students can take purely out of intellectual interest have in the future of public education?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Yonkers, NY	Marc	Why is it that after every study has proven that older students would benefit from later school start times due to their need for more sleep, that we still schedule start times backwards (High School earlier, elementary schools later)? Is it due, as I've been told, to the school sports lobby? Shouldn't academics take precedence?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Yonkers, NY	Marc	I understand that the average amount of time new administrators spend in the classroom before becoming administrators is 5 years. Many teachers, myself included, do not believe that is enough time for a person to understand what effective teaching is or the obstacles that teachers face everyday. Yet at the same time, there is almost no incentive for a seasoned veteran like myself to make the leap into administration. I would end up taking what amounts to a pay cut. Is there any discussion of demanding a minimum amount of years of teaching before going into administration or creating incentives for veteran teachers to consider the profession?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Yonkers, NY	Marc	Teachers are being judged on standardized test scores and other criteria yet in these discussion there has been no mention of what administration must provide teachers to accomplish their goals. Why is there no discussion of what must be provided like adequate text books, computers, and other supplies. How can we judge teachers if they are not being provided what they need to teach effectively?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Yonkers, NY	Marc	This is a question that has always nagged me and I've never received a satisfactory response. Why is it that if I am a lawyer, I answer to a Bar Association made up of legal experts and if I am doctor I answer to a medical board made up of medical experts but as a teacher I answer to school boards made up of anybody who can get themselves elected or appointed without regard to expertise or educational background? If I am a professional, shouldn't I be governed by experts in my field as those in other professions are?

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Harlem, New York City	Mark	Would you consider adding civics to education reform such as supporting current legislation in NYS Legislature allowing 16 & 17 year old to pre-register to vote which increases students interest and civics and social studies but costs very little. 10 other states allow this including CA, FL & NC.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Long Island	Tom	1. Will the Governor mandate APPR regulations for the entire state and avoid the inconsistency of 700 districts having to collectively bargain the APPR process? 2. Why does the Governor's proposal include shifting the costs of preschool special education services to local school districts, especially in light of the Tax Cap restrictions?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	NYC	Leonie	Class sizes have risen throughout the state, but particularly here in NYC, where they are now the largest in 11 years in the early grades. They have risen each year for the past four, despite the fact that as part of the Contracts for Excellence law passed in 2007, NYC was obligated to REDUCE class size in all grades. Class size reduction is one of four reforms that have been proven to work through rigorous evidence according to the Institute of Education Sciences, is the top priority of parents and students in NYC, and 86% of our principals say they are unable to provide a quality education because of excessive class sizes. How will the Governor address this critical issue for the sake of our students?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	NNY	Brian	Thank you for taking the time to listen to our concerns. Increasingly difficult financial conditions for students in our most rural areas is increasing academic inequality within our states' borders. What can be done to speed up the process of offering Honors, AP and/or International Baccalaureate programs to schools across the state?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	LaFayette	Andra	What safety precautions would you recommend for schools in order to prevent air quality, water quality, traffic, chemical transport, waste water transport and other (potential) problems should high volume hydraulic fracturing for shale gas eventually be allowed in NYS? Schools should have safeguards in place before any drilling permits are issued, yet our district does not seem to be planning ahead. Would you issue some guidelines to protect children and teachers? The draft regulations were written to allow drilling within 150 ft. of schools, and that does not seem safe.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	WNY	Michael	How can we justify flushing so much money to education when so little of it is used to improve education? Seems to me that most of it is to benefit unions, and union members and their "perks" - reirement, health care, time off, conferences, travel etc. rather than to benefit the students.

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Westchester	Marjorie	students with learning disabilities now have to take and pass the Regents exams to get a HS diploma. The RCT is no longer available. Most will fail the algebra Regents exam no matter how much the special Ed teachers try and teach to the test. These kids have a neurological disorder that teachers can't fix. Therefore they wull not be able to get a diploma. Would you consider creating a business and consumer math class and replacing algebra for a high school diploma? An IEP "diploma" is not a diploma.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	glens falls	randy	when coming up with teacher evaluations, how will you account for students the teachers don't see (ISS) or those that require aids or have disabilities? how about parent's accountability of their role in their own child's education?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	verona	Tammie	right now the current push for each child reaching a standard of at least 3 has clouded some peoples perceptions of a childs ability to read. MANY children can not read because first reading is not natural secondly no one wants to accept that reading needs to be taught early on. What do you intend on doing about those students that can not read based on the LACK of intensity of a given effective ELA/ Reading program. The research is out there but NO ONE Including elective officials are willing to look at the data. WE need EFFECTIVE teaching.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Saranac Lake	Angie	The NYS Lotto was intiated to pay for schools in New York. Where does this money actually go? Is there a website that I can look at to see where the lottery money is being allocated to New York Schools?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Perinton	Bill	I completed my Ph.D. dissertation in Higher Education here in NY. I learned a lot about measuring educational outcomes and I am not convinced that forcing New York to conform to the Federal guidelines will serve NY students very well, if at all. NY school districts (and that includes BOCES districts) are extremely diverse and deal with widely differing educational challenges, widely differing socioeconomic standards, widely differing local cultural norms, and widely differing community expectations for academic success. Furthermore, the specific educational and behavioral needs of our developmentally, medically and socially challenged students across NY add a significant and very unique component to the educational process. How do you respond to the argument that the Federal "one-size-fits-all" scheme doesn't fit many NY school populations? Stated another way, how do you respond to the argument that NY doesn't have enough flexibility under the Federal standards to adopt its measuring schemes to this diversity?

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Huntington, New York	Emily	1)I'm curious to know why the governor hasn't tackled reform issues such as the Triborough amendment, LIFO, and tenure, which would empower local districts to enact the kind of reform he so passionately speaks about. 2)In other states (such as Colorado and Florida), legislation was passed before those states applied for RTTT, so that certain reforms would override any existing contractual obligations making the path to reform smooth. NYS didn't pass such legislation, so that many issues have to be bargained collectively at the local levels putting us in the predicament we now face. Why is that?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Smithtown	Pam	I was in Albany for the Education Hearing-why isn't the NYSED firmly persuing repeal of the Triborough Amendment (1982) and LIFO (1940) very costly statutes. Costly to the communities all over NY, but costly to the quality of education our children receive. These two laws are propelling our long term liabilities to unsustainable levels.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Florida/Orange County	Barbara	Why is support for the humanities not included in the goals for the SUNY system?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Ballston Spa	Patrick	The claim being made by the current state leadership is that teachers are not doing a well enough job. As a Graduate student I am given the chance to see a lot of classrooms where successes are being made you cannot measure. The current line of events is telling my friends and I that we are on a track to pushing aspiring teachers away from the dream of being a teacher. What do you have to say to defend your current agenda for the 2012 years and beyond to my peers and I?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Yonkers	Michelle	How will you protect students from additional devastating cuts in cities that hurt the most from your cuts, like Yonkrs who have already lost art and replaced them with changing substitutes that let kids color twice a week, music, gym, counselors in schools with high suicide risk and unsatisfactory decaying buildings. How will you ensure reform while ensuring the kids currently in the Yonkers public schools are not sacrificed?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Long Island	Carol	1350 New York State principals are not in favor of evaluating teachers by test scores. Many are from NYs finest schools. Why is their professional opinion being ignored by the governor and how can an evaluation system that is not supported by those who do the evaluations be successful?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Floral Park	Ralph	There is no evidence that many years of testing under NCLB has been successful. Why is the Governor doubling down on testing?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Fabius/Onondaga County	Karen	How do you plan on educating students whose schools are going to be bankrupt? What is you plan for these schools. This is a real issue that needs an answer now!

