



LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

TO BE HELD AT

THE ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, LITHGOW

ON

17 SEPTEMBER 2007

AT 7.00pm

AGENDA

PRESENT

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERY

PRESENTATIONS - Mr John Irvine - WRI

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 20 AUGUST 2007

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

NOTICES OF MOTION - NIL

NOTICE OF RESCISSION - NIL

MAYORAL MINUTE - Acting Mayor Fee - July 2007

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

General Manager Reports

Regional Services Reports

Community and Corporate Services Reports

CLOSED REPORTS - Proposed Sale of Gas Works Site
Aboriginal Place Nomination

REPORTS FROM DELEGATES - Centroc Meeting
Mining Related Councils

COMMITTEE MEETINGS - NIL

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

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ITEM:1 MAYORAL MINUTE - 17/09/07 - ACTING MAYOR FEE - JULY 2007

ITEM MAYORAL MINUTE - 17/09/07 - ACTING MAYOR FEE - JULY 2007

COMMENTARY

As Council is aware I was recently on annual leave outside of Australia and during this time the Deputy Mayor Councillor B S Moran acted in the Office of Mayor.

Given the time I was absent (29/6/07 - 06/08/07) and unable to attend any official or formal functions as the Mayor, I feel that it is warranted that the Deputy Mayor receive the Mayoral allowance for this period.

Under S249 of the Local Government Act 1993 the Council may pay the Deputy Mayor a fee for the time the Deputy Mayor acts in the Office of the Mayor. Any such fee paid is deducted from the Mayors annual fee.

On the basis of this provision, I suggest that Council consider paying the Deputy Mayor, the full Mayoral allowance for the period 29th June 2007 to 6th August 2007. This fee will be deducted from my annual Mayoral allowance.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

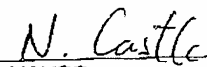
ATTACHMENTS

1. Local Government Act 1993 Sec 249

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council determine that the Deputy Mayor Councillor B S Moran receive the full Mayoral allowance (in addition to the Councillor allowance) for the period of 29th June 2007 to 6th August 2007 and that such a fee be deducted from the Mayors annual fee in accordance with the provision of Sec249 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Signed:


MAYOR

GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS

ITEM:2 GM - 17/09/07 - SHREWSBURY & ATCHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

REFERENCE

Nil

SUMMARY

To advise correspondence from the Mayor of Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council.

COMMENTARY

Correspondence has been received from the Mayor of Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council thanking the Mayor, Neville Castle and his family for visiting their histories Borough on his recent visit to the United Kingdom.

The Mayor of Shrewsbury advised that his Council are always keen to form friendships with other communities and there is clearly an historic link between Lithgow and Shrewsbury as the famous son, Charles Darwin visited this area on the return journey of the Beagle.

Discussions are underway with the British Council, The Open University and the Field Studies Council to create a partnership that can develop the Bi Annual Darwin Debate for Young Students. This event is hoped to include contribution from students around the globe in 2009 and Shrewsbury Council hopes Lithgow will be a part of this event.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

ITEM:3 GM - 17/09/07 - CONFIDENTIAL REPORT - PROPOSED SALE OF FORMER GAS WORKS SITE

Reason for Confidentiality

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

Set out below is section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* in relation to matters which can be dealt with in the closed part of a meeting.

The matters and information are the following:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
 - (iii) reveal a trade secret
- (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law
- (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property
- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege
- (h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land.

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business

It is not in the public interest to reveal all details of these EOI's. The EOI's provide sensitive information about their operations in the confidence that their details will not be made public by council. The practice of publication of sensitive information provided by the EOI's could result in the withholding of such information by the EOI's and reduction in the provision of information relevant to council's decision.

SUMMARY

This report provides Council with an update of the recent Expressions of Interest (EOI) process for the sale of the former gas Works site. This report will seek Council's determination with respect to the offers received.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council consider this report in the closed Council pursuant to the provision of Sec 10(A) (2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993.

ITEM:4 GM - 17/09/07 - 2006/07 GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORTS

REPORT FROM: INTERNAL SERVICES MANAGER – C FARNSWORTH

REFERENCE

Min 06-183: Council Meeting 19 June 2006
Min 06-368: Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting 6 November 2006
Min 06-369: Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting 6 November 2006
Min 07-40: Finance and Services Committee Meeting 5 February 2007
Min 07-204: Council Meeting 21 May 2007
Min 07-342 Finance and Services Meeting 6 August 2007

SUMMARY

To advise of the completion of the 2006/07 General Purpose Financial Reports and seek Council authorisation as required by Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2 of the Local Government Act 1993 to present the reports to the auditors.

This report will also recommend Council invite the Auditors to present a formal report to the results to the meeting of the Finance and Services Committee on the 19 November 2007.

