

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Suffolk County Legislator Tom Muratore**

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## **Legislator Muratore Tours Brookhaven National Lab**

**Selden, NY** – Legislator Tom Muratore and his staff recently toured the Brookhaven National Lab facility in Upton, New York. The lab is one of seventeen U. S. Department of Energy national laboratories, and one of ten owned by the DOE Office of Science. Established in 1947, BNL is the only national lab located in the Northeast. It is a major enterprise with an operating budget of more than \$500 million, nearly 2,900 employees, and 4.0 million square feet of space in 334 buildings located on about 5,300 acres.



*Photo caption: Legislator Tom Muratore (4<sup>th</sup> from left) joins some of his colleagues and members from Brookhaven National Lab and LIPA.*

The tour included the Long Island Solar Farm, a 32-megawatt plant which is currently the largest solar photovoltaic power plant in the Eastern United States. The yearly energy output is 44,000,000 kilowatt-hours (estimated annual average), equivalent to the annual usage of 4,500 homes. The total area this covers is approximately 200 acres, with an irregular layout designed to minimize environmental issues.

The tour also touched on the National Synchrotron Light Source (NSLS), which began operating in 1982 and is one of the world's most powerful tools for observing the structure and behavior of matter at the atomic level. Now under construction is the next-generation synchrotron, NSLS-II, a one billion dollar cutting edge new user facility scheduled to be completed in 2014. When

finished, NSLS-II will be the highest-performance synchrotron light source in the world and will provide capabilities for both basic and applied research that will only be available at BNL.

“Brookhaven National Lab is at the forefront of scientific and technological research, and this technology is right in our own backyard,” stated Legislator Muratore. “Not only is education in science and technology extremely important to our nation’s future prosperity, but Brookhaven National Laboratory continues to be significant to Long Island’s economy and its environmental well-being.” For more information on Brookhaven National Lab you can visit their website [www.bnl.gov](http://www.bnl.gov). For any of your legislative concerns, please call Legislator Tom Muratore’s office at 631-854-9292 or email [tom.muratore@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:tom.muratore@suffolkcountyny.gov).