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Lakewood	Gary	Why are all the people who run the Dep of education not teachers. or if they have an education degree have never worked ina classroom in the inner city,special education,or middle or hight school???
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Croton-on-Hudson	Lisa	How will the Secretary be helping Governor Cuomo address the issue of the enormous amount of unfunded mandates handed to school districts? Isn't a tax levy cap without significant mandate reform basically strangling the budget for public education? In our district we are losing teachers in order to fund a created position of Assistant Superintendent who is basically in charge of dealing with bureaucracy. Who is going to impact more students, this person, or a teacher in the classroom?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Watkins Glen	Alexander	Why is it that our governor has set aside \$250 million dollars of the total \$800 million dollars for schools that meet specific criteria rather than just to spread the overall wealth to all schools across the state?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	frankfort ny/ bronx ny	tomas	

what is the state doing for all the kids in the bronx schools who are being suspended and sent to juvenile courts to have a record. now i understand the difference between a crime with a weapon, and the steps that have to be taken by schools in this instance. a but when a teacher hits a kid and the kid hits back, and believe me i dont agree with violence but this happened in a bronx school with my son, my son got probation and the teacher has not yet been suspended because the principal covers up this type of behavior.the reports we have shows and prove that the teacher hit my son and the one who went to the police station. was my son instead of both, to clear this up or should have been handled a different way, by the school. no one cares about the kids and by the way thats a fact the only thing principles care about is the school grade they get at the end of the year. i hope this issue is addressed with all nyc schools because next step is the media for me if nothing is done about these types of suspension actions towards kids which takes away from education and also creates criminals in the future. therefore preventing these kids from voting and if this is the plan? for america nyc etc.. then why are there gov. officials in office for. they should just let the system go down the drain.i was one to love school very much also believe in the right teachers but these principals who make false statements to parents face should not be working in a school where is the moral and the sacrifice and obligation of the school system for all kids which are to become the future of nyc etc... if this keeps going all minorities will not have a voice in politics ata all.thank you for your time.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Westchester	Gem	What approach is new York planning to implement teacher evaluations? Is there a consistent method statewide? What are the factors or elements of the assessment method and finally, what will be done with the results? How will we improve our teachers?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Ballston Spa	Patrick	Due to continue pushing of the federal guidelines of NCLB students with Special needs (defined as being students displaying 2 or more grade levels behind in academic work) are being expected to perform at the same level as their same aged peers. We can do better for these students. Does the Cuomo administration have any plans to reform Special Education so a student who cannot and will not perform successfully on Regents do not have to take the same test as same aged peers?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	New Paltz	Eric	With the stroke of a pen (repeated seven times for effect), Cuomo will dismantle public schools, add tens of thousands of teachers to the unemployment/foreclosure line, and provide not one penny of property tax relief. School budgets are driven by double-digit increases in pension and healthcare, and un/underfunded mandates - not 'waste' and 'lack of accountability'. Hundreds of districts will enter 'structural deficit' in the next few years, and NY's future is bleak. Please explain how this analysis is not correct?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Rockville Centre	Chris	How do you justify the cuts most districts will have to make to art, music and theatre to fund the implementation of APPR and meet the unrealistic demands of the tax cap? These are all subjects which assist students in their pursuit of college yet they will be the first to suffer once this system is in place. Are we not interested in the education of all children with diverse talents and interests in what was once one of the most creative cities in America? Thank You.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Riverhead	Dave	The Governor has stated several times that New York is ranked 35th out of 50 in education in the United States. What is his source of that statistic and what is his reaction to yesterday's Newsday article that ranks New York number 2 behind Maryland for the student percentage receiving a 3 or better on AP Exams (pg.A4). In his eyes does this account for anyone's hard work and commitment to education here in our schools. Can he publicly address this article and maybe congratulate the hard working teachers and administrators that make that happen?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Rockville Centre	Jerr	After reviewing the concept of SLO I have 2 questions. 1. In courses like music art, phy ed and health how can you make a fair assessment of pre knowledge that can be used as a baseline for these classes that do not have a regents. 2. Classes that contain a regents that are isolated (living environment, and chemistry). A student comes in with little or no knowledge of this subject matter, a SLO in this course does not make sense since it is not sequential. Should we use the scores from middle school science which is not a regents level course?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Hudson Valley	Meghan	A number of school districts are reporting that they don't qualify or don't have the resources to apply for the school performance grant. The money also won't flow until the end of this fiscal year for schools. Why should the state fund this further, when the current money hasn't been doled out? And when education groups are all asking to put the money back into school aid?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Hudson Valley	Meghan	If the governor adds a budget amendment on teacher evaluations, what will his version of the law look like? How will it differ from the current law and what are the benefits of changing it?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Suffolk County, NY	Tracey	How is the state making adjustments for ELL learners who come to our county who are not literate in their own language, and expect them to pass the state test? How are we to bridge the gap with complex text with readers who are not working on grade level? Will there be an intensive intervention for ELL learners in order for them to begin to work on grade level? Whatever we have in place for ELL learners is failing.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Suffolk	Terry	As a result of the Tax Cap and the reductions in state aid to education, school districts have been left with no choice but to cut their arts and athletics programs. Are you concerned that by cutting the programs that students are most passionate about, they will lose their enthusiasm and motivation? Are you concerned that instead of spending time engaged in these valuable activities, they will fill the void with TV, video games and risky activities?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Broadalbin	Ed	Are there any plans to introduce a state-wide health insurance for public school employees? This could result in significant cost savings and make contract negotiations more sensible. Thanks

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Lindenhurst	Lisa	With the ability to put forth a budget above the tax cap, more affluent districts will more likely be able to continue their programs because these communities can bear this financial burden more so that a community like Lindenhurst. If this continues to happen, the gap between the haves and the have nots will continue to grow while communities like this one continue to cut programs. How do you propose that this is a fair and equitable solution?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES Superintendents	Joe	1. What is the source that the Governor is basing the performance data that "we are 38th in the nation" while others say we are #3 in the nation? 2. What is the source that the Governor is using to calculate that we are #1 in spending? 3. What items in the School Board's Playbook do you feel you could support? 4. What are the specifics of the Governor's Plan for teacher/principal evaluations? 5. What students is the Governor lobbying for? 6. The Governor's effort to reduce the inequity gap is inadequate to fix the problem. What will he do about that? 7. What does the Governor propose to change the aid formula?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Franklin Square	Felix	Why doesn't Governor Cuomo support comprehensive Transparency Legislation so residents can make informed choices on Election Day.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Nassau County	Arnold	It seems ironic that the governor favors testing as part of evaluating teachers, but yet is forcing a system on the educational community that has not been tested. Why the rush to install a model that may be faulty? We have seen too many examples of this in the past, the most famous example being the No Child Left Behind initiative.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Rockville Centre, Long Island	Debora	How do you anticipate that teachers and principals will be able to devote the time necessary for developing thoughtful and effective Student Learning Objectives (SLO's) for all students/classes where standardized tests do not already exist? This seems to me an unreasonable demand on already stressed teachers whose primary focus is to create and deliver lessons which address the core curriculum while thoroughly engaging students at all levels of ability. This additional burden on teachers and administrators--a necessary consequence of APPR implementation--will undoubtedly further remove them from hands-on work with their students.

