

16 February 2020

By email to:

The Hon. Greg Hunt

Federal Minister for Health

Email: Greg.Hunt.MP@aph.gov.au

RE: Invitation for a briefing / consultation with visiting Professor Paul Connett

Dear Minister Hunt

Our organisation has corresponded with you on several occasions in the last six months. Thank you for your replies.

This organisation represents concerned citizens Australia wide with Australian and international Advisory Board members well-qualified in science and health. There is an excellent opportunity for you to have a meeting and briefing with our invited visitor, Professor Paul Connett from the USA, a leading world authority on the matter of fluoride exposure and water fluoridation. He will be in Australia briefing public authorities and community groups on several toxic, health hazard issues – in particular the recent, strong body of science on the danger that fluoride exposure poses to the foetus, infants and child (please see potential dates for a meeting below).

Professor Connett's full list of scientific and citizen advocacy achievements would take many pages but several of the most pertinent are:

- (1) Lead author of the book *The Case Against Fluoride*, published in 2011 (Chelsea Green Publishing)
- (2) In the summer of 2000 he was invited by the York University team, which reviewed fluoridation for the British government, to peer review their report.
- (3) Several presentations on fluoridation to committees of the Irish Government and Ministry of Health.
- (4) In 2003 he gave an invited presentation to the USA National Research Council as part of their review of 'The toxicity of fluoride in drinking water', which resulted in the 2006 publication *Fluoride in Drinking Water: A Scientific Review of EPA's Standard*.
- (5) November 2004, representing Water Quality Australia Inc., Professor Connett had a lengthy meeting and presentation with Victoria's Chief Health Officer, Dr Robert Hall together with several DHS department heads, senior staff of the Uni of Melb School of Dental Sciences and a president of the Australian Dental Association. (It is possible that DHS did not take comprehensive minutes of that meeting—Water Quality Australia did and we are now the holders of those minutes, and happy to forward them to you.)
- (6) In 2010, Professor Connett provided testimony in a public consultation organized by the Science Committee on Health and the Environmental Research (SCHER) of the EU in Brussels.

In April this year Professor Connett will join a team of international experts, including some of the world's leading toxicologists, giving testimony when water fluoridation goes on trial in the USA in April 2020. The US EPA is on trial for setting the allowable limits for fluoride in drinking water too high; given the very strong recent evidence that fluoride intake harms the developing brains of infants and children. Set to be heard in a Federal Court in San Francisco, the action against the EPA is being taken under the US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The decision in this case may well determine whether water fluoridation remains legal and allowable in the USA, with a flow-on impact across the small group of other countries that implement water fluoridation, including of course Australia. As you know, 95 per cent of the world's population does not receive fluoridated water and 98 per cent of Europe have ceased, rejected or banned water fluoridation based on toxicity and the lack of ethics.

IS WATER FLUORIDATION A FEDERAL OR STATE MATTER?

While state and local governments do make decisions on water fluoridation, Federal government has played a strong role in this matter for decades.

(1) The federally constituted and funded NH&MRC has provided state governments the advice and direction upon which their decisions have been based. Statements from state and local governments about introducing or maintaining water fluoridation programs always refer to the federal body, NHMRC.

(2) When large numbers of Australian towns commenced fluoridation in the period 2004 – 2013, state governments invariably quoted as their authority **Australia's National Oral Health Plan 2004 – 2013**.

Likewise, more recently, when state or local governments have proposed new fluoridation schemes for regions, they also quote **Australia's National Oral Health Plan 2015 - 2024**.

Thus the Commonwealth government plays a major and central part in whether any community consumes fluoridated water, or not.

MEETING WITH PROFESSOR CONNETT

We feel sure that you would wish to hear the scientific evidence along with concerns of Australian citizens through our invited expert, Professor Connett.

He will be able to fly to Canberra from Monday 23 March until Thursday 26 March just to meet with you. Otherwise he will be available in Melbourne on Friday 27 March and Monday afternoon 30 March.

Kindly contact us as soon as possible so that we can lock in a meeting with you on one of those days, presumably at your office or a venue suitable for you.

Yours sincerely



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Pease see the PDF attached.

Professor Paul Connett's full bio is available [here](#).