

ANDREW J. SPANO, Westchester County Executive
JOSHUA LIPSMAN, M.D., J.D., M.P.H., Commissioner of Health

CONTACT: Caren Halbfinger

(914) 813-5013

(914) 995-2935 (After Hours)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 27, 2009

**WORK AT KENSICO DAM MAY AFFECT TAP WATER APPEARANCE
Water May Be Cloudy, But Still Safe**

Residents in White Plains, North Castle, Scarsdale and Yonkers who are served by County Water District #1 may find their tap water cloudy or discolored throughout the month of March because of work that the New York City Department of Environmental Protection is doing inside the Kensico Dam.

“Residents may notice a difference in their water’s appearance, but the change is purely cosmetic,” said Health Commissioner Dr. Joshua Lipsman. “Despite the discoloration, the water will remain safe to drink and use for all purposes.”

The NYCDEP has scheduled a shutdown of District #1’s source water at the dam on March 2 to make repairs. The shutdown is expected to continue through March 16. As a result, customers in the affected areas will be switched to a different NYCDEP water source. This may allow air to enter the pipes and cause cloudiness in the water. Residents may also experience sporadic rusty water because changes in water flow may stir up sediment and loose rust previously accumulated in pipes.

While the work is being conducted, water service is not expected to be disrupted. Tap water will be safe and the discoloration poses no health risk. Any cloudiness due to air in the pipes will dissipate if water is left standing in a pitcher or glass. Rustiness should clear if water is run for a few minutes. If the water does not clear after running for several minutes, residents should contact their water supplier.

For additional information, residents should contact their water supplier or the Westchester County Health Department at (914) 813-5000.

-30-