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CHAT
DATE

LOCATION

NAME

QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

David
Wakelyn

2/10/2012

Uniondale, New York

Dr. Lynnda

As you know, school reform does not happen overnight! Your agenda discusses school reform in depth, however, as an elementary building principal, we are working diligently to meet the demands of the curriculum and working to infuse the new common core standards to improve our student achievement outcomes. My question to you is, do you still have faith in the New York State educational system, and what will you do to fully support dynamic educators to avoid a mass exodus in the field? We can all agree that 'change' takes time, legislation related to education must then be fair and reasonable for the sake of our profession.

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CHAT
DATE

LOCATION

NAME

QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

David
Wakelyn

2/10/2012

Middletown

Darrell

Dear Mr. Wakelyn, I understand the politics of the education law, but it is bad education policy coming from people who I believe do not have the best interests of public education in mind. The goal seems to be to vilify teachers and their unions. It is not helpful when the privately educated governor (who sent his own kids to private school) says that he is the only person lobbying for students. I teach in a suburban, high performing district. I am lobbying for my students to not be subjected to additional and needless testing. I am lobbying for them to have the resources they deserve instead of having to beg for competitive grants. I live in a high needs urban district and I am lobbying so that my first grade daughter doesn't have to face a more burdensome regimen of testing. I am lobbying on my family's behalf so that my daughter can have the opportunities she is entitled to have. The proposed competitive grant program is anathema to that goal. All schools are in need and should not be subjected to a highly suspect grant program like Race to the Top. The cuts last year were devastating and the governor's "restoration" this year is a pittance. Instead of misleading NYers by manipulating statistics about how we spend the most and are 34th or 38th in results, perhaps we should truly invest in education instead of trying to do it on the cheap. How can the Cuomo administration justify its position on the teacher evaluation law given that the whole process is untested and unproven? I am concerned as a teacher and as a parent. Is anyone in the governor's office able to explain what assessments should be used for non-tested subjects like art, music, and physical education? Can anyone explain why Value Added Models have generated results that have the top teachers one year be in the bottom the next? Why are we rushing to do something when we have no clue as to how it will really work in practice? Unless we agreed to make the governor the education czar/dictator, how can he justify imposing something when over 90 districts have already agreed to a new APPR? I guess the rush is so that his corporate education reform benefactors can get a hold of that big pot of RTTT money. Is anyone really willing to be honest that the Race to the Top money will do nothing to lower the tax burden for NYers nor will it do anything to add precious resources to the classroom? Most of the money will be absorbed by testing companies and the like. Why not give back the money since it is a) not going to do anything to improve education and b) will cost school districts much more to actually implement only furthering the burden on taxpayers and the cutting of more programs. We cannot afford more untested education reform.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Brooklyn	Kelly	<p>Why does New York State continue to make it impossible for non-custodial, joint custody parents to get their child's school information? If you want ALL parents to help in the learning process ALL parents need to be included especially when there is a court order directing the school to provide that informaiton. You cannot allow Parental Alienation to hurt a child with regards to their education. It should be the resposibility of the schools to provide ALL information and access to ALL information necessary to help each child to both parents. The parents bill of rights does not single out non-custodial Father's yet the school's do on a regular basis. They make it a fight when it shouldn't be. TV ads want to blame Father's for not being in their children's lives, but the blame should fall on those that do not allow them the access they need and are entitled to. Routinely Father's are told they cannot get informaiton and it's not worth the fight, then we chastise them for giving up!</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Seaford	Brian	<p>Hello, I am worried about the future of the Arts in the schools. With the implementation of the common core curriculum as well as the states further emphasis on students being college ready. Students are going to need that extra edge that makes them standout on their applications. The Arts are more important now then ever. Unfortunately these are some of the first things cut when the Tax Cap comes into play. I am sure the Governor knows the positive statistics concerning the arts and achievement in other subjects.. Are there any plans that the Governor has to help save these important programs?</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Evans, NY	Deb	<p>My daughter, a band teacher in [REDACTED], NY lost her job to lay off after 11 years..Do you really think that it is wise to cut Music and the Arts, and give the children less than students had 20 years ago.How can she get her job back? and will NYS forgive loans for all of these people who went to school for education, and now can't pay them back when on unemployment?</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Southern Tier	Chuck	<p>Without a very significant increase in state aid according to the Governor's proposal, our school will become insolvent in the 2012-13 school year. Further it will be impossible to provide a sound basic education for our students. What is being planned to help our district and others that face this reality?</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Fishers Island	Charlie	When will New York return control of its schools to local Boards and away from Federal and Sate regulations? Do you and Governor Cuomo understand the unnecessary burden on school administrators and Boards to comply with ill-conceived initiatives from NYSED and USDE? What will it take to give school principals and teachers the freedom to exercise leadership and for Boards to hold them accountable for effectiveness as defined by locally determined standards and measures of achievement? Is it more important for school leaders to focus on educating all kids to high standards or should they spend precious time complying to State procedures, filling out State reports, interpreting State regulations, reading guidance memos on new State requirements or writing short term grants for additional funding? Do you think NYSED should be a service agency rather than a regulatory agency? Should't NYSED be helping districts reduce educational costs and streamlining unnecessary bureaucracy and regulations so that we can get on with the job of educating our children? Do you think NYSED and USDE have a better sense of the needs of our children and what we need to do to improve than local Boards, superintendents, principals, and skilled teachers? If not, why do we keep trying to legislate or regulate reform?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Long Island	Melissa	I really believe you are serious about fixing education in NYS. Will you please consider reforming Triborough so school boards have a fighting chance when negotiating with its bargaining units? Please?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Attica	William	How do we control administrative costs? Too many layers and too many superintendents. Our administrative costs per student are the highest I've found in the country. Here we have a \$190,000 per year superintendent with his 2nd in charge at about \$105,000 with only 1,565 students, plus 7 principals and asst principals at about \$90,000 each.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Norwich	John	Why not find a new way of paying for schools other then property taxes. Being in todays world there are so many childern attending public schools that parents pay nothing ,because they live in apartments. While all the burden falls on home owners. A lot of which have no childern in school anymore.