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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 13, 2012

## COUNTY ATTORNEY BEATRICE HAVRANEK ANNOUNCES: AUCTION OF LOWER ESOPUS RIVER WATCH PROPERTIES RESCHEDULED TO OCTOBER 5, 2012 AT 10 AM

Kingston, NY — Pursuant a court order of the Honorable Henry F. Zwack, Acting Justice of the Supreme Court, the auction of Lower Esopus River properties previously scheduled for September 14, 2012 has been rescheduled to Friday, October 5, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the County's Legislative Chambers located at 244 Fair Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor in Kingston, New York. The purpose of this postponement is to enable more participation by various land trust organizations, maximize opportunity for all bidders, and facilitate a more successful auction. A copy of the Court's letter order is attached.

The County has been named the beneficiary to the proceeds of the sale of over 122 acres of real property owned by Lower Esopus River Watch, Inc. located in the Towns of Rosendale, Esopus and Shawangunk. The properties are:

Parcel #1

Town of Esopus SBL#: 71.3-5-15

Location: Off Rousner Lane

Acreage: 8.00

Parcel #7

Town of Esopus SBL#: 71.3-5-29

Location: Rousner Lane

Acreage: 52.90

Parcel # 2

Town of Esopus SBL#: 71.3-5-16

Location: Off Rousner Lane

Acreage: 8.00

Parcel #8

Town of Rosendale SBL #: 62.2-3-1

Location: Lucas Ave. Ext.

Acreage: 8.20

Parcel #3

Town of Esopus SBL#: 71.3-5-18

Location: Rousner Lane

Acreage: 10.00

Parcel #4

Town of Esopus SBL#: 71.3-5-20

Location: Rousner Lane

Acreage: 26.00

Parcel # 5

Town of Esopus SBL#: 71.3-5-22

Location: Rousner Lane

Acreage: 4.00

Parcel # 6

Town of Esopus SBL#: 71.3-5-23

Location: Off Rousner Lane

Acreages: 4.00

Parcel #9

Town of Rosendale SBL#: 62.82-2-18

Location: Josephine Avenue

Acreage: .22

Parcel # 10

Town of Rosendale SBL#: 62.82-5-22 Location: Main Street

Acreage: .14

Parcel #11

Town of Rosendale SBL#: 63.5-1-25

Location: Whiteport Rd.

Acreage: .40

Parcel # 12

Town of Shawangunk SBL#: 98.4-1-26

Location: 128 Oregon Trail

Acreage: .61

Further information may be found on the Ulster County Department of Finance website at: http://ulstercountyny.gov/resources/finance.html

ERIC T. SCHNEIDERMAN ATTORNEY GENERAL Division of Social Justice Charities Bureau

September 12, 2012

By Fax (518) 270-5435

The Honorable Henry F. Zwack Rensselaer County Courthouse 80 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, 3<sup>nd</sup> Floor Troy, New York 12180

Re:

Schneiderman v. Lower Esopus River Watch, Inc. et al. Index No. 08-5067, Ulster County Supreme Court

Dear Judge Zwack:

I write to request a revision to the attached ()rder Authorizing Sale of Real Property entered on August 28, 2012 (the "Auction Order"). The Auction Order requires that the land owned by Lower Esopus River Watch, Inc. ("LERW") be sold at auction by September 21, 2012. Exhibit 1 to the Order is a Legal Notice which scheduled the auction for September 14, 2012 and which ran in The Kingston Daily Freeman and the Times Herald-Record over the last two weeks.

As noted in the attachments to the original Order to Show Cause, several of LERW's parcels of land are considered protected wetlands. We understand that one or more land-trust organizations may be interested in purchasing these parcels as a method of additional open space protection, but will not be able to complete their due diligence by this Friday.

We believe that a postponement of the auction to October 5, 2012 will enable any such organizations to complete their due diligence, maximize opportunity for all bidders and facilitate a more successful auction. I have spoken with representatives of the County and LERW and they do not object to the postponement. I have also e-mailed Mr. Fritschler for his comments, but have not received a response.

In order to publicize the postponement, the County will issue a press release and include a notice on the website of the County's Commissioner of Finance. In addition, the legal notice, attached as Exhibit 1 to the Auction Order, will be revised to include the

Hon. Henry F. Zwack September 12, 2012 Page 2

new auction date and time and published in the Daily Freeman and Times-Herald-Record at least once prior to October 5, 2012. Finally, the Commissioner of Finance will take any other steps that he feels are necessary to adequately notify the public of the postponement of the auction.

As a result, we respectfully request that the Court so-order this letter to approve the adjournment of the auction date from September 14, 2012 to October 5, 2012. Thank you for the Court's time and consideration of this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nathan M. Courtney Assistant Attorney General

9/13/2012

cc. Frederick Fritschler, pro se, (by fax and by e-mail) Edward G. Williams, Esq., (by fax and by e-mail) Beatrice Havranek, Esq. (by fax and by e-mail)

SO ORDERED:

The Honorable Henry F. Zwack

**Acting Justice Supreme Court**