COMMENTARY

Councils 2006/07 'Draft' General Purpose Financial Reports are submitted to Council for acceptance as required by Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2 of the Local Government Act 1993 to present the reports to the auditors.

Principal reports are attached and a complete set of reports will be tabled at the meeting.

2006/07 GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORTS - OVERVIEW

Net Operating Result

Council's final draft result for the 2006/07 financial year, including Capital Income and Contributions is a surplus of \$3,347,000 (2005/06 surplus of \$959,000). Total Assets of \$206,191,000 and liabilities of \$6,669,000 resulting in Equity of \$187,808,000.

Net Operating Result Before Capital Grants & Contributions

The 2006/07 operating result, before abnormal and capital items, is a surplus of \$162,000 (2005/06 deficit of \$1,802,000)

The following 2006/07 Capital grants and contributions of \$2,183,000 contributed to the result:

➤ Capital grants and contributions in summary:

Lithgow STP Augmentation	\$254,764
RTA Cycleway	\$46,363
Forests NSW Dark Cnr	\$242,202
Pool complex	\$700,000
Crystal Theatre Delta	\$10,000
Roads to Recovery	\$400,000
Eskbank House Courtyard	\$7,170
Flood Mitigation	\$270,000
Developer Contributions	\$310,000
Headwork Charges	\$164,000

➤ Acquisitions or improvement to assets \$4,832,000 and in summary:

Plant	\$1,174,000
Road & Ancillary Works	\$1,570,000
Drainage (Inc Flood Works)	\$116,000
Sewerage Infrastructure	\$951,000
Water Infrastructure	\$407,000
Cary Gardens	\$47,000
Meadow Flat Hall	\$350,000

- Sale of plant assets for \$302,000 cash, and write off of the book value of those assets of \$352,000, to produce a nett loss of \$50,000.
- Relinquish Crown lease for 'old' Portland Fire Station and Blinky Bill premises for a non cash transaction of \$296,000, and write off of the book value of those assets of \$126,000, to produce a nett loss of \$170,000.
- Operating revenues increased by \$5,502,000 to \$27,613,000 compared to the 2005/06 result of \$24,871,000 (includes Capt Grants and contributions of \$3,185,000)

Revenue comparatives:

FINANCIAL YEAR	VALUE
2006/07	\$27,613,000
2005/06	\$24,871,000
2004/05	\$21,518,000
2003/04	\$23,580,000
2002/03	\$20,390,000
2001/02	\$18,024,000

- Operating expenditure increased by \$354,000 to \$24,266,000 and compared favourably with the 2005/06 result of \$23,912,000

Expenditure comparatives:

FINANCIAL YEAR	VALUE
2006/07	\$24,266,000
2005/06	\$23,912,000
2004/05 (Adjusted AIFRS)	\$24,767,000
2003/04	\$23,668,000
2002/03	\$22,168,000
2001/02	\$21,841,000

Depreciation

Council's assets have been depreciated by \$3,521,000 for the 2006/07 financial year which is favourable in comparison to asset improvements of \$4,832,000, equivalent to an asset renewal percentage of 137.23%.

Investments

Council's investment portfolio increased in 2006/07 by \$4,814,000 to \$14,905,000 and generated interest of \$778,000. In comparison the 2005/06 investment portfolio was \$10,091,000 with interest of \$503,000.

Investment comparatives:

FINANCIAL YEAR	VALUE
2006/07	\$14,905,000
2005/06	\$10,091,000
2004/05	\$11,154,000
2003/04	\$10,222,000
2002/03	\$8,714,000
2001/02	\$7,813,000
2000/01	\$6,957,000

Loans

Principal amounts outstanding on borrowings at the end of the year totalled \$6,798,000 with repayments during the year of \$324,000.

The 2006/07 loan borrowing program was the subject of a report to Council and resolved to drawdown a loan of \$2,425,000 on 25 June 2007. Funding was for the Portland Pool, Blackman's Flat Waste Facility, Lithgow STP, South Bowenfels Reservoir and Crystal Theatre. Our current debt service ratio is 2.79% (Compared to 2.83% for 2005/06)

Cash and Reserves

Note 6 of the GPFR, discloses cash and investments of \$15,714,000 (2005/06 \$10,091,000). It should be noted that a large portion of funds are held as restricted assets, both internal and external.

Externally restricted assets total \$10,566,000 and are held for specific purpose grants, unexpended loan funds, Sec 94 Developer contributions, Water and Wastewater infrastructure reserves and headwork charges.

Reserves for Water and Wastewater are favourable at \$3,625,000 and \$2,242,000 respectively but future infrastructure works will commit a large portion of these reserves.