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Hudson Valley	Christine	You are having this web chat but I have not been able to log on. There are no instructions on how to join this. This is very disappointing! HOW DO I LOG ON TO this WEB CHAT?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Highland	Christine	did the time for this change?!?! the website states it is from 11-12 but the twitter feed on the side says 3pm!!! which is it?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Queens	Jason	Is the environment of the children's home evaluated to see if it is conducive for learning? It's not just the teachers that have him for a few hours a day. It's also the home they do their homework and sleep in.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Cicero	Lisa	I am very disappointed to learn just how much of the teaching in my child's school is teaching to the testing that takes place in 3rd and 4th grade. I understand that these scores determine to an extent funding for schools and who may or may not keep their teaching and administrative jobs, but are we really keeping our kid's best interests first? I don't think so. I think this kind of teaching is for the sole benefit of the teachers and administrators and is a real shame. How can we change this? I am very unhappy with the quality of the teaching and am thinking of pulling my child out of public school. Please help this situation! Thank you!
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	RAMAPO	BOB	Good Afternoon Deputy Secretary Wakelyn; I hope this email finds you well. In Gov. Cuomo's State of the State address, the Executive Budget allocates \$250 million to be awarded on a competitive basis to school districts that undertake long-term structural changes which reduce costs and improve efficiency. My question is what if WE PARENTS have a 21st Century "STATEWIDE" Solution to funding Education, thru the Technology Piece of NCLB with strategic partners Verizon; IBM; Penn Mutal, How do we go about getting our "PPIP PLAN" before YOU; the GOVERNOR; and Dr. King Jr.? Potential Cost Investment by NYS=\$1 Billion Dollars. Potential Revenue ROI=\$25 Billion. EDUCATING NEW YORK HEADSTART to ADULTHOOD=PRICELESS The first question which the Priest and the Levite asked was: "If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?" But... the good Samaritan reversed the question: "If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?" Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Hudson Valley	melissa	As the schools are under pressure to move more students with IEPs into general ed settings, will any training be provided to help these teachers work with these kids? The teachers are already under the gun to teach to the test and the IEP kids make that even more of a challenge for them. Some feel it's easier to pressure the kids out of their class than to take the time to really work with them. And some just don't have the patience and feel it's not their job. How can this be reconciled when funding's being cut for everything?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Woodside	Maruf	What is the latest on the CUNY Tuition Hike? Did the tuition hike lower?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Harlem, NY	Ana	Why hasn't the Governor called for the passage of the New York Dream Act (S.4179), which would make me and many other of my peers, who have been prepared for college by Democracy Prep Charter School, eligible for financial scholarships for college? The bill has the support of SUNY, CUNY, the Regents, and Mayor Bloomberg. Why not add your support?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Central New York	Ed	When will our Governor, and former Attorney General, direct our state government to follow the NYS Regents recommendations and the NYS Court's orders to fix the inequitable school aid formula so that poor rural and urban districts receive the funds they so desperately need to meet the needs of the children they serve?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Great Neck, NY	Rick	Do you think that your value as a human being can be calculated by ant single number or any single criterion? As a teacher, what I offer my students each and every day is something priceless, something passed down to me by my teachers, by my parents, by all the caring adults who contributed to shaping me. We must be careful not to legislate the most valuable parts of our humanity out of our work place especially the classroom.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	LeRoy	Michael	The \$250 million dollars set aside for competitive grants is a mistake. We have school districts in this region that are struggling to maintain what had been a very good graduation rate with fewer and fewer resources. That money needs to be targeted to low-wealth schools that have been forced over the past several years to eliminate many enrichment and support services due to billions of dollars in state aid reductions. Districts should not have to compete for state aid to provide a constitionally guaranteed sound, basic education. Will you advocate for those dollars to be distributed through the formula?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	new york new york	Kelly	<p>why is it that instead of these schools closing one should hire qualified teachers with at least 5 yrs or more experience to teach our children and create a new format for all children to learn if the one is not working in addition children with special needs should not be denied their education because a teacher is not qualified enough to deal with these children who have disabilities instead they give them false suspensions which they loose out on their academics because work was not brought from their prior school they also loose out on labs and are not given the credits to graduate. I have 3 children with educational and behavioral disabilities</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Central New York	Ed	<p>Subsection (D)(3): Ensuring the Equitable Distribution of Effective Teachers and Principals of the June 2011 Final Scope of Work for New York's Race to the Top application states that the state expects "the new evaluation system to result in a normal distribution in which 70%-80% of teachers and principals will fall into either the "Developing" or "Effective" categories each year." Under this plan only half the teachers and principals in the state can be rated effective or highly effective every year and the other half will be required to have Performance Improvement Plans every year. This in effect establishes a quota system with guaranteed numbers of winners and losers every year. Eventually, all teachers and principals will need such plans because of major statistical reliability and validity problems with State and outside vendor tests and the Value Added Model. Where will districts find the time, manpower, and money to implement and sustain such a system?</p>
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Hector/Southern Tier	Kris	<p>how do I connect to the web meeting?</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Staten island NYC	Lisa	I have been involved in the education process in NYC as a school board member and a parent support officer For many years. I am very concerned about the proficiency of our students and do believe that there are many Valuable supports missing to really reform education as we know it. The governors mom has an organization For mentoring. As a former mentor, I know how valuable the process is and it has been used locally In one school with results. Additionally, if we were to change the grade levels into numeric achievements and Not grades but scores to determine student placement it would allow students to develop in areas thT they thrive in And allow them to take time in those where they struggle without the need for hold overs or non graduates. Students self esteem is unlined when they are held back or put into other named programs indicating That they are at the bottom class. Thank you for any consideration in the aforementioned reccomendations.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Long Island	Elizabeth	Please explain why our children being given more and lengthier exams that have not been field tested? What is the purpose?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	rockville centre	jay	Most banks require a co signer if the student makes under a certain amount. Citi has set 18k as the threshold. Isn't that an extremely hi number for a student. As a ny chartered bk can't you set lower thresholds. And what about the interest rates. They get their money for nothing from the govt and are loaning it at rates way higher than mtgs
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Lysander	joe	just wish to listen to chat

