



The US Department of Health recently released new recommendations on fluoride feed rates. The Cudahy Water Utility is committed to providing clean safe water that the public can consume with confidence. Utility management has been in contact with WIDNR regarding fluoride feed rates. At this time the WIDNR is recommending we maintain our current feed rates while they review the new recommendations and they consult with the State Dept. of Health. The WIDNR expects to issue new rules and recommendations to public water utilities soon until then the Cudahy Water Utility will follow existing guidelines.

Below is a statement from the American Water Works Association, the Cudahy Water Utility supports the stance of AWWA regarding fluoride.

### **AWWA backs best science on fluoridation**

**Source:** AWWA Public Affairs Staff

"The American Water Works Association (AWWA) believes the best science should drive decisions related to fluoride and other water quality issues," said AWWA Executive Director David LaFrance in responding to a move by U.S. health officials to revise the recommended level of fluoride added to water supplies to prevent tooth decay.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services today proposed that the recommended level of fluoride in drinking water can be set at the lowest end of the current optimal range to prevent tooth decay. Simultaneously, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is initiating review of the maximum amount of fluoride allowed in drinking water.

"We commend the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the other public health entities involved in the extensive and ongoing scientific analysis of community water fluoridation," LaFrance said. "The announcement today from HHS and USEPA affirms that community water fluoridation at optimal levels is beneficial for preventing tooth decay. The proposed recommendations properly take into account new scientific data and recognize that people today have access to more sources of fluoride."

LaFrance further commented, "The goal of community water fluoridation is to achieve the desired oral health benefit while minimizing potential health risks. That is why water providers undergo thorough and extensive training to safely apply fluoride in the amount recommended by the world's most respected public health authorities. AWWA will carefully study the new recommendations and actively assist the water community in interpreting and responding to them. The association is also committed to working with USEPA as it reviews the drinking water standard for fluoride in light of the latest scientific data."