Council has \$2,033,000 restricted for its own previously identified internal purposes such as employees leave entitlements, Council's share of the flood mitigation program, election expenses. Waste funds total \$965,000 and are primarily reserved for the construction of the Blackman's Flat Waste disposal facility.

The Employees Leave Entitlement reserve is currently \$817,000 and provides provision for annual and long service leave for employees of 25% of their entitlement and full entitlement for those employees 58 years and over.

Council's unrestricted cash is \$2,033,000 (2005/06 \$232,000, 2004/05 \$468,000) a major improvement on previous years.

Financial Ratios

In summary the ratios reveal:

(NB Comparative are provided for the 2005/06 financial year in compliance with AIFRS.)

➤ **Current Ratio:**

Current Assets	<u>\$19,217,000</u>	3.47:1	2005/06	2.49:1
Current Liabilities	\$6,669,000			

The current ratio is the adequacy of working capital and the ability to satisfy obligations in the short term for the consolidated funds and is expressed as a ratio. This means Council has \$3.47 for every \$1.00 of liability.

➤ **Unrestricted Current Ratio:**

Current Assets (Less Ext Rest)	<u>\$7,598,000</u>	3.17:1	2005/06	1.79:1
Current Liabilities	\$2,399,000			

The current ratio is the adequacy of working capital and the ability to satisfy obligations in the short term for the unrestricted activities of Council expressed as a percentage. This means Council has \$3.17 for every \$1.00 of liability. In comparison the group average for the equivalent size NSW Council (Group 4) is \$2.40 to \$1.00.

➤ **Debt Service Ratio:**

Debt Service Cost	<u>\$649,000</u>	2.79%	2005/06	2.83%
Current Liabilities	\$23,236,000			

Excludes capital items and specific purpose grants and contributions. This ratio provides a means to assess the impact of loan principal and interest repayment on the discretionary revenue of Council. In comparison the group average for the equivalent size NSW Council (Group 4) is 6.61%

➤ **Rate Coverage Ratio:**

Rates & Annual Charges	<u>\$15,175,000</u>	54.96%	2005/06	54.75%
Current Liabilities	\$25,613,000			

To assess the degree of dependency upon revenues from rates and annual charges. In comparison the group average for the equivalent size NSW Council (Group 4) 41.25%.

➤ **Rates & Annual Charges outstanding percentage:**

Rates & Annual Charges O/S	<u>\$1,355,000</u>	8.24%	2005/06	7.65%
Current Liabilities	\$16,437,000			

To assess the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on liquidity.

Rate recovery is persistently pursued using internal and external processes and this practice will continue. In comparison the group average for the equivalent size NSW Council (Group 4) is 7.57%.

AGENDA - ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 17TH SEPTEMBER 2007

DLG Circular 06-75 required Council to report on the revaluation of non current assets at 'fair value' as follows:

- 2006/07 - Water and Wastewater

The revaluation of assets to fair value in 2006/07 applies to the entire class of Water and Wastewater assets and it is this value which Council will carry in the assets register. The value will comprise the revaluated amount less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment costs.

Fair Value is the best estimate of the price reasonably obtainable in the market at the date of valuation and is defined as "amount for which an asset could be exchanged between willing parties in an arms length transaction" in Accounting Standard, AASB 116. It is the most reasonable price obtainable by the seller as well as being the most satisfactory price to the purchaser.

The estimate specifically excludes a price inflated or deflated by special terms or circumstances such as financing, sale and leaseback arrangements, or any concession which may be granted by the seller.

To obtain a value for the Water and Wastewater assets Council was required to take into account the assets:

- Identification
- Condition rating, by sample or physical inspections
- Age
- Components
- Material of construction
- History of failings and maintenance history
- Water and Wastewater assets are to be indexed annually between revaluations in accordance with the NSW Reference Rates Manual for Valuation of Water Supply, Sewerage and Stormwater Assets, 2003

To comply with the finalisation date required for the revaluation, 30 June 2007 Council contracted a licensed valuer and the following methodology applied:

- Site visit to each Water and Wastewater works to gain understanding of the system, capacity, condition, presentation, age etc
- List of all major assets as well as grouping components eg mechanical, electrical, infrastructure etc
- Discuss relevant matters onsite with Council personnel
- Meet with each Council Manager and/or Engineer to assist with the valuation, eg current and future technology, life remaining each structure, current maintenance programs and break up replacement costs for each component of the infrastructure
- Submerged pumps or those located in confined spaces at Water and Wastewater pumping stations will be valued on a 'sight unseen' basis and from information discussed with Council personnel the age, condition, break up between the mechanical, electrical and infrastructure costs will be determined.
- Replacement values will be based on the current capacity and technology of each of the works as at the date of valuation and in accordance with the NSW Reference Rates manual "Valuation of Water Supply, Sewerage and Stormwater Assets."