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	New York City	jaye	While I commend the Gov Cuomo on raising the bar on education and expectations for excellence, the proposed eval system does not provide any incentives or reward teachers for making excellent progress with kids who are not at grade level (ex. 4th grade teacher gets kid reading at 1st grade level, takes kid to almost 3rd grade level, kid fails ela, feels bad and teacher could be punished if he/she has a class with several)? Many students with disabilities do not take state tests or learn at different rates? Schools will be held accountable or teachers will have resources is not what I am looking to hear. How about accountability for available resources beyond UDL curriculum and turn-key professional development. Many schools don't have qualified reading and learning specialist on staff for RTI and AIS. I want to hear thoughtful consideration to the pitfalls of such a high premium on one metric. I think it is a good metric, other things need to be considered to make education productive and equitable
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	New York City	Jaye	many of our jobs in NYS are middle skills jobs. they require a regents diploma and two years post secondary ed. When are we going to have a link for education data to workforce? Students need real life options not just college readiness
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012		Mark	Can you explain how your position interfaces with the Board of Regents?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012		Matt	What is the current status for the rollout of Governor Cuomo's APPR alternative? Should we expect one published on February 17--after the 30-day window for settlement between NYSED and NYSUT has concluded?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Suffolk	Regina	How do we maintain our public schools?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Binghamton	Al	250 million is not 1% of the \$805 million. Is is more like a third
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Nassau County	Carolanne	What will happen if NYSUT does not reach an agreement with SED next week?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Watkins Glen	Alexander	Why are you providing schools with funding for facility improvements rather than to reduce the amount of cuts on teachers that teach the students?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Troy	Tony	You said it -- SED is improving tests to accurately reflect a student's ability. But testing experts agree that the tests in no way accurately reflect a teacher's ability. There are too many other factors involved. What is the state doing to address the poverty factor and the fact that too many kids are entering school not ready to learn?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Watkins Glen	Alexander	Why are you providing schools with funding for facility improvements rather than to reduce the amount of cuts on teachers that teach the students?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	verona	Tammie	A 9th grader cant read, a special education teacher sits with him, he tells her no one took the time to teach him to read. I hear this ALOT. What do you purpose needs to happen to bring this change where our children are taught to read and not passed on.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	NYC	LD	The NYC council is supporting a mandated kindergarten in the future. What would the benefits be to make it a mandatory class rather than a optional one? Does the Governor support this?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Greenville	Gail	Teachers are not opposed to rigorous evaluation. We are opposed to flawed evaluation. Please explain the logic behind evaluating a music teacher (for example) on ELA and Math scores. We understand multiple measures and SLO's. This piece is NOT logical.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	West Babylon, Suffolk County	Erika	I am concerned about the new teacher evaluation process that will be implemented in the near future. There are some factors that are out of the control of teachers: Poor student attendance and lack of parental involvement are two variables that come to mind. These variables have an effect on student achievement. There is a need for education reform. How can teachers be fairly evaluated with these variables?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Greenville	Gail	Teachers are not opposed to rigorous evaluation. We are opposed to flawed evaluation. Please explain the logic behind evaluating a music teacher (for example) on ELA and Math scores. We understand multiple measures and SLO's. This piece is NOT logical.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Long Island	Mark	The Q and A keep flashing on and off blocking the reponses.

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	new york City	jaye	New York City has several circumstances which set it apart from the rest of the state, under mayoral control many policies role out very differently. An example is teacher evaluations. Where most communities had a chance to participate through school boards, we have not. What kind of consideration is being given to ensure that state and federal policies will give community ample input when beneficial and appropriate even under the current mayoral control law. I mean beyond webchat and webinars.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Otego	Nick	What plans does the state have to deal with school districts that will become insolvent over the next few years?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Greenville	Gail	We are currently seeing districts prohibit students who score a "1" or "2" on the ELA and math tests, 3-8 from taking courses in the performing arts (band, chorus, orchestra). With the additional focus on the test, how will the Governor prevent a system of discrimination and bias? How sad that the group of students who would benefit most from the skills that performance-based subjects offer are the very ones that are being prohibited from taking them. Please address this!
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	east islip	john	How does Governor Coumo expect school districts to meet the 2% tax cap, with union contracts in place. The teachers are guaranteed raises, step raises and increases in health benefits. The teacher retirement cost have gone up year after year with no end in sight. Taylor Law also needs to be addressed
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Greenville	Gail	We are currently seeing districts prohibit students who score a "1" or "2" on the ELA and math tests, 3-8 from taking courses in the performing arts (band, chorus, orchestra). With the additional focus on the test, how will the Governor prevent a system of discrimination and bias? How sad that the group of students who would benefit most from the skills that performance-based subjects offer are the very ones that are being prohibited from taking them. Please address this!
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Sherrill-CNY	Chuck	Hello?? Is this working?? The funding formula doesn't work!! The Governor admitted that yesterday!! It penalizes low wealth-high need districts!! What is the Governor going to do to address this inequity? We can't provide a sound, basic education with the current funding (or lack thereof)!! PS Although the competitive grants are only 1% of the total education budget, they are nearly 30% of this year's increase!! How is that fair??

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Nassau County	Bryan	Are you concerned that the new APPR regulations will result in fewer teachers agreeing to mentor student teachers?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	NYC	Jessie	What happens if the UFT and DOE don't come to an agreement by the deadline?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	new york City	jaye	Has anyone evaluated what we spent money on so we could scratch what did not work and increase what did? There is very little to no data that supports value added models and virtually no long-term data.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Troy	Tony	You stated that stds-based reform has led to great improvements in MA. Why then are 81% of MA schools classified as "failing" under NCLB? You seem to be contradicting facts with many of your answers.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Binghamton, NY	Jason	What is your source for this data?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Ft. Edward	Jim	No particular question
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Yonkers, NY	Rachel	Why does the Governor taken such a strong stance on evaluations, tying state money to an evaluation agreement?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Hampton Bays	Larry	The current state leadership keeps using the same sound bite that we are 38th in graduation rate. Yet we have 105 of the 300 Intel semifinalists (35%), we are second among all states with percentage of graduates who score 3 or higher on AP exams (26%). If we are so bad, why are we so good in these areas? And if we are this good why do you and the Govenor only focus on this one statistic to say how bad we are?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Bronx	Brian	What does New York have to do so that we don't lose Race to the Top funding?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Yonkers, NY	Rachel	Why does the Governor taken such a strong stance on evaluations, tying state money to an evaluation agreement?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Bronx	Brian	What does New York have to do so that we don't lose Race to the Top funding?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Yonkers, NY	Rachel	Why does the Governor taken such a strong stance on evaluations, tying state money to an evaluation agreement?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Greenville, NY	Rachel	As a career and technical educator in the field of agriculture, I believe that one of the most effective ways to keep our students engaged and prepare them for a transition into the workplace, is to provide a hands-on, real-world application of core skills through CTE. How does the governor plan to increase our quality CTE programs in public schools, specifically programs in the LEAs? How does the governor plan to use CTE programs to increase college and career readiness among NYS students?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Genesee	Michael	Hello- I am worried that teachers will be too concerned with "teaching to the test" if testing becomes how we determine raises and funding. I want my children to have a well rounded education not just be able to complete a standardized test. thanks
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Greenville	Gail	No need to respond-I just hope SOMEONE reads this. Dr. Wakelyn's response to Terry is ludicrous. We are in the rural district of Greenville. We have only 1 administrator per building (3 separate buildings). We were bare bones to begin with. It's about time someone starts visiting these rural districts-get outside LI, NYC, and Westchester. Our Superintendent makes little money for the amount of time she spends at school and working, especially compared to other districts.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Long Island	Chuck	Here's the source Dave: IES April 2011, Public School Graduates and Dropouts From the Common Core Data: School year 2008-09, First Look. Check out table 3, where it shows, for the record, we're 38th in graduation rates, not 35th. What is the rank by region? Why not use specific data to identify specific problems?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Brasher Falls, St Lawrence County	Conner	How can the New York State Budget be supported if it is a clear violation of educational equality and civil rights? The budget does not fulfill the needs of our North Country schools and students, and rather than helping these students succeed, all I have yet to hear is "insolvency" and "merger". How does this save money? Until a merger can be completed, why should current students bear the brunt of Gov. Cuomo's "reform", namely the firing of teachers, the unavailability of educational resources, and the prevention of equal opportunity regardless of race, economic background, and location? I agree with teacher evaluations, but I cannot stand with a man who is willing to put his political ideals over the future of current students and, by extension, the future of this state.

