

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC  
Chairman  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
Parliament of Western Australia.  
By email to [env@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:env@parliament.wa.gov.au)

Dear Mr Swinbourn

Please find attached written information regarding issues raised in my petition No 033 requesting Parliament repeal the Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Act 1966. I have not filed a complaint with the Ombudsman with regard to this matter.

Kind regards,

James Fairbairn

## Petition No. 033 Opposition to Fluoridation of Public Water

This submission is on behalf of the 6375 residents of Western Australia who have signed the petition calling for the Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Act 1966 to be repealed. There were 384 signatures recorded by the Clerk on the present petition tabled 1/11/2017 plus 5991 signatures recorded by the Clerk on the petition in the same terms to the previous parliament- (Tabled Paper Number 4600 and Tabled Paper Number 1827). I respectfully ask the Committee request the Legislative Council to recommend passage of a Bill to repeal the Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Act 1966. I have not filed a complaint with the Ombudsman with regard to this matter.

The Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Act 1966 (FPWSA) has not been subjected to parliamentary scrutiny since enactment fifty-one years ago. It is time for this outdated, unsafe and unethical legislation to be repealed.

1. There is no indication in the FPWSA, or any other legislation, the purpose of water fluoridation is the prevention of dental caries.
2. The FPWSA authorizes the Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Advisory Committee (FPWSAC) to recommend fluoride be added to water supplies regardless of adverse health effects and regardless of total fluoride exposure from other sources. The FPWSA offers no protections against fluoride poisoning or warnings of the risk.
3. The FPWSAC exists for the purpose of manufacturing consent. The FPWSAC employs many ways to achieve this. There are concerns the FPWSAC has acted beyond its power in the fluoridation of regional water supplies.
4. The FPWSAC exists to protect the FPWSA and the power this legislation confers to a handful of non-elected public servants who cannot be held to accountable as per s.8 of the FPWSA. This is evidenced in the minutes of the 31st meeting of the FPWSAC in Nov 6, 2000. A review of the legislation was acknowledged that the *“Act was written to old technology and is therefore inappropriate to today’s technology levels.”* *“although the Act is probably not perfect it does give –REDACTED– some power. There is a concern that to reopen the Act, may result in detrimental changes to the Act as fluoride is very controversial (even when the Act was introduced in 1966, there was much controversy).”*
5. The FPWSAC exists to create the false impression it is qualified to advise the Minister and citizens on water fluoridation. The FPWSAC deliberately misleads the decision-makers and Western Australians regarding the safety and efficacy of water fluoridation. E.g. the FPWSAC claim *“no detrimental effects”* caused by water fluoridation in Western Australia, yet the FPWSAC cannot provide evidence. This ploy is to confuse the public (including Ministers) by deceitfully equating ‘no evidence of harm’ with ‘evidence of no harm’.
6. The FPWSA is draconian legislation, which provides for the mass medication of Western Australians without consent. This unethical legislation has no place in a free and democratic society. It is in direct contravention of the Nuremberg Code, Article 6 of the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights, Section 51 (xxiiiA) of the Australian Constitution, all codes of medical ethics and all codes of pharmacotherapy.

The FPWSAC dismisses all evidence of harm and relies on the findings of the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) review to support recommendations. The Western Australian Parliament should not accept the advice of the NHMRC (or its agents) which advises fluoride is safe.

The NHMRC:

- a) examine fluoride levels per litre of water and fails to account for fluoride ingestion from all sources and the accumulated dose individuals receive;
- b) dismiss all animal studies despite animals being used in other areas of medical research;
- c) dismiss important international studies that do not support their narrative such as Cochrane review, *Water fluoridation for the prevention of dental caries*, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD010856.pub2/full> and National Research Council 2006 *Fluoride in Drinking Water*, <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/11571/fluoride-in-drinking-water-a-scientific-review-of-epas-standards>.
- d) deliberately exclude the known contaminants found in the industrial grade fluoridation chemicals including lead, arsenic, mercury and cadmium.
- e) stack review panels with fluoridation proponents
- f) devise terms of reference clearly designed to ensure a pre-determined outcome of *“safe and effective”* There is a call for a royal commission into the conduct of the NHMRC. Details can be found at this link <http://fluoridealert.org/wp-content/uploads/fan-australia.nhmrc-fluoridation-critique-8-3-17-1.pdf>

The perceived health benefits from ingesting fluoride in 1966 do not stand up to current research.

Most Western countries either, have never fluoridated water or abandoned water fluoridation years ago. Yet the incidence of decayed, missing and filled teeth in 12 year olds is no different to fluoridated countries. (World Health Organisation data)

Swallowing fluoride causes harm. Fluoride is a known neurotoxin (Lancet 2014) and endocrine disruptor (NRC 2006). Many health conditions are linked to long-term fluoride ingestion, including dental fluorosis - a biomarker of fluoride overdose during the development of children's teeth (Riordan 1991), impaired thyroid function (Peckham 2015), uterine cancer (Tohyama 1996), reduced fertility (Freni 1994; Liu 1988) bone fractures (Turner 1995), fluoride hypersensitivity (Spittle 1993; Waldbott 1958), skeletal fluorosis, muscle and joint disorders (Anand 1990; Ayooob 2006; Waldbott 1974).

Clearly ingested fluoride is neurotoxic. Over 150 animal studies show fluoride can interfere with various aspects of brain function; 45 studies that show that fluoride interferes with the ability of animals to learn and remember, and 51 human studies have associated exposure to fluoride with loss of IQ. Links to these studies can be found at <http://fluoridealert.org/issues/health/brain/>. Many of these studies show fluoride harms the brain at Western Australian fluoridation levels or slightly higher which have major implications for Western Australians. It is unconscionable for our Government to sanction the deliberate addition of a neurotoxic substance to millions of children.

*"Our very great concern is that children worldwide are being exposed to unrecognized toxic chemicals that are silently eroding intelligence, disrupting behaviors, truncating future achievements and damaging societies, perhaps most seriously in developing countries."...*

*"Fluoride seems to fit in with lead, mercury, and other poisons that cause chemical brain drain," Grandjean says. "The effect of each toxicant may seem small, but the combined damage on a population scale can be serious, especially because the brain power of the next generation is crucial to all of us." Dr Phillippe Grandjean Lancet Neurology March 2014*

Watch this 7-minute video produced by the Canadian Environmental Health Atlas called "Little Things Matter: The Impact of Toxins on the Developing Brain" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E6KoMabz1Bw> . Extremely low levels of toxins can impact brain development. Fluoridation chemicals deliberately deliver fluoride, lead, mercury and cadmium (and others) directly to a developing brain of every child in the State via the public water supply. This is in addition to a myriad of environmental toxins a developing baby is exposed to in this modern-day reality. Fluoride cannot be considered in isolation.

A database of more than 2200 published reports linking fluoride to health problems is maintained at [http://fluoridealert.org/researchers/health\\_database/](http://fluoridealert.org/researchers/health_database/).

There have been no studies, anywhere, demonstrating the safety of the silicofluorides used in water fluoridation. There have never been any randomised controlled trials of water fluoridation (Cheng 2007). Fluoridation is dental dogma based on medical myth.

**The precautionary principle must be applied where there is so much evidence for fluoride causing harm.**

### References attached to written information re petition 033

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