



SHARE TO RELEASE 2009 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA AT SOMOS EL FUTURO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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April 3, 2009 – Albany, New York – In an attempt to address New York’s second highest in the nation electricity bills, its high rates of childhood and senior citizen asthma, and its air quality that lies in Federal violation, SHARE a clean energy advocacy non-profit organization, and its member organizations will present its 2009 Draft Legislative agenda at the Somos El Futuro 22nd Annual Spring Conference. The SHARE Legislative Agenda supports major environmental and energy issues recently raised by President Barack Obama’s administration, including The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRP), creating new power plant siting legislation and securing the operation of clean, affordable power.

“New York needs a balanced legislative agenda that will allow for well-paying, green collar jobs,” said Craig Wilson, Executive Director of SHARE. “In addition to creating a new generation of economic investment, our agenda takes steps to address our rising asthma rates and curb our second highest in the nation electricity bills.”

From its grassroots operations, SHARE has seen firsthand that communities of color and low-income neighborhoods in and around New York City have a disproportionate number of power plants, which in turn has led to the poor air-quality that is damaging to the health and quality of life of individuals in the area. Consequently, SHARE believes that new Article X legislation should include greater protection for these communities.

“In order to stem these rising asthma rates and to keep electricity prices stable New York needs to embrace a clean energy future,” says Wilson. “Vital to that clean energy future, is relicensing Indian Point Energy Center, which provides over 2000 megawatts of clean, low-cost power to nearly 40 percent of New York City homes, schools, businesses, hospitals and government institutions.”

In addition to presenting its 2009 Draft Legislative Agenda, SHARE Executive Director Craig Wilson will be a featured guest at a plenary discussion at the Somos El Futuro Conference entitled: ‘*An Inconvenient Truth: Consequences of Global Warming for Latinos*’. Wilson will be joined by John R. Durso, Jr., Executive Director of the New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance, *Luis Garden Acosta*, President, El Puente; *Ed Murphy*, Executive Director, Workforce Development Institute, NYS AFL-CIO; *Roger Rivera*, President, National Hispanic



Environmental Council; and *Elizabeth Yeampierre*, Executive Director, UPROSE. The panel will examine global warming and its ramifications on the Latino *community* and what preventive steps can be taken in our homes, institutions and communities to discontinue the harmful costs of polluting our Earth.

ABOUT SHARE, (*Safe, Healthy, Affordable and Reliable Energy*), is a non-profit coalition of organizations committed to ensuring the continued supply of reliable, clean and affordable electricity for all New Yorkers. High electricity prices have placed an undue economic burden on New York families and businesses, while poor air quality has led to high asthma rates which place our most vulnerable at risk. SHARE, and its member organizations, are committed to working with local stakeholders in the New York metropolitan area to address these problems and provide all New Yorkers with the clean and affordable power they deserve.

SOMOS EL FUTURO, a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization, is the principal sponsor of the annual Somos El Futuro Legislative Conference. Its mission is to increase the participation of the Puerto Rican/Hispanic community in the public policy making process and encourage New York's Hispanic communities to work towards the development of policies, laws, state rules and regulations that address the needs and issues of Hispanics across the state.

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