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**NYPIRG STATEMENT ON GOVERNOR CUOMO'S FOURTH STATE OF THE
STATE ADDRESS**

(Albany, N.Y.) Today, Governor Cuomo gave his fourth State of the State address which focused on infrastructure and public sector development.

The following statement is attributable to Liz Moran, Environmental Policy Director for NYPIRG:

“In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis, as New York moves to create policy initiatives that shape a new economy and job opportunities, **investing in water infrastructure and other protections must be prioritized.** Access to clean water is always a necessity, which has only been emphasized during the COVID-19 pandemic, as we all rely upon clean water to practice proper hygiene to prevent spread. New York has over \$80 billion in water infrastructure needs, but with the Clean Water Infrastructure Act (CWIA), the State has done good work to catch up with outstanding needs. Governor Cuomo and the Legislature must keep their commitment to increase the CWIA by \$500 million in this year’s budget – it’s especially needed now, to both protect health and create good jobs.”

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