

February 19, 2008

To Clallam County Board of Health

Michael C. Chapman, Chair, Camille Scott, Vice Chair, Howard "Mike" V. Doherty, Jr., Gary Smith, Jeanette Stehr-Green, M.D., Stephen P. Tharinger, John Beitzel

From: Eloise Kailin, M.D., Secretary, PPF

At your last meeting Health Officer Dr. Locke attempted to respond to the Constructive Notice we sent each of you with respect to what we believe to be unlawful activity, failure to warn, misrepresentations, and liability involving the fluoridation preparation currently being added to the municipal water supply for not only the citizens of Port Angeles, but for those outside their borders.

We agree with Dr. Locke that the fluoridation of municipal water is controversial. We seek discussion based on scientific standards. Unfortunately those espousing water fluoridation, such as the CDC and USPHS, after decades of carrying out an explicit and well funded governmental policy mandating fluoridation continue to produce opinions of strong support for the practice without scientifically credible documentation. After 60 years there is not one double-blind study of efficacy to prevent dental caries for fluoride ingested in drinking water while there is uncontested evidence linking this practice to rapidly increasing frequency and severity of dental fluorosis. Global claims of safety are missing the required studies as pointed out in the National Research Council's publication issued March of 2006. (Fluoride in Drinking Water: A Scientific Review of EPA's Standards, available on line at www.nap.edu/catalog/11571.html).

Dr. Locke's discussion and Mr. Chapman's comments at your last meeting suggest that you think water fluoridation does not concern you because this Board of Health did not order fluoridation, is not empowered to order fluoridation, and merely sent a letter of support for the city's action. If this Board of Health chooses not to take any responsibility to either enforce requirements that additives to public waters in its jurisdiction meet state required standards or at a minimum to warn its constituents that there is a problem here, we want that position to be clearly understood. Approximately 18,000 citizens of whom some 3,000 do not even vote for city council members are, we believe your constituents who are receiving the additive, not to mention you might have concern for visitors, restaurant customers, school children, college students, occupants of hospital and jail and ferry passengers.

I apparently failed to adequately communicate to Dr. Locke and perhaps the rest of you, our concern about the contaminants present in the fluoridation liquor supplied to the city. It is far more than the issue of whether FSA does or does not dissociate when diluted. Today I give each of you a letter written by Gary Pittman to U.S. senators and congress persons. Gary worked for the phosphate industry for about 21 years. He worked in positions from the analytical laboratory to pilot experimental projects and his last position was supervising one-third of the Occidental Chemical Corporation's Swift Creek Chemical Complex. He and many of his co-workers became sick with usual and unusual cancers and damage to lungs, liver, muscles, heart and brain.

The production of fluorosilicic acid and its salts—which I will call FSA here—starts with washing down the air pollution scrubbers at phosphate fertilizer plants. Wash water comes from evaporation or settling ponds because there are strict rules against using fresh water in Florida. Those ponds are used as re-cycling centers for general toxic wastes. Sulphuric acid is produced at these facilities and spent vanadium pentoxide catalyst, production sludge and waste water from this process go into the ponds as well as radioactive scale from reaction vessels and filters, phosphoric acid sludges, and radioactive fluorosilicates chipped from scrubbing pads and chambers.

In creating the FSA other chemicals are added such as oil based defoamers (possibly containing dioxins), polymers, petroleum products, naphthalene, chlorides, sulfides, Synspar and various reagents. During the phosphoric acid concentration processes these added chemicals and inherent toxic contaminants common in phosphate rock are boiled off the acid in a partial vacuum at temperatures as high as 500 degrees F. The vapors are washed and captured in the pollution scrubbers along with the fluorine and fluorosilicate gases.

The reaction vessels are made from Hastelloy G-30 which cost a million dollars and last only about 3 years. due to corrosion. They contribute nickel and beryllium to the mix as metal complexed fluorosilicates. Many new toxic products are created under these conditions. Each batch will be a unique mixture.

On the good side the Florida Department of Environmental Protection tells me clean well water is used in making up the final product.

With all of these contaminants now perhaps you can begin to see the need for the requirement to meet NSF/ANSI 60 General Requirement Section 3.2.1, disclosure of all toxic materials for at least one batch of FSA per manufacturer per year. Note that we do not know that the batch actually tested is the one from which Port Angeles is supplied, And there are a number of individual phosphate plants in Florida making the stuff, each with slightly different methods.

But none of them have met the requirement for full disclosure of the many, many toxic materials present even on a one lot per year basis.

I now offer you a copy of the MSDS sheet which failed to accompany the first shipment of FSA to Port Angeles. Note the FAX label sent from Jacksonville, Fl dated 6/13/06 which is a month after the City started fluoridation. Note that it claims the product is certified to NSF /ANSI 60 and contrast this to the testimony supplied to you last month saying that Section 3.2.1 has not been complied with. Note the very small amount of information given on contents of the solution delivered..

Please demand to see the documentation on compliance with NSF/ANSI standard 60. Certification is carried out, as acknowledged by Dr. Locke, by a private, industry group and is not available to the public by Public Disclosure Request.