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Hilary Meltzer is the Deputy Chief of the Environmental Law Division of the New York City Law Department. She was a Senior Counsel in that Division from 1998 to 2010, and has been a member of the Division since 1992. She practices environmental and municipal law, focusing primarily on issues relating to New York City’s drinking water supply and stormwater management systems.

She has worked on the negotiations of the 1997, 2002, and 2007 Filtration Avoidance Determinations for the City’s Catskill and Delaware Water Supply Systems – which together can supply approximately 1.2 billion gallons of high quality, affordable drinking water to over nine million people. Ms. Meltzer was also involved in negotiating the 1997 New York City Watershed Memorandum of Agreement, a landmark agreement among the City, New York State, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the communities in the watershed, and several environmental advocacy organizations to protect water quality as well as the economic vitality of the upstate communities.

Ms. Meltzer’s work includes counseling and litigation – both affirmative lawsuits to protect water quality and compliance work and defending against challenges to the City’s operation of its water supply system and takings claims based on the City’s watershed enforcement efforts. She also participated in the negotiation of New York City’s 2005 Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) consent order, and is currently involved in negotiating the terms of a new Citywide MS4 permit.

Ms. Meltzer received a JD from Yale Law School and a bachelor’s degree with distinction in mathematics from Swarthmore College. She is admitted to the bars of New York State, the Northern and Southern Districts of New York, the Second and Eleventh Circuits, and the U.S. Supreme Court.