Following the initial revaluation Council needs to reassess, every financial year, if there is any indication that the carrying amount of the asset may differ materially should the asset have been revalued again at the reporting date. If any such indication exists the asset will be adjusted. External revaluations will occur every three to five years.

The revaluation of water and wastewater assets have determined the following entries which affect the 2006/07 General Purpose Financial Reports:

WATER ASSETS

	AT COST 30.06.06	FAIR VALUE 30.06.07	VARIATION 06/07
Water Infrastructure	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Value	38,086	50,982	12,896
Acc Dep'n	-21,823	-28,328	-6,505
TOTAL WATER	16,263	22,654	6,391
Sewer Infrastructure	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Value	39,607	51,918	14,825
Acc Dep'n	-31,178	-37,092	-8,429
TOTAL WATER	8,429	14,826	6,396
TOTAL ASSET INCREASE 2006/07 DUE TO FAIR VALUE			12,787

Compliance

The following information should be noted with regard to Council's compliance with the Act:

- Council's financial reports are prepared and will be audited within 4 months after the end of the reporting year.
- As per Sec 428 (2) (a) the audited financial reports will be included in Council's Annual Report
- As per Sec 418 as soon as practicable after receipt of the auditors report, no later than 7 November 2007, public notice will be given of presentation of the final reports to Council at a public meeting with the auditors present. The auditors will be invited to attend the Finance and Services Committee meeting of the 19 November 2007. Copies of Council's audited financial reports together with the auditors report will be available at the Administration office for inspection.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council's final draft result for the 2006/07 financial year, including Capital Income and Contributions is a surplus of \$3,347,000 (2005/06 surplus of \$959,000).

Total Assets of \$206,191,000 and liabilities of \$6,669,000 resulting in Equity of \$187,808,000.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

Principal Notes:

- 1) Income Statement
- 2) Balance Sheet
- 3) Statement in Changes in Equity
- 4) Cash Flow Statement
- 5) Note 6 Cash Assets and Investment Securities
- 6) Note 13 Statement of Performance Measurement

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. The accounts be referred for auditors Alan Morse & Co
2. Council advertise the accounts following receipt of the 2006/07 Audit Certificate.
3. Council state the following on the General Purpose Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2007:-

The Council's Annual General Purpose Financial Reports have been drawn up in accordance with:-

- a). *The Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the Regulations made there under;*
- b). *The Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements;*
- c). *The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting;*
- d). *The Local Government Asset Accounting Manual.*

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these reports

1. *Present fairly the Council's financial position and operating result for the year and*
2. *Accord with Council accounting and other records.*

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer be authorised attesting to the above and that they are not aware of any matter that would render the reports false or misleading in any way.

4. Council state the following on the Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2007:-

The attached special purpose Financial Statements have been drawn up in accordance with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting and the

- *NSW Government Policy Statement "Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government"*

- *Department of Local Government guidelines “Pricing & Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality”.*
- *The Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability “Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage” guidelines.*

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these reports

- *Present fairly the financial position and operating result for each of Council’s declared Business Units for the year, and*
 - *Accord with Council’s accounting and other records*
- The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer be authorised attesting to the above and that they are not aware of any matter that would render the reports false or misleading in any way.*

5. Council invite the Auditors to present a formal report to the results to the meeting of the Finance and Services Committee on the 19 November 2007.

ITEM:5 GM - 17/09/07 - LITHGOW SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT STAGE TWO

REFERENCE

Policy and Strategy meeting 4 September 2006
Ordinary meeting 21 May 2007.

SUMMARY

To advise of the progress on the project and propose a way forward to progress the project in the most cost effective and ‘least risk’ manner.

COMMENTARY

Following Council’s resolution of 21 May 2007 to approve the calling of tenders for the design and construct of Lithgow Sewerage Treatment Plant Stage 2 a staff working party was formed to coordinate the process. The working party called for Expressions of Interest to undertake the preparation of tender and contract documents and to assist Council in the evaluation of tenders submitted for this project. Expressions of Interest were lodged by:

- Cadden and Associates
- Connell Wagner
- NSW Department of Commerce
- Lange Consulting and Software

Significant investigation was undertaken in relation to the expressions of interest including discussions with other Council's that had utilised the services of some of the firms which lead to further investigation on the 'design and construct' method of undertaking the project. In finality, the working party was not satisfied that the design and construct method will be the most cost effective and least risk method of undertaking the project. The working party believes that the option of separating the design and construction should be further examined and that the General Manager should have the authority to proceed with the most cost effective and least risk option. This would not include any non-delegable function such as the acceptance of tenders. This should allow the flexibility to make final investigations and implement the best option without delay.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding for the project is in the 2007/2008 capital budget.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the General Manager be delegated authority to proceed with the most cost effective and least risk option in relation to the design and construction of Stage 2 of the Sewerage Treatment Plant upgrade whether or not this is to be by a design and construct package or the separation of these components.

