Farmingville, NY - The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is dedicated to fostering clean, sustainable, and cost-effective energy throughout the state and is now funding free or reduced-cost home energy audits through the Long Island Green Homes program. The audits are available to all New York State homeowners and are conducted by trained and approved home energy professionals who perform a comprehensive home energy assessment and construct a report recommending affordable, energy efficient improvements and upgrades. These low-cost energy improvements will be at low or no cost to homeowners due to the savings you insure on your monthly energy bill by making your home more energy efficient.

Starting January 30, 2012, the Long Island Green Homes project, which is closely coordinated with LIPA and the National Grid, will give homeowners who finance projects through NYSERDA the option to use a special low-rate On-Bill Recovery Loan Program. This program allows homeowners to make payments through their LIPA electric bills. The payments appear as a separate line item on the utility bill and are financed at a special low interest rate of just 2.99% up to $25,000 (if the payback period is less than 15 years). The loan payments are structured to be lower than your monthly savings on your energy bills. The new On-Bill Recovery Loans save you money, are convenient, and are transferable, so if you sell your home the loans can be transferred to the new homeowner. In addition, no loan payments are due until June, 2012.

"I started the Green Homes program in 2010 in the Town of Brookhaven because I knew it would be of great economic and environmental benefit to home owners. It's great to see that this advantageous and innovative program will be expanded to all of the Town of Brookhaven and throughout Long Island through the On-Bill Financing Program," stated Councilwoman Connie Kepert.

Long Island Green Homes is administered locally by the Community Development Corporation, Sustainability Institute at Molloy College and seven Long Island townships. Over 1,000 Long Island homes have already received energy audits through the Long Island Green Homes program and have begun to save money by implementing energy efficient upgrades. For more information or to sign up for a comprehensive home energy audit, visit www.longislandgreenhomes.org.