

January 8, 2013

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo Governor of New York State NYS State Capitol Building Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

My name is Kevin Hinchey I am the President and CEO of H & H Environmental Construction and Consulting. I am writing to urge you to act immediately on a critical public health issue facing many New Yorkers; that of residential mold.

After the devastation that Hurricane Irene and Sandy left us with, we are trying to help out as many fellow New Yorkers as we can. With back to back super storms it is imperative that now, more than ever, mold testing be made mandatory for pre-purchase home inspections for both commercial and residential buildings. The most pernicious issue that many residents will be facing however, as they try to reclaim their homes, is that of mold infiltration.

According to the Department of State, Division of Licensing Services, Section 197-5.16 Limitations and Exclusions (k.9) states that the inspector is not currently mandated to report mold findings. Unfortunately, most people do not realize they have mold because it is not always reported or visible. Once mold is airborne it can spread throughout the entire home. This can cause individuals to become ill which is why we propose having Air Quality Testing as well as a visual mold inspection a part of home inspections to help prevent future health issues.

As a contractor, and someone like you that has seen firsthand the devastation of the recent storms, I know the importance more than ever of safeguarding the public from these threats. I remain committed to working with your office or any other on this important issue. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call me personally. My office number is (845) 246-3231 and my cell phone number is (845) 707-0265.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Hinchey

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