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From: CLALLAM COUNTY CITIZENS FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

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PRESS RELEASE

Clallam County Citizens for Safe Drinking Water has opposed fluoridation of Port Angeles municipal water since 2003. We were plaintiffs in a court suit charging that fluoridation's adverse effects on people and the environment should be disclosed in an Environmental Impact Statement under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). We were stopped by court rulings that the State Environmental Policy Act did not apply to fluoridation because the Washington State Department of Health holds a blanket exemption from provisions of this law.

We are now reorganizing because of the following:

- ▶ Fluoridation was commenced in Port Angeles in 2006, two months after a major publication from the National Research Council advised lowering fluoride limits and reported many gaps in information needed to establish the safety of fluoridation.
- ▶ One example: Infants and small children are being overdosed with fluoride because they drink relatively large amounts of water. Moreover, our drinking water contains 100 times the concentration of fluoride found in normal breast milk, the "perfect food" for babies. Neither our City nor our State have faced up to this problem even to the extent of protecting infants by warning mothers who bottle feed. Ref. *Fluoride in Drinking Water: A Scientific Review of EPA's Standards*. National Research Council, March 2006 pp 1-6, 27-33 or see http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=11571#toc
- ▶ The fluoride used in Port Angeles is industrial grade hexafluorosilicic acid, contaminated with poisons such as lead, arsenic, and mercury. It does not meet pharmaceutical standards and has never been approved by the FDA.
- ▶ The quality and contents of each batch of hexafluorosilicic acid is unknown since the quality depends on testing a token one sample per year for each manufacturer even though many batches are produced, and all differ in composition. Testing and certification is entirely dependent on a private industry consortium, which protects the privacy of its clients and severely limits public disclosure. Not even the State Department of Health can obtain critical, detailed information!
- ▶ The City distributes fluoridated water to persons of all ages and various states of health. The dose received depends on the amount of water consumed, which varies widely from person to person. There is now an epidemic of dental fluorosis (discolored teeth) caused by excessive fluoride. Sources of fluoride include not only water but also foods, beverages, and dental products. Fluoride is even absorbed through the skin when swimming or bathing. Avoiding fluoride is at best expensive and for many impossible. Thus, fluoridation is forced medication.

We are taking action by distributing petitions to demonstrate that there is widespread citizen opposition to this forced medication without informed consent.