

The Hon Mathew Swinbourn MLC

Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs

GPO Box A11

Perth WA 6837

12 September 2017

Dear Mr Swinbourn

Ref: Petition 023

Thank you for your letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017 regarding the recent tabling of our petition. Please find attached a written submission pertaining to the petition calling for fluoridation chemicals not to be added to Port Hedland's public water supply.

I would like the standing committee to take a look at the current pandemic of neurological disorders that we are witnessing today and the relationship between the toxicity plays in the overall equation, our water.

My name is Simon Vrancic, and I have moved back to Port Hedland in 2016 from Innisfail in far North Queensland where the council had the power to override the additional fluoride being added to their water supply and the plant never ran once it was built. In Innisfail, I had the luxury of being able to drink creek water, bore water, and rain water of which no chemicals were added. Since moving back to Port Hedland, I was made aware of the plans to fluoridate our water supply and thus set up a petition to stop the plant coming online. Unfortunately that is not the case. The plant has been commissioned and there is still a lot of unanswered questions on who is being fluoridated and what the levels are and is there independent tests being carried out to determine specific levels.

The Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Act 1966 (FPWS Act) was enacted 51 years ago. It has never been reviewed that to me is sheer lunacy. The Act authorises Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Advisory Committee (FPWSAC) members to recommend that Fluorine be added to the water supplies regardless of adverse health effects or consent of the people. Interestingly the FPWS Act does not specify prevention of dental caries as an object of the legislation. Parliamentary scrutiny of this legislation is back on the table.

I look forward to hearing from you

Regards Simon Vrancic

**Submission re petition no 023 – OPPOSE FLUORIDATION CHEMICALS TO PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY IN PORT HEDLAND**

I have not filed a complaint with the Ombudsman with regard to this matter.

I write this submission on behalf of the 133 residents who have signed the petition Do NOT CONSENT to the addition of fluoridation chemicals to the public water supply in Port Hedland, Western Australia.

Please find below a list of reasons why the people of Port Hedland do not consent to the fluoridation of the public water supply in Port Hedland:

- Port Hedland already has a high natural level of fluoride in our water (0.5ppm)
- Due to the hot climate of the Pilbara it's easy to drink 8 litres of water or more per day which could potentially overdose us with fluoride
- The dictionary definition of Fluoride: "a violent protoplasmic poison". Then look up protoplasm. WE are protoplasm. Thus, violent protoplasmic poison for us all. Hell, let's put that in the water and see how the kids turn out! (sarcasm)
- Fluoridation is the worst recycling practice in the world. To take the hazardous waste from a phosphate fertilizing industry which cannot be dumped into the sea by international law and cannot be used locally because it is too concentrated, and put it in our drinking water is sheer lunacy.
- It is very expensive for industry to get rid of the hazardous waste. So they **sell** it to the government to dispose of in the public drinking water. Depending on the tonnes being added to the water supply it could be worth millions in savings/income for the fertiliser companies such as CSBP in Kwinana.
- Hydrofluorosilic acid has no known benefit in human and any physiological system. It's not useful for any enamel, so adding that to the water supply for an alleged benefit is a fraud and a crime to our citizens. It is cumulative over a lifetime. It is a noxious substance.
- There is much compelling evidence from the phosphate plants in Florida USA. Many people have been exposed to fluoride and are very sick from their exposure. Illnesses include neurological and muscle disease, leukaemia, emphysema and toxic brain syndrome. Why don't we learn from America's mistakes?
- It is very expensive for the ordinary family to avoid once it's in the water. Families of low income are unable to avoid it. Everyone has genetic difference in terms of how a single dose affects us; one dose for all does not work and is based on mythology.
- There is no way to control the dose; those living here in Port Hedland have fluoride concentration from naturally occurring Calcium Fluoride of 0.5ppm. Even at these levels many residents of Port Hedland will have fluoride intakes at levels known to cause harm.
- Once you put a medicine in the drinking water you can't control the dose because you can't control how much people drink. You can't control who gets it, it goes to everybody. If you asked a pharmacist is there a drug that was safe enough to give to everyone- children, old people, sick people, those with poor nutrition at the same dose they would laugh at you.
- We do not want you to enforce this medication on us. We have the right to informed consent to medication. Fluoridation is a violation of our rights.
- Fluoride impact on the brain it has a definite impact on the neurons which are the nerves parts of the brain which you cannot grow back. Rat studies have shown to cause a memory or IQ problem. We are reducing the IQ of Children. Fluoride poisons enzymes, poisoning enzymes is what kills people. It's highly likely that there will be subtle effects on the brain that the parents will not notice.

- All this over a stupid dental program that does not work. A 1mg dose of Fluoride causes a 0.59 loss in IQ points where IQ is measured at 100. You damage the intellect more as dose rate goes up...
- If there wasn't research out there that shows conclusively that it affects the brain and neurons that it affects the immunity that it affects the bones and it is incorporated into your body fluoride bonding is strong you cannot get it off. What is going on?
- Show us the TGA approval for water fluoridation. Why does the TGA not oversee water fluoridation? Show us where the TGA states that dental fluoride products including Varnish coating will not cause us harm. Can you explain why fluoride supplements are banned and never to be taken in pregnancy?

The Fluoridation of Public Water Supply Advisory Committee (Committee) has manufactured the consent of the residents of Port Hedland. In order to obtain the 'consent' of the residents in Port Hedland a telephone survey (clearly designed as a 'push-poll') was conducted by the Health Department in July 2013 which does not adequately reflect the opinion/consent of the people. A mere 445 people from an estimated total sample population of 9,614 residents were surveyed. Of those surveyed only 231 respondents were of the opinion that water fluoridation is a good thing. This means that a mere 2.4% of the total sample population in Hedland supported water fluoridation. The research data from this telephone survey was to be "used in the assessment on whether or not to add fluoride to the public water supply in Port Hedland." Based upon the survey results the recommendation to fluoridate the water in Port Hedland should never have been made.

There has been no community consultation, no debate, no public discussion, and no consent from the people of the community. There has been no transparency. It is very hard to obtain information through Government agencies and the Water Corporation. Fluoridation is being forced onto the Port Hedland community.

I request that the Environment and Public Affairs Committee investigate, in addition to other questions, whether the Department of Health and the Water Corporation acted *ultra vires* in engaging in conduct directed at fluoridation of Port Hedland's water supply.