



County of Rockland

Office of County Executive C. Scott Vanderhoef

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Vanderhoef welcomes Pfizer's retention of Pearl River base ***County Executive expresses concern about possible job reductions***

New City, NY – County Executive C. Scott Vanderhoef welcomed Pfizer's intent to keep its Pearl River base intact as one of five worldwide research and development centers, but remained concerned about news of possible layoffs at the plant.

Vanderhoef, the County's Chief Economic Officer, said Pfizer officials had warned of a possible 40-percent reduction in employees in R&D and additional job losses in its manufacturing division. Pfizer officials advised Vanderhoef that the transition is scheduled to start by the end of this year and should be complete by 2011.

"It's a mixed blessing. On one hand, we're relieved to learn that the Pearl River plant will remain open and productive as an R&D center, which has been the company's mainstay since its creation," Vanderhoef said. "The potential loss of jobs, however, would be burdensome for the County and the Town of Orangetown during this difficult economic climate."

Vanderhoef said the County would be available to help Pfizer officials during the transition.

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