

From Tracey Watson to The Hon. Greg Hunt, Federal Minister for Health

23 December 2019

The Hon Greg Hunt  
PO Box 6022  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT2600  
Federal Minister for Health, Minister for Medical Research.

Dear Mr Hunt,

I am writing to you this date asking you:-

After all the recent undeniable evidence about the serious health risks associated with water fluoridation!

WHY IS TOXIC FLUORIDE STILL IN OUR DRINKING WATER? Why are Local Councils permitted to force Fluoridation upon its rate payers and residents against their wishes.

I am a very concerned Mother of five and resident of Oberon, New South Wales, 2787.

I became aware again that the Oberon Council had an agenda to introduce fluoride into our beautiful clean reticulated water supply.

I have done a lot of my own research into the ill effects that fluoride, an listed S6 Toxic Poison has on the human body. I along with numerous other residents have voiced our concerns to the Local Oberon Councillors, the Mayor and the General Manager, all of my emails and attempts to get them to do their own research continued to fall upon deaf ears.

I am writing to you in the hope that you will do your own research and I don't mean reading any of the falsified so called evidence in support of fluoridation by NSW Health or Dental Association. You may however like to have a look at recent studies and evidence that proves that fluoridation is not safe nor effective as the claims from NSW Health regarding same. There is countless proven evidence to the contrary of their claims. You could take a look at <https://fluoridefreeaustralia.org/> that has clearly displayed studies supporting the ill health risks of fluoridation.

Members of both of these departments NSW Health and the Australian Dental Association made a visit to our town and Council meeting to push their agenda of forced fluoridation, not only did they do this but they also labeled our town which I would like to point out is a flourishing wood industry town as a Low Socio Economic Town? As a resident since the age of two I found that comment to be highly offensive as do many other residents.

The Council made no real effort to address residents on their intention to force their fluoridation agenda. Their intentions were actually made known to local residents by the Anti fluoridation members in our town. This fact was also confirmed and justified by the Mayor Mrs Kathy Sajowitz in an email response to me.

The tactics used by members of the Oberon council namely five of them and the low tactics of NSW Health initiated phone survey which was then relied upon by those members of Council were not accurately obtained and the majority of the recipients surveyed are not recipients of the reticulated water supply so will not be affected directly. I also would like to point out that the relationship between the NSW Health and the group they employed to

conduct that survey is clearly a conflict of interest.

Due to this major deliberate false outcome, a few residents and myself took it upon ourselves to go door to door of all residents whom are recipients of the reticulated water supply to get true figures giving ALL those residents their previously stolen opportunity to have their say either way.

After many days we conducted an unbiased door knock survey. Not once did we deny people their right to have their say either way, nor did we attempt to influence anyone to say yes or no in regards to their view about fluoridation.

Upon completing our survey without changing any of the data we went through the raw data eliminating any double ups and the results were 76% against fluoridation, 18% for fluoridation and 6% undecided either way.

My friends and I presented the raw data to The Mayor where she made false allegations against us. We then attended the following Public Council meeting where the finalised and refined data was submitted to them with a Councillor whom had a pre prepared statement written with more false allegations made against us and blatant lies told to the filled room of Councillors and residents.

I am of the strong belief that when the majority is against fluoridation that it is NOT permitted for any body to do so. I am of the strong belief that the NSW Health initiated phone survey was conducted in a liable manner and have heard from people who were questioned why they were against fluoridation or told when they said a clear NO to the question of fluoridation they were told that the quota was met?

We however did not question anyone's yes, no or undecided response and we did not deny anyone to have their say either way.

I am asking that our Local Council NOT be permitted to go against the majority and force fluoridate our reticulated water supply with an accumulative S6 poison that also contains numerous other heavy metal contaminants including lead, mercury and the list goes on.

Residents have supplied over three thousand legitimate papers supporting Non Fluoridation including the fact that the majority of the world does NOT Fluoridate. So I am asking this question Why does the Australian Government force Flouridation upon its residents. I would also like to ask if fluoridation IS working as claimed, why is NSW Health and the Dental Association now pushing the issue of sugar if fluoridation is the answer? I say because fluoridation is NOT the answer it is a contributing factor of decay, and many sicknesses in Australia. Our dentists are overwhelmed with patient's, our health system is overwhelmed with patient's with many issues that can be directly associated with fluoride overdoses. Why so many people have clear signs of Dental Fluorosis on their teeth which is a clear marker of fluoride over dosages.

