

Resolution regarding artificial water fluoridation

Whereas the Basel Convention, Environment Canada and United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) all state that the chemicals used in artificial water fluoridation are hazardous waste which may not be put directly into lakes, rivers and oceans; and,

Whereas artificial water fluoridation chemicals contain between 20 to 30% hydrofluorosilicic acid (inorganic fluoride), trace amounts of arsenic, lead, mercury, radionuclides and other heavy metals, all considered to be toxic substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Priority List of Hazardous Substances in USA, 1989 First Priority Substances lists in Canada and proposed for “virtual elimination” under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, the 1997 Binational Toxic Strategy and the 1978 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement; and,

Whereas fluoride is not removed in sewage treatment and remains a toxic constituent of the effluent discharged by treatment plants to rivers and lakes; and,

Whereas background levels of fluoride in the Great Lakes exceed the Canadian Water Quality Guideline (CWQG) and fluoride concentrations in sewage effluent are 5-10 times in excess of the CWQG. At these concentrations fluoride is known to be toxic to a variety of water species such as salmon, caddisfly, daphnia magna & others; and,

Whereas the US EPA labor unions, the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE), and professionals world-wide state that artificial water fluoridation is not effective in the prevention of cavities and not safe to vulnerable populations, as demonstrated in the recent US National Research Council 2006 Review; and,

Whereas there is a wide range of health vulnerabilities in a population and a wide range of consumption patterns for fluoridated water and beverages and foods made with fluoridated water, which means that an individual's daily dose of fluoride chemicals from drinking water cannot be controlled;

Whereas imposing chemicals used as a medication to a population without a prescription or their informed consent is unacceptable; and,

Whereas less than one percent of treated water is actually ingested by the body and the remaining 99 percent put into the environment; and,

Therefore be it resolved that Great Lakes United supports statements by the United States Environmental Protection Agency labor unions, Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE), and professionals worldwide that the practice of artificial drinking water fluoridation be terminated; and,

Therefore be it further resolved that Great Lakes United works to reverse existing government policies supporting artificial drinking water fluoridation;

Therefore be it further resolved that Great Lakes United supports government policies, practices and regulations which do not permit drinking water to be used as a means of delivery for chemicals or drugs intended to treat humans – for example, the chemical called hydrofluorosilicic acid, used to deliver fluorides;

Therefore be it further resolved that Great Lakes United supports government policies, practices and regulations requiring fluoride polluting industries to dispose of this hazardous waste in a safe, sustainable manner which does not harm our ecosystem;

Therefore be it further resolved that Great Lakes United communicates accurate information regarding the safety and efficacy of these artificial fluoridation chemicals to municipal associations (such as the Federation of Canadian Municipalities), the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, First Nations and Tribal Governments who are attempting to make informed decisions on this issue;

Therefore be it further resolved that Great Lakes United makes their position known to provincial, state and federal governments.

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of a resolution adopted at the twenty-seventh annual meeting of Great Lakes United on May 20, 2009.



Julie O'Leary
President