REGIONAL SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM:6 REG - 17/09/07 - LINING OF SLUDGE LAGOONS - LITHGOW WATER TREATMENT PLANT

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES - ANDREW MUIR

REFERENCE

Finance and Services Committee 05/02/07.
Finance and Services Committee 06/08/07.
Ordinary Meeting 20/08/07

SUMMARY

To advise Council of the progress of the tender process for lining the sludge lagoons at the Lithgow Water Treatment Plant.

COMMENTARY

Council will recall the history and status of this matter from its Finance and Services Committee meetings of 05/02/07 and 06/08/07 and Ordinary meeting of 20 August 2007. At its meeting of 20 August 2007 Council resolved:

“Due to the cost advantages and urgency of the matter, fresh tenders not be called but the award of a contract for the lining of the sludge lagoons at the Lithgow Water Treatment Plant be postponed to allow further negotiations to be held with the sole tenderer and the General Manager be delegated authority to conduct and conclude such negotiations.”

Such negotiations have now been concluded. The sole tenderer was asked to examine other options for lining the lagoons that may be more cost beneficial to Council whilst satisfying the permeability criteria required by the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC or EPA). The three options were investigated and ranked in terms of price (from least to most expensive):

1. Clay liner - 400mm - \$389,052.
2. HDPE liner sand & tyre base - \$418,319.00
3. Geotextile Clay Liner - \$436,000

Initial permeability testing of the clay associated with Option 1 indicates the material exceeds the DECC requirements and a QA process will be implemented to ensure it is installed correctly. Therefore, the preferred option is No1 which consists of the following.

Details of proposal

- * Excavation of 300mm of unsuitable material.
- * Placement and Construction of clay liner 400mm thick to 100mm above the current floor level.
- * Clay is imported to site and it is confirmed that there is sufficient clay available.
- * Clay has been tested and can meet the DECC requirement of 1×10^{-9} m/s permeability.

- * Testing of Excavated material to confirm that it is suitable for disposal at landfill.
- * Transport and delivery of excavated material.
- * In process construction testing of compaction to demonstrate compaction achieved.

The construction period is anticipated to be in three stages totalling 29 weeks. In relation to the Court enforceable undertaking in relation to final completion which is being negotiated with DECC an additional 4 weeks to cover latent conditions, weather etc and 3 weeks for Christmas/New Year shutdowns have been requested. On the basis that the contractor could start on 1 October this proposes a project period of 36 weeks with completion by 9 June 2008.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy 3.1 'Contracts - Disclosure on request of information contained in Council contracts' which identifies information contained in Council contracts which may be publicly disclosed upon request is potentially applicable should a contract be awarded.

As the tender process has been undertaken by the Department of Commerce, Policy 9.11 'Tenders - canvassing/lobbying of Councillors and staff' was not strictly applicable to the process.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

At its Ordinary meeting of 20 August 2007 Council approved a budget in 2007/2008 to be funded from Water Fund Reserve and resolved that this be reflected in the September Quarterly Budget review. If the tender is accepted then the lining component of the project is costed at \$389,052. Council will also have to carry out desludging which will be an additional cost.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 377 of the Local Government Act outlines the non-delegable functions of Council which includes

“(i) the acceptance of tenders which are required under this Act to be invited by the council”

Clause 73 (iv) of Council's Code of Meeting Practice provides that the seal of a council must not be affixed to a document unless the document relates to the business of the council and the council has resolved (by resolution specifically referring to the document) that the seal be so affixed.

Clause 178 (3) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, allows Council to decide not to accept a tender and to enter into negotiations with any person (whether or not the person was a tenderer) with a view to entering into a contract in relation to the subject matter of the tender. This has occurred and under clause 178(1)(a) Council can now accept the tender that, having regard to all the circumstances, appears to it to be the most advantageous.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council accept the tender submitted by EODO Pty Ltd indicated as Option 1 in this report and that the common seal be affixed to all relevant documentation.

ITEM:7 REG - 17/09/07 - WATER FLUORIDATION

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES - ANDREW MUIR

REFERENCE

Policy and Strategy Committee meeting of 6 August 2007 – resolved that “a full report be provided, including information on a Council Poll.”

SUMMARY

This report aims to provide Council with information so that it may determine its position on water fluoridation.

COMMENTARY

The Council would be well aware of the recent history of this issue with a number of presentations received, most recently on the results of a survey presented to the Policy and Strategy Committee on 6 August 2007. Numerous submissions have been received both for and against fluoridation of town water supplies. These submissions are provided to assist Councillors. It is clear that there is a wealth of information both in favour of fluoridation and opposing fluoridation. As an observation, it appears that the formal government position supports water fluoridation and therefore provides 100% subsidy for capital works. There are some 56 water supplies in NSW that have fluoridated water that reach around 92 per cent of the population. Lithgow is one of about 23 water supplies serving populations of more than 1000 that currently do not have a fluoridated supply.