Please stop forced fluoridation for the future of all Australians, animals and our environment. After all if fluoride gets into rivers, streams, the air or spills onto the land it is classed as a contaminant but the Government Authorities say it's alright to dilute it via our water supplies? This makes absolutely NO SENSE! If administering fluoride to water supplies you must wear a hasmat suit? Safe? I think NOT!

Yours faithfully  
Tracey Watson



Ref No: MC20-000021

Tracey Watson  
10 Dart Street  
OBERON NSW 2786

Dear Ms Watson

Thank you for your correspondence of 23 December 2019 to the Minister for Health, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, regarding community water fluoridation. The Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf.

You have mentioned that you have concerns with the decision of your local council to fluoridate the community drinking water supply in Oberon, NSW. I am unable to comment on this decision; however, I would like to assure you that it is constitutional for state governments to pass legislation to protect and enhance public health. I would like to add that the implementation of the advice outlined in the Statement continues to be the responsibility of the state and territory governments.

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) is committed to providing public health advice based on a body of high quality scientific evidence that has been critically appraised according to best practice methods. As outlined in the [2017 Public Statement – water fluoridation and human health in Australia](#) (the Statement), NHMRC strongly recommends the supply of community water fluoridation because it provides important dental health benefits and reduces tooth decay across the population. There is also no reliable evidence that water fluoridation at current Australian levels causes health problems. The evidence base for the conclusions made by NHMRC and its [Fluoride Reference Group](#) in 2017 are outlined in the [2017 NHMRC Information Paper – Water fluoridation: dental and other human health outcomes](#) and the [Health Effects of Water Fluoridation – Evidence Evaluation Report and Technical Report](#).

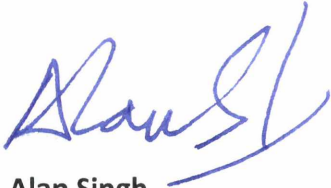
While some countries choose not to fluoridate their public water supplies due to their high levels of naturally-occurring fluoride or other population-level fluoridation programs, New Zealand, Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland and the United States of America all continue to support public water fluoridation to ensure dental health. I would also like to assure you that the quality of the chemicals used to fluoridate drinking water supplies are subject to strict quality assurance processes. This is regulated by the states and territories using guidance provided in NHMRC's [Australian Drinking Water Guidelines](#). More information on the chemicals used to fluoridate water can be found in our [Questions and Answers Resource](#).

Part of the ongoing monitoring and maintenance of advice such as the Statement involves keeping a watching brief on any studies regarding human health effects of community water fluoridation. This is done in consultation with state and territory representatives working in the field of drinking water quality, as well as with NHMRC expert committees who can

assess the quality of the study and how applicable it is to Australian conditions. Please note, NHMRC does not re-evaluate advice in response to individual published studies but rather in response to a body of evidence and research outcomes. While NHMRC monitors what studies are published on this topic, a review of NHMRC's water fluoridation advice is not being considered at this point in time.

I trust this letter and the aforementioned documents will help address any outstanding issues you may have on community water fluoridation.

Yours sincerely



**Alan Singh**  
Executive Director  
National Health and Medical Research Council

5 February 2020  
By Email to: NHMRC

Good afternoon James,

I am saddened by the response that I have received in reply to my email.

I am very well informed on the detrimental effects that the known industrial waste byproduct being a known S6 toxic poison being pushed and plunged under the false guise that it is a natural fluoride being added to our reticulated water supplies, that also requires the person administering this into our water to be fully protected by a hazmat suit!

This alone is a huge indication that it is NOT SAFE NOR EFFECTIVE especially to human beings, animals nor the environment. Yes I have done my due diligence in making myself very informed in regard to this issue.

There has been over 70 independent studies recently regarding this issue. Where there is clear evidence to the contrary of the information supplied by and relied upon by the NHMRC and that information they plug has been twisted to support their agenda to forcefully fluoridate Australia.

All of the findings supported by the NHMRC is also based on findings funded by those agencies and their falsified facts claimed constantly by those departments to be founded on studies conducted by them. Conflict of interest much?

Baby bottle decay is a huge issue caused by parents allowing their children to go to bed with a bottle. I know this to be true. I have had a child with this issue that was blamed on non fluoridated water. What a joke!

I hope that you are aware that Australians are waking up to this farce and are not happy being forced to consume a known industrial waste byproduct. Many of us following the current court case regarding same in America.

The majority of the world have chosen not to fluoridate for good reason and factually proven that their dental decay is no worse than fluoridated countries but our Government bodies, knowing this to be true even here in Australia between fluoridated and in non fluoridated towns as admitted by them in their own reports still force us against our consent to have to drink, bath in, cook in and also consume numerous fast foods and pre packaged foods and drinks also containing more fluoridated water. There is no limiting how much each individual is consuming in an average day.

