New York State Green Procurement Program
Response to Comments on

Proposed Specification on Wiping Rags and Cloths

**Background:** A specification for wiping rags and cloths was given tentative approval by the Executive Order 4 Interagency Committee on April 15, 2022. This was part of a package of cleaning products specifications designed to align with the work done on the new multi-state green cleaning contact (FAC118) led by the State of Massachusetts.

**Commenting Entities:** Clean and Healthy New York, Environmental Advocates of New York, Green Inside and Out, New York League of Conservation Voters, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, and WE ACT for Environmental Justice

**Issued Raised by These Organizations During the Comment Period:**

1. **Remove the preference for microfiber cloths**

**Comments:** The commenting entities stated that there should not be a preference for microfiber materials due to the possibility of the release of microplastic into waterways. They also encourage the use of natural fibers as alternatives.

**Response:** The GreenNY Council appreciates the commenter raising this concern around microfiber and its contribution of microplastics to water streams. The specification has been amended in response to this comment.

**Recommendation:** Remove the preference for microfiber cloths and add additional specifications around microfiber products that may need to be purchased.