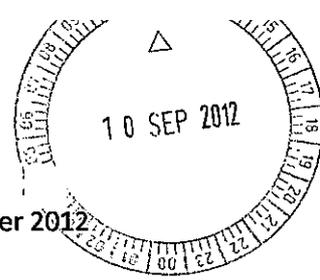


Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
GPO: Box A11  
Perth WA 6837

3 rd of September 2012



**Re: Petition No 166 – Cessation of the Chlorination of the Busselton Water Supply**

Dear Committee Members,

I respectfully ask that you take note of the concerns of the people of Busselton in regard to the chlorination of our water supply.

My submission relates to the following section of Petition 166:

***Busselton Water's (BW) public comments that "This decision is too important for the community to decide" and its failure to involve the community in decisions related to the treatment of their water supply ignores the recommendations of the 2004 and subsequent 2011 Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. This stance: denies natural justice; withholds human rights; and contradicts the many international treaties enacted to protect individual's rights on matters impacting their health and wellbeing, treaties to which Australia is a signatory.***

The community's opposition to chlorination was ignored by Busselton Water Board (BWB). One of their reasons for ignoring the community's concerns was, to quote the CEO of Busselton Water "This decision is too important for the community to decide", unquote. Thereby denying the community natural justice in regard to a matter affecting our health.

In addition to this at a Shire monthly meeting the community were silenced further when David Reid the Chairperson for BWB and Len Boyling the Financial Controller of Busselton Water (who were both Shire Councillors) voted against a motion to acknowledge the significant public concern of the community. Personally, I think it was morally wrong for these two Councillors to have a vote on this issue.

We have enjoyed the best water possible for the last 100 plus years without anyone suffering any ill effects. The population of Busselton is made up of mainly – young families and retirees, and the young children are the ones most adversely affected by the introduction of chlorine to the water supply.

Families who have moved here for various health reasons are now having to buy large quantities of bottled water and / or are having to install filter systems which are beyond their means.

Visitors and travelers from all parts of Australia always commented on our beautiful pristine water; and left with containers full – not any more.

Your sincerely

*Irene M. Neale*

Irene Neale

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