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Long Island	Henry	I'm a high school social studies teacher with 20 years of experience. I believe that by adopting the Common Core Standards, New York State is undermining the progress it has made in assessing student achievement and school performance using state tests like the Regents Exam and ELA. The new standards will change high school mathematics education for the fourth time in 15 years, will devalue those subjects not aligned with the new standards such as art and music, will diminish the importance of content knowledge, and require school districts to fund measures to implement the new standards during a period of recession. So, just how will the Common Core Standards benefit New York schools and students?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Oneonta	Nick	I think Al's point is that there are better uses for the \$250 million than competitive grants. A suggestion is to use it to address the unequal distribution of State Aid.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Suffolk	Diane	The question from Dave in Riverhead was not completely addressed. The source you used was based on a 2011 report BUT the data for that report was from 2008-2009. I would like to know much more about the group used to report the ranking of 38th in the nation. Also, you did not address the issue of the Governor recognizing the positive nature of the recently released "Ed Week" study. He says he wants to improve public education and that he will be the students' "lobbyist". As such, shouldn't he publicly acknowledge the achievement of public schools in NYS that has been documented...by a credible source? I believe he should...as frequently and loudly as he speaks of the negative!
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Hempstead, Long Island	Robin	Parents, students, and residents need more aggressive, innovative, and paradigm shifting leadership to transform our district. Can the Governor help us by making BOCES a public school choice option under NCLB?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Suffolk	Diane	The question from Dave in Riverhead was not completely addressed. The source you used was based on a 2011 report BUT the data for that report was from 2008-2009. I would like to know much more about the group used to report the ranking of 38th in the nation. Also, you did not address the issue of the Governor recognizing the positive nature of the recently released "Ed Week" study. He says he wants to improve public education and that he will be the students' "lobbyist". As such, shouldn't he publicly acknowledge the achievement of public schools in NYS that has been documented...by a credible source? I believe he should...as frequently and loudly as he speaks of the negative!

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David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Suffolk	Diane	The question from Dave in Riverhead was not completely addressed. The source you used was based on a 2011 report BUT the data for that report was from 2008-2009. I would like to know much more about the group used to report the ranking of 38th in the nation. Also, you did not address the issue of the Governor recognizing the positive nature of the recently released "Ed Week" study. He says he wants to improve public education and that he will be the students' "lobbyist". As such, shouldn't he publicly acknowledge the achievement of public schools in NYS that has been documented...by a credible source? I believe he should...as frequently and loudly as he speaks of the negative!
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	whitesboro	ed	Lets be clear 250m of the new money if legislated is 31% of new resources unavailable to districts seeking to raise those graduation rate you guys like to measure us by. By the what about the comment on the AP exams?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Greenville	Gail	I am a Union President. I have been a teacher in my district for 34 years. I make no apologies for working for the best salaries and benefits for my members. I am NOT one of the "bad guys" as the governor would like NYS to believe. My small community knows me. Most of them HAD me as a music teacher. People are not as naive as the Governor would like to believe. Most understand that the Governor is using teacher unions as a scapegoat. However, I am encouraged by the feedback I am getting. Most people that I speak with, whether Republican or Democrat see that the Governor is "union-busting". My question is this: How does the Governor expect that children will respect teachers when the vitriol from his administration is turning people off?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Suffolk	Diane	The question from Dave in Riverhead was not completely addressed. The source you used was based on a 2011 report BUT the data for that report was from 2008-2009. I would like to know much more about the group used to report the ranking of 38th in the nation. Also, you did not address the issue of the Governor recognizing the positive nature of the recently released "Ed Week" study. He says he wants to improve public education and that he will be the students' "lobbyist". As such, shouldn't he publicly acknowledge the achievement of public schools in NYS that has been documented...by a credible source? I believe he should...as frequently and loudly as he speaks of the negative!
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Long island	Nick	Won't teacher evaluations based on grades cause teachers to teach to the test which everyone agrees is not a good thing for students? Doesn't it make more sense to make it harder to become a teacher in the first place and have teachers do professional development?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Howard Beach	Dawn	<p>The Parents of this district have been out fight against this. We do not feel that it benefits us in anyway. Our children will lose there seat in our zoned school If they decided to chose another school. If that school isn't the best for that child an appeals process must be followed to try to get them back in thier zoned school. (and we all know that could take forever with the BOE). Thier are also many other reasons I could list. It has worked very well in other districts. My question is Why not leave it as is? That makes much more sense. Then the parents can apply to the middle schools they want. There r so many more issues involved in this, Busing these children, overcrowding and children not be with there peers. Thank You</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	New York City	Susan	<p>There's got to be a better way to save these kids than to shut down their school. Has anyone done a psychological study on what this does to them? I think someone should commission that. These kids are already at "bad" schools, most of them in the mindset that it's normal not to graduate, and then the DOE just confirms what losers they are and rejects them totally by shutting them down. Talk about nail in the coffin. Their confidence level probably couldn't get any lower. I'm curious what the UFT's response is when it hears a school is being shut. Is there a specific action that they take? What happens to the teachers from that school? Does the union protect them, are they evaluated individually, do they just go back into the pool of teachers looking for placement? If these principals and teachers are themselves failing to do their jobs, do they just move on in the system to trash another school? What is the study of the percentage of special needs kids at the failing schools in comparison to those at thriving schools? The special services/ESL kids should be evaluated separately from the remaining school population. What is the graduation rate of non-special needs kids in these failing schools? I don't mean to taint these kids at all, but to judge type of students fairly against similar types of students. How can you compare a school full of lower income, non-English speakers to a school of middle class native English speakers? Of course a school will not do well if they have moe kids who are prone not to thrive and don't have resources to help them. Duh. What is DOE's solution for this special population of kids, so that they thrive instead of bringing a whole school down? Who comes in to counsel the remaining kids at a school set for closure? Are options shown to them, such as other schools they could attend and college or vocational school counseling? What is their incentive to stay in school now? DOE should have a "rescue team" once a school gets a C. Call them "The A Team"! Why don't they send this special team in for evaluation and recommendations before the grade drops lower? Wouldn't it be cheaper to employ preventive medicine at an earlier stage, even if this team is highly paid, then to have the expense, uproar and damage caused to the lives of the students of the closed school? Take the money from IBM or all that endless testing and channel it into real people on the ground: evaluators who come to the schools and not just look at data, advisors, teachers, principals, mentors*, aides, who work with the kids in small groups even in a big school. You will see results and you will save kids. *Each BID should be mandated by charter to have their board members be involved in their district's schools and partner with them. -Susan [REDACTED] 2/10/12</p>

