*Washington, DC -- Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today praised the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for releasing its final research plan for the study on hydraulic fracturing. Hinchey authored the legislative provision to authorize the study and worked with EPA to ensure its commencement. He released the following statement:*

"I applaud the EPA for releasing a final research plan for its study on hydraulic fracturing. I wrote the legislative language that initiated this study and, as I had intended, the final study will look at the full cycle of water used in the hydraulic fracturing process. Our country is in the middle of shale gas rush, but unbiased, scientific research into hydraulic fracturing is almost non-existent. This EPA study will provide invaluable information to the public and policy makers interested in understanding the impact of hydraulic fracturing on our water resources."