You are well and truly over dosing each and everyone of us. There have been warnings for pregnant mothers not to consume fluoride! How are you monitoring this? How are they able to avoid fluoride in their day to day lives with almost all of Australia being forcefully fluoridated?

Don't you think it is about time you all admit the truth and stop the farce that you have all been hiding behind since the early sixties.

It's about time you developed some integrity, admit that you have made a grave mistake and stop causing serious harm to our bodies. Teach people how to clean their teeth correctly.

I especially love the way fluoride is plugged as a quick fix to dental issues then NSW Health and the Australian Dental Association in their latest plugs are blaming the 'rises' in tooth decay to be caused from sugary foods and beverages. Wow! The fluoride really isn't working is it? That's obvious as even in fluoridated areas people find it hard to get an appointment to see one of the hundreds of dentists as they are always fully booked out. Now shouldn't the fluoride be stopping the tooth decay? As it is so Safe and Effective?

NO, it's not working at all but is contributing to people's ill health in too many areas of their general health to mention. It is really contributing to the decay of their teeth, receding gums, gum disease, the huge dental fluorosis rise etc. Yet again, I know this to be true, both of my older siblings suffered with dental fluorosis and all of the ill effects caused from it.

So again I am very displeased with the response I received to my email.

I do not like to be lied to and I believe neither do the majority of all Australians.

Where is your INTEGRITY?

Regards  
Tracey Watson



Ref No: MC20-000021

Tracey Watson  
10 Dart Street  
OBERON NSW 2786

Dear Ms Watson

Thank you for your correspondence of 23 December 2019 to the Minister for Health, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, regarding community water fluoridation. The Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf.

You have mentioned that you have concerns with the decision of your local council to fluoridate the community drinking water supply in Oberon, NSW. I am unable to comment on this decision; however, I would like to assure you that it is constitutional for state governments to pass legislation to protect and enhance public health. I would like to add that the implementation of the advice outlined in the Statement continues to be the responsibility of the state and territory governments.

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) is committed to providing public health advice based on a body of high quality scientific evidence that has been critically appraised according to best practice methods. As outlined in the [2017 Public Statement – water fluoridation and human health in Australia](#) (the Statement), NHMRC strongly recommends the supply of community water fluoridation because it provides important dental health benefits and reduces tooth decay across the population. There is also no reliable evidence that water fluoridation at current Australian levels causes health problems. The evidence base for the conclusions made by NHMRC and its [Fluoride Reference Group](#) in 2017 are outlined in the [2017 NHMRC Information Paper – Water fluoridation: dental and other human health outcomes](#) and the [Health Effects of Water Fluoridation – Evidence Evaluation Report and Technical Report](#).

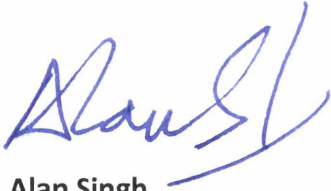
While some countries choose not to fluoridate their public water supplies due to their high levels of naturally-occurring fluoride or other population-level fluoridation programs, New Zealand, Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland and the United States of America all continue to support public water fluoridation to ensure dental health. I would also like to assure you that the quality of the chemicals used to fluoridate drinking water supplies are subject to strict quality assurance processes. This is regulated by the states and territories using guidance provided in NHMRC's [Australian Drinking Water Guidelines](#). More information on the chemicals used to fluoridate water can be found in our [Questions and Answers Resource](#).

Part of the ongoing monitoring and maintenance of advice such as the Statement involves keeping a watching brief on any studies regarding human health effects of community water fluoridation. This is done in consultation with state and territory representatives working in the field of drinking water quality, as well as with NHMRC expert committees who can

assess the quality of the study and how applicable it is to Australian conditions. Please note, NHMRC does not re-evaluate advice in response to individual published studies but rather in response to a body of evidence and research outcomes. While NHMRC monitors what studies are published on this topic, a review of NHMRC's water fluoridation advice is not being considered at this point in time.

I trust this letter and the aforementioned documents will help address any outstanding issues you may have on community water fluoridation.

Yours sincerely



**Alan Singh**  
Executive Director  
National Health and Medical Research Council

From Tracey Watson to Alan Singh NHMRC  
2 March 2020

Dear Mr Singh,

In response to your email to me dated 28 February, 2020.

I have some questions for you.