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Sharon Springs	Tom	The dominant media used in schools to both instruct and assess students is print-based. This, in large part as I understand it, has to do with the high cost of staying up-to-date with digital technologies that support new media, as well as contracts NYS has with print-based textbook companies (which result in the funding restrictions placed on public schools by NYSED and the federal government – Title I and Title II grants specifically – for making purchases on digital technology). Unfortunately, however, this model severely restricts teachers from meeting the needs of 21st century students, whose futures depend on digital literacy and the media intrinsic to it. My question then is: what plan in place to restructure the funding mechanisms to better reflect this century, and thus equip students and teachers with the best tools for learning, innovation, and constructing meaning in contemporary times?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Potsdam	Kimberly	Why are school districts in the North Country not receiving adequate funding? Canton Central school is looking at a 2.5 million dollar budget gap and Potsdam is also in jeopardy. We are in danger of losing quality education for our children. Please contact Bill Gregory at Canton Central school and explain why the state of new york is forcing him to contemplate cutting 44 teachers in this small rural school while there are schools downstate that are offering five languages to 2nd graders. The people of the North Country will not stand for this another year. If Mr. Cuomo is a man of his word, and truly and advocate of the students, I suggest he visit the public schools of the North Country and talk to our students. He is welcome anytime.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	brant Lake	Tom	Each june I see local schools graduating seniors. Class size can range from 30 to 60 students. I can think of at least 6 local HS that don't graduate 300 students total...why do we pay for all the maintenance, administration, salaries etc. when we could have 1 regional school for all students. Appears to be a good ole common sense issue. thank you

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Middletown/Orange County	Ann	Certainly, the present system of teacher evaluation needs to be reformed; however, how are you going to attract bright, intelligent people into the profession? Great teachers must care about their students, their pedagogy and their subject. To make the complex understandable is a daunting task. The dedication required should be rewarded financially. Good pensions are just such a reward. At present, certain tiers in the NYSTRS do not pay into pensions after 10 years- that needs to be changed. There are measures that could be taken that could still reward excellent attendance, resulting in not using substitutes and not losing valuable instruction time. As the enormous number of baby boomers retire and ineffective teachers are let go because of poor evaluations, how do you replace them with competent, effective teachers without job perks that make teaching a viable career choice? How do you propose to recruit and keep administrators to do all this evaluation properly when they seem to be scapegoated as also overpaid? Preparing students for the 21st century is about posterity-one of our most important legacies.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Erie County	Pat	How do we educate parents to get more involved in what their children do at school? How can we stop the idea of entitlement that most kids feel they deserve?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	East Hampton, Suffolk Co., Long Island	Rameshwar	Can the State Dept of Education mandate consolidation of inefficient districts to 1) equitably distribute resources to students and 2) distribute school tax burdens fairly across a community? I live in the Town of East Hampton in Suffok Co (LI). There are approximately 23,000 year-round residents. There are FIVE school districts in the Town with five very disparate tax rates (the rate in our Springs District is 4X the neighboring district) and vastly different resources in the schools.
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Olean	Chuck	Our school can readily get 10s of millions of dollars to basically throw away on buildings (capital projects). We dumped more than 25 million into three buildings, one which has already been closed and two more to be closed at the end of this year. All of these buildings were used for less than two years before being closed. There are two reasons for these buildings closing: 1. People are leaving the state. 2. The State will not fund the actual running of the school. My question is "Why do you provide so much cash for buildings and not for teachers"? I'm told that capital projects create jobs. This is partially true, they create temporary jobs while permanent teaching jobs are lost. Thank you.

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CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Hopewell Junction Dutchess County	John I would like to know if there is any discussion about bringing back vocational classes back into the high schools. It is a fantasy to believe that all students will be able to graduate high school and go to college. We need to bring back vocational classes so that more students can graduate high school and get a job right away. There are lots of students who can become electricians, electronic techs, plumbers, auto mechanics, nurses, or go into the cosmetology field, who other wise will drop out of school because they will not get on a school bus to go to BOCES. Many students would benefit if vocational classes were brought back into the mainstream school buildings. even future doctors or lawyers may like to know how to change a light switch. Thanks You
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012	Potsdam, North Country	Julie Can you please explain how the funding gets distributed to the upstate schools. St. Lawrence County is the poorest county and our schools continue to have funding cut dramatically each year. Are class sizes are doubling and we are losing over 15 to 20 positions each year. Each child attending public school in NY State should be able to receive the same quality of education no matter where they live in the state. Can you please explain how and why the \$ allocated per student can vary so widely from downstate to upstate?
David Wakelyn	2/10/2012		Anonymous What significant gains were made in the new TE agreement over the 2010 law?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	brooklyn ny	jessica Hello honorable Alphonso David I'm a mother I'm 26 years old I had taken the ged test three times and I haven't pass the test I haven't worked because every time i go out on an interview they always ask me for. The ged even though I have a medical assistant certificate I feel that all the doors have been close for me and I don't want to live on public assistance please help me this by telling the goverment to change the laws for this ged testing....I think that if they keep on making it harder for us we will never succeed...
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	ROCKVILLE CENTRE	TERRY SEEKING EMPLOYMENT IN NASSAU IS GETTING SCARCE I CANNOT FIND WORK THE NEW WAY (ONLINE) I WANT TO GO BACK AND WALK INTO A BUSINESS AND ASK TO SPEAK TO A MANAGER ABOUT EMPLOYMENT...
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Brooklyn, NY	Julia Will the program provide access to job training for the thousands of undocumented youth in the state, most of whom fit the target population of "disadvantaged youth"? Also, will the program provide incentives for employers to hire youth who have criminal records, but who have gotten their lives back on track?