An option open to Council is it can decide on public health grounds to refer to the Director General of Health who then seeks the expert advice of the Public Water Supplies Advisory Committee prior to considering whether to make a direction on the fluoridation of the water supply with the provision of equipment and installation to be funded by the NSW Government.

Council Poll

Council may recall a report to its Policy and Strategy Committee meeting of 6 August 2007 in relation to constitutional referendums which provided information on referendums and council polls. Essentially, a Council poll may be undertaken for any other matter other than the specific matters where a referendum is mandatory, e.g. number of councillors or the creation of wards. Conducting a poll would come at a cost. Council would need to consider whether it wished to expend funds on a poll particularly given the results of the Western Research Institute which in statistical terms is considered to be a representative sample.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There is no formal policy on water fluoridation. The current ‘official’ position relates to the decision of Council at its Finance and Policies Committee Meeting of 14 October 1991 which resolved “that Council not proceed with the fluoridation of the public water supply in Greater Lithgow”.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Should Council wish to move toward fluoridation then there would be no up front capital cost.

The annual running costs for the required plant have been estimated to be in the vicinity of \$38,000 although this is considered to be at the 'upper end of the scale' with costs estimated to be between \$1.20 and \$2.40 per head of population per year.

A council poll would increase the costs of the election; however it is difficult to put an accurate estimate on the cost of holding a poll in conjunction with the election. The City of Sydney Council recently estimated that a council poll would cost approximately \$100,000 if run in association with a general election or \$750,000 if held in isolation. The Council election for the Lithgow Local Government Area has been estimated to cost in the order of \$100,000. Reducing the predicted cost of a poll to the City of Sydney to reflect a lesser election budget for Lithgow would indicate that a poll for the Lithgow LGA in conjunction with the election would cost in the order of \$13,000.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 4 of the Fluoridation of *Public Water Supplies Act 1957* creates the Public Water Supplies Advisory Committee. One of the functions of the Committee as set out in section 6 is to refer to the Minister proposals with respect to the addition of fluorine to public water supplies. Section 6A of the Act enables the Secretary of NSW Health, by notification published in the government Gazette, to direct a water supply authority to add fluorine to a public water supply. However, a direction may be given only if the water supply authority has referred the question of fluoridating the public water supply to the Secretary for consideration and the Secretary has received the advice of the Public Water Supplies Advisory Committee as regards the question.

Section 14 of the Local Government Act provides that a council may take a poll of electors for its information and guidance on any matter. Part 1 and Part 6 of Chapter 10 of the Act apply to Council polls as they would to Council elections. Primarily this relates to who is entitled to vote and that the poll is to be conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission in accordance with the same requirements as an election.

CONCLUSION

Determining the Council's position on water fluoridation is a matter for the elected Council given the public interest considerations. Therefore, as much information as possible is provided to assist the Council in its deliberations without attempting to influence one way or the other. However, the use of a Council poll should be treated with some caution. The survey undertaken by the Western Research Institute is statistically representative and the additional costs of an overarching LGA wide poll would be difficult to justify. If these comments are seen as support of fluoridation then to provide balance it is also worthy to note that an annual running cost of up to \$38,000 is not insignificant.

The options seen as open to Council are:

1. Proceed with water fluoridation and request the installation of the necessary infrastructure. (NB: This option would require a budget adjustment if it was to occur in the current financial year as there is currently no allocation for running costs and discussions with State Water/Fish River Water Supply as to the appropriate location of any plant to cater for consumers utilising this water supply)
2. Not proceed with fluoridation.
3. Refer the matter to the Director General of Health.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Numerous submissions received in relation to the issue in 2007.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council determine its position on fluoridation of its water supply.

ITEM:8 REG - 17/09/07 - UPDATE ON CURRENT LEGAL MATTERS

REPORT BY: GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL SERVICES - ANDREW MUIR

REFERENCE

Finance and Services Committee 05/02/07.
Finance and Services Committee 04/06/07.
Finance and Services Committee 06/08/07.
Ordinary Meeting 20/08/07

SUMMARY

To advise Council of the status of matters currently before the Land and Environment Court.

COMMENTARY

The current matters before the Court involving Council are:

EPA -v- Council

Councillors will recall previous updates on this matter. The matter is set down for finalisation on 24 September 2007. Discussions have been held with EPA/DECC officers to determine an appropriate timeframe for the completion of the sludge lagoon lining as separately reported in the business paper. It is likely that in addition to a monetary penalty, that the Court will impose orders for a timeframe to complete the works in line with the timeframe that is expected to be agreed in the coming days between EPA/DECC and Council.

