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The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water®

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# **Public Affairs Advisory**

**TO: AWWA Leadership  
All Utilities**

**FROM: Jack W. Hoffbuhr**

**DATE: Aug. 10, 2007**

<b>Who:</b>	<b>Fluoride Action Network</b>
<b>What:</b>	<b>Statement calling for end to water fluoridation</b>
<b>When:</b>	<b>Thursday, Aug. 9, 2007</b>

Drinking water utilities should be aware of a statement released by the Fluoride Action Network (FAN) calling for an end to water fluoridation. A [press release](#) from the group claims the [statement](#) is signed by more than 600 professionals, including physicians, dentists, scientists and environmentalists and urges Congress to hold hearings on the issue.

The statement claims that eight recent events support ending water fluoridation, including last year's National Research Council (NRC) report that stated fluoride levels of 4 mg/L or higher may pose certain health risks (community fluoridated water typically contains between 0.7 mg/L and 1.2 mg/L, far less than levels examined by NRC).

The statement inspired a news story on [ABC's WJLA-Channel 7](#) in Washington, D.C. Water utility managers and public affairs personnel should be prepared for inquiries about water fluoridation in their communities. Attached to this advisory is an "Issue Background" to assist you in preparing responses and a statement AWWA released in March 2006 following the NRC report.

AWWA reaffirmed its support of water fluoridation in a statement of public policy updated in January 2007. It reads in part that "AWWA supports the application of fluoride in a safe, effective, and reliable manner that includes adequate monitoring and control of fluoride levels within limits mandated by provincial, state, and federal laws and that is subject to community acceptance through applicable local decision-making processes."

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