

man and fiscal terms," he wrote.

Supporters of Protectors of Pine Oak Woods who have sued the state over tree-removal in Willowbrook may have a few rejoinders and challenge to put action where the words are.

They would not be alone. An interesting challenge came in the form of a clever "midterm energy report card" issued here by a group called the Safe Energy Coalition.

Highlights of the report card, which gave 21 grades, went as follows:

C on acid rain, for while the state became the first with acid rain control legislation, "the governor insisted on last minute amendments which weakened it."

D on administrative appointments. Among them: borough antagonist John Dyson who Cuomo reappointed in "an act that might be viewed more as a reward for staggering campaign contributions than a sensible energy policy."

Failure to reform the state power authority (NYPA — formerly PASNY) headed by Dyson, earned him an **F** in another separate category.

Just this week, Island Sen. John Marchi, taking his biannual turn as head of the legislative commission on expenditure review, issued a report noting NYPA staff has more than doubled, for reasons still unaudited.

"The authority has continued to avoid close legislative oversight and has enhanced its reputation for scorning local governments, other state agencies and citizens impacted by its projects," the energy group stated.

Additionally attacked: building of a power line out of Canada despite "despite arguments about the shortcomings of Canadian import dependency and transmission line impacts;" declining to halt Nine Mile Two nuclear construction; "ambivalence" on the issue of transporting nuclear materials.

Cuomo received one **A**, and one "Incomplete."

The **A** was for stopping the NYPA power plant on Staten Island; the "Incomplete" for the subject of resource recovery plants.

"There are currently 10 garbage incinerators operating in New York State and almost every county has a plant in some stage of planning," the coalition said. "It is essential that Gov. Cuomo ... issue emissions control standards and guidelines" for the burners.

But when the message came out, as pointed out by a different kind of critic, Assemblyman Eric Vitaliano, the section of resource recovery stated in total:

"We must do more to encourage the development of proper solid-waste management practices by our localities. I will pro-

pose additional resources for the Department of Environmental Conservation to enhance enforcement efforts against landfills not in compliance with state law (Fresh Kills is one) and to provide technical assistance to municipalities that are closing landfills and implementing resource recovery projects."

Vitaliano added it was ironic that enforcement was to be emphasized when, last year, Commissioner Williams said he saw no need for more staff.

Rather incredibly, Cuomo adviser Frank Murray claimed, at a briefing Thursday, that the enforcement addition marked no policy change for the administration.

New air monitoring stations for Staten Island, advisers say, will be in the Cuomo budget due out Jan. 22. Assembly members Elizabeth Connelly and Robert Straniere said they were initially disappointed to see nothing about air pollution in the state of the state speech, aside from acid deposition. Straniere said he will stress the need for an interstate compact with New Jersey.

The next step in the tangle is clear. Cuomo will be under challenge to put public money, available in surplus, where his mouth is on the environment. Then it's the Legislature's turn.

Can they make a dent in the "sad reality" of which Cuomo speaks?