Mark Lilley -v- Council

This is an appeal against Council's refusal of a development application for a heliport at Capertee. The parties have agreed to a Court appointed Town Planning expert to assist the Court in its deliberations. An acoustic consultant has been briefed to act on Council's behalf to provide expert evidence. All the acoustic consultants involved for the respective parties have been directed by the Court to confer and file a joint report. Council has been directed by the Court to provide 'without prejudice' conditions of development consent to assist the Court should it contemplate approval of the application.

The applicant must now respond to the draft 'without prejudice' conditions. The matter is set down for hearing on 17 and 18 September 2007 on-site and at Lithgow Court House.

Agonic Holdings Pty Ltd -v- Council

This is an appeal against the refusal of a development application to subdivide 40 rural lots from a large agricultural holding at Tarana/Meadow Flat. The reasons for the refusal were:

1. The advice received by the Department of Primary Industries (Agriculture and Fisheries) pertaining to sustainable agriculture.
2. The application is antipathetic to the objectives of the 1(a) General Zone.
3. The application is antipathetic to the aims of the 1(a) General Zone.
4. The impact of the development on adjoining agricultural properties.
5. The public interest.

The Department of Primary Industries have indicated that they will support Council by giving evidence in the matter. Expert agricultural and ecological consultants have been briefed to prepare evidence. The appeal is listed for a non-binding preliminary conference under section 34 of the Land and Environment Court Act 1979 on 21 September 2007 and is to commence at 10.30am at the Land and Environment Court in Sydney. The General Manager will require delegated authority to make decisions on Council's behalf at the section 34 conference.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All matters are generating legal costs. However, it is always endeavoured to keep these costs to a minimum.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The subject of this report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received and the General Manager be delegated authority to negotiate and make decisions on Council's behalf at the section 34 conference in relation to the appeal by Agonic Holdings.

COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

ITEM:9 **COMM - 17/09/07 - CONFIDENTIAL REPORT - ABORIGINAL PLACE NOMINATION**

REPORT FROM: POLICY & PLANNING MANAGER – AMANDA MUIR

Reason for Confidentiality

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

Set out below is section 10A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* in relation to matters which can be dealt with in the closed part of a meeting.

The matters and information are the following:

- (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors)
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer
- (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
 - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
 - (iii) reveal a trade secret
- (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law
- (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property
- (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the grounds of legal professional privilege
- (h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land.

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(h) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

- (h) information concerning the nature and location of a place or an item of Aboriginal significance on community land

This matter is classified confidential as it contains information on the location of an item of Aboriginal heritage which has been nominated for consideration as an Aboriginal Place under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. It is of significant cultural value to the local indigenous community and therefore it is not in the public interest to reveal the details of this site.

It is not in the public interest to reveal all details of these tenders or the assessment process. Tenderers have provided sensitive information about their operations in the confidence that their details will not be made public by council.

The practice of publication of sensitive information provided by tenderers could result in the withholding of such information by tenderers and reduction in the provision of information relevant to council's decision.

REFERENCE

Min 208: Council Meeting 24 February 1997

Min 753: Council Meeting 10 June 1997

SUMMARY

This report provides details of the Blackfellows Hands Shelter nomination as an Aboriginal Place under the National Parks and Wildlife Act. It recommends that 'in principle' support be provided to the nomination and seeks a review into the management responsibility of the Crown Reserve.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council consider this report in the closed Council pursuant to the provision of Sec 10(A) (2) (h) of the Local Government Act 1993.

ITEM:10 COMM - 17/09/07 - SEC 356 DONATIONS

REPORT FROM: COMMUNITY AND CULTURE MANAGER – P. HALL

REFERENCE

- Minute 07-258: Extraordinary Meeting 28 June 2007
- Minute 07-289: Council Meeting 16 July 2007
- Minute 07-360: Council Meeting 20 August 2007
- Minute 07-402: Finance and Services Committee Meeting 3rd September 2007

SUMMARY

To advise Council of the Section 356 donation requests which have been received since the 2007/08 Management Plan has been adopted.

COMMENTARY

At its Extraordinary Meeting of Council on the 28th June 2007 a donations budget of \$25,000 was allocated for donations, comprising of \$17,000 for general donations, \$3,000 for hall hire and \$5,000 to the Portland Pool Association.