(1) Are you and your department up-to-date and aware of the impending Federal Court trial of fluoridation in the USA, to take place in April?

The legal action is being taken against the US EPA for failing to set the allowable limit of fluoride in drinking water low enough to protect the lives and health of children, infants and babies in utero.

(2) Are you aware that the EPA has twice attempted to have a judge throw the action out of court and twice, a Federal judge has ruled that the case presented against the EPA, in the matter of fluoride in drinking water, has merit and must continue?

(3) Are you aware that the case against fluoridation and the EPA in the USA has great ramifications for Australia since it is examining the same range of levels of fluoride that are put into water supplies in Australian fluoridation schemes?

(4) Do you wish to stay ahead of this developing scandal regarding fluoride exposure and the health of babies, children and adults alike? If so, I humbly suggest that your advisers within the Health Department, or elsewhere, are not advising you in a timely manner or with sufficient urgency on this matter.

(5) Are you aware of the very close similarity of the recent understanding of FLUORIDE neurotoxicity with the way in which our knowledge of lead poisoning burst into public consciousness, and regulators were caught napping some decades ago? Fluoride and lead are both neurotoxins that affect the brains of babies and children. Fluoride and lead have very similar degrees of toxicity at the same concentrations. Most substances with that degree of toxicity have public health goals of ZERO exposure to children and ZERO concentration in water; fluoride, however, has lagged behind in being properly regulated in this way. The upcoming legal action against the US EPA is the likely mechanism that will abruptly catapult fluoride into being strictly regulated in the same way as lead. Are you aware of this? Have health department or NHMRC personnel been advising you and other bodies such as government personnel and importantly Local Councils on this?

I am certainly looking forward to your answers to the questions posed above.

Yours faithfully  
Tracey Watson



[traceylwatson@icloud.com](mailto:traceylwatson@icloud.com)

Dear Ms Watson,

Thank you for your email to the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) regarding several concerns that you have regarding community water fluoridation.

NHMRC is aware of the pending Federal Court trial regarding community water fluoridation in the USA. As this is out of our jurisdiction, we are unable to comment any further on this issue. We will continue to monitor the outcomes of the case and any resulting actions by the US government.

NHMRC is also aware that the trial is examining the same range of fluoride levels that we have here in Australia. While NHMRC does keep a watching brief on international activities regarding water fluoridation, our agency provides evidence-based public health advice that has been developed for the Australian context and to protect the Australian population. This is done in consultation with state and territory representatives working in the field of drinking water quality, as well as NHMRC expert committees who can assess the quality of the information and how applicable it is to Australian conditions. The same process will be used for any future revisions to the Statement.

NHMRC is aware of recent publications examining the neurological and cognitive health effects of water fluoridation as part of the ongoing monitoring and maintenance of advice for the [2017 Public Statement: water fluoridation and human health in Australia](#) (the Statement). NHMRC does not update its advice based on single studies, but on a body of evidence that has been critically appraised according to best practice methods. While we understand that the publication of these recent studies may cause concern to some members of the community, many experts including those on the NHMRC Water Quality Advisory Committee have identified problems with the scientific methodologies used by the authors. It is international best practice in guideline development to consider issues with study methods and how they affect the overall confidence in the results when evaluating the evidence.

In the 2016 review of evidence on water fluoridation and public health, NHMRC found no reliable evidence of neurotoxic health effects at Australian levels. Information about how this conclusion was reached is available in the [2016 Evidence Evaluation Report, Technical Report and Information Paper](#). Reports from the 2016 evidence review that attributed lowered intelligence to water fluoridation are based on studies undertaken in countries where the levels of fluoride in the water are much higher than in Australia. Regarding your concerns around fluoride and lead, NHMRC is aware of the neurotoxicity of lead and we have published advice on this in the [NHMRC Statement: Evidence on the Effects of Lead on Human Health](#). It is important to note that NHMRC does not assume there a similarity between these two chemicals. They have very different toxicological profiles and need to be assessed separately. NHMRC will continue to monitor for any additional evidence on this topic as it is published.

As previously outlined, it is constitutional for state governments to pass legislation to protect and enhance public health. The implementation of the advice outlined in the Statement continues to be the responsibility of the state and territory governments.

NHMRC continues to support community water fluoridation as a safe, effective and ethical way to help reduce tooth decay across the population and supports Australian states and territories fluoridating their drinking water supplies within the range of 0.6 to 1.1 milligrams per litre (mg/L).

I trust that this response will help address any additional concerns you may have on community water fluoridation.

Yours sincerely

**Alan Singh**  
Executive Director