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Alphonso David	2/24/2012	NORTHBERGEN	ANDREA	well I just want to know how can I get A copy of the application I send back in 2001 thru that law that it was open back then.law was I245
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Yorktown,NY	dot	When are u going to hire police & teachers at a more rapid rate. College Degrees, jobs that they have are not decent.
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Victor	Brad	When are Adult Adoptees going to get the same civil rights as non-adopted persons...namely access to their original birth certificates? A non-adopted person may have one simply for asking, while an adopted person is only entitled to an "amended" document listing the names of their adoptive parents. Several states have already opened their records. It is time for NY to pass the Adoptee Bill of Rights and grant adult adoptees the same rights as non-adopted persons.
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Fulton	Karen	Why is this limited to only big cities?? We have kids who need jobs here too, poor kids. Why not look at all areas of the state that have this need? The city of Fulton is a very poor city, why overlook that need?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Ithaca	Elizabeth	Hello Mr. Deputy Secretary, Thank you for being available for questions. Could you please talk about how the job training programs are preparing youth to participate in new industries and technologies, like renewable energy? Thank you!
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Blossvale	Diane	why is it we worry more about the inner city youth? this is a smal community but we have disadvatage youth here to but I see nothing being done to support our youth. maybe apprentice jobs would be the answer. there are way to many kids in the rural area that don't get the advantages like in the cities. its also transportation that would be a problem for them here. so these are somethings that need to be looked at for our kids.
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	nh...EX BRONXITE	PAUL	Why won't the State of NY recognize thecivil rights of adoptees ihn the state and pass the open records bill that has been held up for 20 years by Silver and Weinstein?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Astoria, Queens	GEORGE	Good Afternoon, Is there a minimum/maximum amount of youth to be served by each proposer? Is there a range for cost per participant? I searched the job database and there are no eligible jobs yet for this program in Queens County, are we the proposer supposed to also develop the work site? Can you break down the funding? i believe that 25% of the contract is start up and what percent ios line item and what percent is milestone/performance bqsed? Thanks for your time and assistance.

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Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Lakewood	Gary	If there was a sperate minium wage for youth you would probably see more of them employed. I will not hire a youth to clean arround my building for 8.00 per hour. The youth only need enough to suppot him or her self not a family. Just go to a vehocele dealer and see how many yout they hire during the summer to clean the lot and vehicles and compare it to when minium wage was more in line with hiring youth.
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Kings Park	Ben	Will the program include the training necessary to learn computer programming and computer hardware support? (Many small businesses need these types of "trades" to enable local area networks and business software applications, whether they are full time employees or contractors.)
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	NYC	Klea	Specifically, what type of job training would be most beneficial to the people you are seeking to help? Computer training? Vocational training? Please be specific. Thank you.
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	new york city	christina	what kind of jobs are there?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Albany	Tomasina	is this including disabled youth? Will these monies be given to job programs who train disabled youth to work in the community?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012		Denise	I am a staff person at DOL, I don't have aquestion but would like to sit-in on the meeting. Thank you.

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CHAT
DATE

LOCATION

NAME

QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT

Alphonso
David

2/24/2012

Queens County, Astoria

George

Good Afternoon, The following are questions for both New York Youth Works RFA programs; # T-1 & T-2: • My understanding is that 25% of the total contract amount will be start-up finds. How is the other 75% allocated? How much is line item & how much is performance based/milestone payment? • Is there a minimum/maximum amount of participants that we can propose to serve? • Is there a minimum/maximum cost per participant? • I understand that each contract is for a 6 month period and max funding is \$50,000? • I went on the designated website and saw that there were no eligible businesses as of yet for my service are of Queens County, NYC? Are the proposers responsible for developing their own work sites in order to make the placements? • What is the exact milestone timetable and payment structure? • When you ask about follow-up, is it during the 6 month contract term or are providers supposed to provide follow-up after the contract has ended? • I went on the following website earlier: www.labor.ny.gov for info and submitted questions for a webinar that is supposed to take place on 02/24 with Deputy Secretary Alphonso B. David. I followed the instructions to sign up for this webinar but it was not an available option. Do you know what time this webinar is set to take place and how can I join? I thank you in advance for all your assistance! Sincerely,

Alphonso
David

2/24/2012

Wny

Gail

My company is a staffing agency, most of our business is temp to perm, entry level employees hired by us are placed in permanent employment, would we be eligible to apply as a certified business? One of the companies that we work with is also interested in this program, they have no tax liability because they are a start up business, are they able to "bank" the credits for the future, or sale the credits?

Alphonso
David

2/24/2012

Jeff

In addition to private sector businesses, can a youth be placed at a not-for-profit agency that is using Federal or State subsidies to hire youth?

Alphonso
David

2/24/2012

Anonymous

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2233383655/> these people need more research...what is going on in stem cell ...also go on this website listen to their stories.....they need to be more public awareness on this disease.

Alphonso
David

2/24/2012

Buffalo

Rose

NYS youth are amazing! But, many don't get jobs because of the lack of experience. So many organizations need the support of youth for the delivery of services for not for profit services. Can there be implemented a Youth Community Service program like Americorps? Or could a database be initiated for youth available to not for profits for training?

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Alphonso David	2/24/2012		Carrie	When will this program begin?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Binghamton/Broome	steven	This is outright discrimination! What about the kids looking for work in suburban areas where there are no jobs! You should be helping all kids looking for work.
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Rochester, Monroe County	Christina	webinar
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	bethlehem, ny	Valerie	What is the best way for local agencies and businesses who are interested in partnering on this initiative to find each other?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Albany	Mary	What will be the timeframe from submission to whether grant funding will be awarded?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Albany	Mary	Children who attend high quality early care and education programs are more likely to graduate from high school and have a job. Investments in programs for young children build a better future, provide professional opportunities now and allow parents to work. Is there a place for early childhood support in NY Youth Works?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012		Anonymous	No question.
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Utiva	Garry	Where do we can information on forms needed to be completed and who to send them to like the 8850 federal Form used for other tax credits.
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Brooklyn	Patrick	Hello, Mr. Deputy Secretary-- Thank you for being willing to answer questions! This is a rather general question, but I was wondering how NY Youth Works Program could help homeless LGBT youths looking for work to support themselves?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012		Ken	many of the Adirondacks trails and state parks statewide could use some serious clean up / fix up 'detailing' so, short of FT state adult hires, couldn't we (NYS) try to find some funding and or partner w/concerned private and/or non-profits to at the very least fix Irene damage and put LOTS of kids to (real) work this summer in a state level CCC-type effort?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012		Ken	many of the Adirondacks trails and state parks statewide could use some serious clean up / fix up 'detailing' so, short of FT state adult hires, couldn't we (NYS) try to find some funding and or partner w/concerned private and/or non-profits to at the very least fix Irene damage and put LOTS of kids to (real) work this summer in a state level CCC-type effort?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Queens	Norman	What is being integrated in order to avoid NYPD "inexplicable" rights violations? How can I get involved?

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	CHAT DATE	LOCATION	NAME	QUESTIONS FROM CITIZEN CONNECTS ONLINE CHAT
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Broome	Rose	Could the youths be placed in flood areas to work on recovery by the state? Like Fleischmann and other towns?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Buffalo	Jeff	What if a youth is placed at a certified business before the completion of the job training program - would the youth and the training provider still be eligible for the training and placement payments?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Queens	Norman	I understand how better education can lead to better opportunities. Perhaps I am a bit out of topic. But, how is this related to Civil Rights? Many of our youths records have been tarnish leading to a not so progressive future. What is being done regarding police accountability? I am energetic college student eager to make a positive, unbiased difference throughout our communities.
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	NYC	Louis	So how do we access these candidates so we can hire them?
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	Albany	Jean	A company has no tax liability because they are a start up business, are they able to "bank" the credits for the future, or sale the credits.
Alphonso David	2/24/2012	new york city	sarah	I was wondering how NY Youth Works Program could help homeless LGBT youths looking for work to support themselves?

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