



The study was undertaken in accordance with the Public Service Commission's November 2014 order instructing UWNY to work with the Task Force to identify ways to reduce water demand by 2 million gallons per day, and to increase the supply by 2-million-to-3-million gallons per day.

Cornell said UWNY has been working with the Task Force on a number of projects and that the participation needs to resume.

She points out that in a May 15 letter sent to the PSC requesting an extension of time for United Water to file obligatory reports, the General Manager of United Water, Christopher J. Graziano, wrote: "UW has worked closely and collaboratively with the Rockland Task Force on multiple issues related to conservation, water supply and sustainable water policy. The Task Force, under the leadership of Legislator Harriet Cornell, has fostered a productive and respectful dialogue among stakeholders, and the United Water Team is grateful for the opportunity to be active participants."

Graziano also wrote that "a significant manifestation of the collaboration that has taken place between the Task Force and United Water has been the retention of Vickers and Associates, Inc."

Cornell informed David Stanton, president of UWNY's Regulated Business Division, in a May 19 letter that the company had been providing water usage data incrementally, requiring repeated requests by Vickers for outstanding necessary information as she sought to complete the study.

Vickers also identified and submitted requests to UWNY staff to clarify apparent data discrepancies to give the company an opportunity to address them prior to completion of the final report.

"The goal is to prevent unnecessary misunderstandings or duplication of effort at a later stage when these issues would resurface and require further scrutiny," Cornell wrote.

She pointed out to Zibelman that, "Ms. Vickers' reputation is impeccable, so much so that David Stanton, on behalf of United Water, sought to hire Ms. Vickers as a company consultant."

Cornell also stated to Zibelman that UWNY "may not lament the limitations it has as a private entity in implementing a successful conservation plan, and with the next breath unceremoniously opt out of a partnership forged by the Public Service Commission that was intended to help overcome these cited limitations."

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