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**NYPIRG STATEMENT ON NEW INFORMATION REGARDING PFAS
INCINERATION AT NORLITE**

(Albany, N.Y.) Today, residents and advocates released a letter to the New York Inspector General calling for an investigation into actions by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) leading to the burning of toxic PFAS firefighting foam (AFFF) at the Norlite facility in Cohoes. The letter cites emails between DEC staff and the parent company of Norlite, Tradebe, wherein DEC staff states “it would be great to show that incineration is a viable option” for PFAS chemicals.

The email exchange took place in April 2019; however, DEC had previously stated that the agency was unaware of AFFF incineration at Norlite until late 2019.

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

“The email exchange that has been brought to light by residents of Cohoes regarding the burning of toxic PFAS firefighting foam at Norlite is deeply alarming. It is DEC’s mission, first and foremost, to protect public health and the environment; yet this email exchange raises the specter that at least some of DEC’s staff – and perhaps the agency itself – failed in that mission. PFAS chemicals have proven to be unsafe for health and the environment, and every precaution must be taken to reduce exposure. Yet the emails indicate it is possible DEC allowed the unpermitted burning of these chemicals in Cohoes. NYPIRG supports the residents of Cohoes and the Capital region impacted by the activities at Norlite and urges that these incidents are investigated thoroughly.”

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