

Loveland Utilities Commission
c/o Dave Schneider, Chairman
200 N. Wilson Ave.
Loveland, Colorado 80537

25 June 2016

Dear Members of the Loveland Utilities Commission:

I am a long-time resident of Loveland. I am also an ardent supporter of community water fluoridation (CWF), the time-tested public-health measure that is universally recognized as beneficial, safe, egalitarian, and economical. I had been pleased to live and raise a family in a community where the water supply has been fluoridated for six decades. Hence, I am alarmed to learn recently that the water has not been effectively fluoridated in recent years. I come before you with the expectation that this Commission will promptly address this deficiency, and assure that the oral health benefits of optimal fluoridation will once again flow uninterrupted in our city.

In June, 2012, you told a local resident, who was *objecting* to Loveland's CWF program:

The detected level of fluoride, based on monthly analysis performed [CDPHE] Laboratory services, for the city's treated drinking water for 2011, was 0.68 ppm....In January of 2011 the [HHS] announced a recommendation that water systems using fluoridation, adjust their fluoride level to no more than 0.70 ppm, which the City of Loveland has met in 2011.

This response was factually misleading at the time of writing, and has not been true since. Loveland's fluoridation system was offline for 213 days in 2011. For the other 152 days, the average monthly fluoridation level reported to the CDPHE by LWD was 0.62. Moreover, at the time of writing these words, the system was offline and fluoridation levels were at background (as it was for the *entire year* of 2012, and much of 2013 as well).

Furthermore, the HHS guidance was not adjustment to *no more* than 0.70, but *not less* than that. The recommendation has not yet been released in final form, three and a half years after the announcement mentioned. The public comment on them was extended, and utter silence has followed. There has been much criticism leveled at this proposal.

In all events, Loveland's water system has not been meeting the optimal fluoride levels placed in its report to CDPHE. I personally undertook an analysis of the last four years of fluoridation reports. The fluoridation system in Loveland has been

offline a total of 2.3 years in that time. And of the remaining 1.7 years, the average fluoridation level has been 0.58.

It is important to remember that the purpose of CWF is to deliver a needed public health benefit. It is not good enough just to add fluoride, make reports, and blindly follow announcements of recommendations. The job is to prevent caries in children and adults. This means conscientiously deliver an adequate amount of the fluoride mineral to all residents of Loveland.

I ask that you place this matter on the agenda of your next Commission meeting, and let myself and a panel of health/scientific/engineering experts present the urgent case for fully and consistently implementing the public policy of sufficiently adjusting fluoride levels in public water to levels that reap maximum health benefits for all people in Loveland.

Sincerely,

Larry W. Sarnier
711 W. 9th St.
Loveland, Colorado 80537

cc: Steve Adams, Staff Liaison
Troy Krenning, Council Liaison