From:	Patty Lowry
To:	Heikkinen, Thomas
Subject:	City of Madison fluoridation policy
Date:	Tuesday, October 28, 2014 11:38:34 AM
Attachments:	FluorideActionLtr.doc ATT00001.txt

Dear Mr. Heikkinen,

I am submitting a letter opposing the City of Madison's current fluoridation policy. Many cities around the US, including Portland, Oregon, have banned the practice of fluoridating drinking water based on research that links fluoride ingestion with a variety of illnesses. Please distribute my letter to other Water Utility Board members at today's meeting.

I would encourage all members to consider scheduling a public hearing on this issue to allow City of Madison residents the opportunity to voice their concerns regarding drinking water fluoridation.

Thank you for considering my concern regarding this issue.

Sincerely,
Patricia Lowry

Dear Alderpersons,

I recently became aware that the Water Utility Board will be addressing the issue of fluoridating Madison's drinking water on Tuesday, October 28, 2014. I have been concerned about fluoridated drinking water for many years as the information regarding its associated health hazards have become more numerous. Please consider allowing public input in this discussion since it is the citizens of Madison who must ingest this chemical on a daily basis.

During my research, I've learned that fluoride levels as low as 0.3 – 3 parts per million (levels commonly found in American communities) can have serious neurological effects. There are at least 25 studies that have linked fluoride treated drinking water with lower IQs. Other health problems related to fluoride toxicity include bone cancer, genetic damage, impaired thyroid function, dementia and severe eye problems resulting in blindness, just to name a few.

The rationale from the American Dental Association states that adding fluoride to the drinking water of millions of people prevents dental cavities is simply untrue.

"*Fluoride advocates often claim that the reduction in tooth decay that's occurred since the 1950s is a benefit of fluoridated water, but the facts just don't add up. For example, in 1999 the CDC claimed that dental caries declined precipitously during the second half of the 20th Century. But what they failed to mention is that tooth decay rates "precipitously declined" in ALL Western nations, regardless of whether or not fluoridation was used – and most of those countries did NOT fluoridate*!" (http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2013/01/20/fluoride-denialism.aspx)

Many communities in the U.S. have already banned fluoride in drinking water, including Portland, Oregon. In Europe, 98% of the countries have also banned the practice of adding fluoride to the drinking water. Please click on the link to read actual letters from representatives of European countries who cite their reasons for not fluoridating drinking water:
http://topinfopost.com/2014/02/13/98-per-cent-of-europe-banned-water-fluoridation

In conclusion, our drinking water was never intended to serve as a means to dispense chemical substances en masse. The studies have proven that fluoride is a dangerous chemical, and it doesn't belong in our drinking water. Please consider allowing public participation in this decision or simply remove it from our drinking water.

Thank you for considering my position.

Patricia Lowry