As at 4th September 2007 the following payments have or are to be made:

General donations:

Date	Organisation	Assistance	Amount
28.06.07	Various	Sponsorship	\$13,698.99
16.07.07	Kidney Health Kar Rally	Sponsorship- Lithgow team	\$ 100.00
20.08.08	Portland District Motor Sports Club	Sponsorship for a trophy	\$ 60.00
20.08.07	Portland Pool Association	Additional allocation for cost of operations	\$ 5,000.00
03.09.07	Newnes Hotel 100 year celebrations	Sponsorship Min 07 -	\$ 385.58
Remaining			\$ 4,925.46

Hire of facilities:

Date	Organisation	Assistance	Amount
16.07.07	Quota – Hire of the Union Theatre	Reimbursement of hall hire fees	\$300.00
Remaining			\$238.00

Council will note that the amount remaining for the general donations has been amended to reflect the additional \$5,000 to the Portland Pool Association above the originally advertised \$17,000 and also an adjustment to the donations which were approved to fund the general rate component of numerous properties.

Council is in receipt of the following requests for assistance and determination is required:

1. Rivers SOS – Request financial assistance – Recommendation Nil

All Association of Mining Related Council members are being asked to support Rivers SOS in producing a new film covering issues such as damage to bores and aquifers and the various health effects on communities around mines.

2. Lithgow/Wallerawang Giant Tree Arboretum- Request for any financial support and assistance in applying for funding and grants– Recommendation Nil

Delta Electricity is planning on turning a 16 hectare site into a Giant Trees Arboretum at Lake Wallace, Wallerawang. Whilst no financial support is recommended, Council can provide assistance in applying for grants.

3. Board of State Mine Railway Ltd – Recommendation Nil

Request for Council to consider a rate reimbursement of the difference between the current business rates levied on the above property and the amount of rates that would be payable if it was rated as residential is \$1,192.65.

4. Rydal A H & P Society – Recommendation \$1,000 for the Rydal Show

Request for a trophy or sponsorship for the heavy horse section in the Rydal Show. It is recommended that a donation be provided in line with the \$1,000 provided to the Lithgow Show.

5. Portland Colts Football Club - Request for Waiver of Fees and Lighting Charges at Kremer Park Portland for the 2007 Football Season – Recommendation Nil

In 2006/07 original charges for lighting were \$2,541.00. After a meeting was held in August 2007 and the charges were reviewed and amended to \$1,320.00.

Council considers these charges to be acceptable. However, the charges are still considered as unacceptable by the Club hence this request was submitted.

6. Portland Colts Football Club Request for financial assistance for 2007/8 for Lighting Charges and ground hire \$2,883 Recommendation: Nil

7. Greater Lithgow Region Events Diary Recommendation- Nil

A request has been received from a member of the community for financial assistance of \$300.00 in distribution of the Greater Lithgow Region Events Diary.

The Interest Free Loans Policy is applicable but as the representative is not part of a community group or organisation she is ineligible for an interest free loan.

Item	Organisation	Amount
1.	Association of Mining Related Council members (Rivers SOS) financial assistance	Nil
2.	Lithgow/Wallerawang Giant Tree Arboretum financial support and assistance in applying for funding and grants	Nil
3.	Board of the State Mine Railway Ltd the difference between the current business rates and residential rates	Nil
4.	Rydal A H & P Society Sponsorship for the Heavy Horse section	\$1,000
5.	Portland Colts Football Club – Waiver of Fees and Lighting Charges at Kremer Park 2006/07	Nil change
6.	Portland Colts Football Club Kremer Park 2007/08 charges	Nil change
7.	Greater Lithgow Region Events Diary	\$300.00

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Donation payments are made in line with Council's policies including "Donations – Section 356 of the Local Government Act" and "Request for donation by waiving of fees for council facilities".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is \$3,625.46 left in the general donations fund and \$238 left in the hall hire facilities fund for 2007/08.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 1993 s356 applies.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Association of Mining Related Councils request dated 26 August 2007 (Doc:361214)
2. Lithgow/Wallerawang Giant Arboretum request dated 26 August 2007 (Doc: 367173)
3. Lithgow State Mine Railway Ltd request dated 14 August 2007 (Doc:364014)
4. Rydal A H & P Society request (Doc 364758)
5. Portland Colts Football Club Waiver of Fees (Doc:366410)
6. Financial Assistance Application Portland Colts Football Club 2007/08 (Doc 366599)
7. GLR Events Diary 6th September 2007 (Doc 368859)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. A donation of \$1,000 to the Rydal Show Society and a donation of \$300 to the Greater Lithgow Region Diary be made;
2. Council note \$3,625.46 then remains in the general donations funds in the Section 356 general donations budget;
3. Council note \$238.00 remains in the waiving of hire fees for Council facilities;
4. The donations for the Rydal Show Society and the Greater Lithgow Region Diary are to be advertised for 28 days.

ITEM:11 COMM - 17/09/07 - COUNCIL INVESTMENTS AUGUST 2007

REPORT FROM - INTERNAL SERVICES MANAGER - C FARNSWORTH

REFERENCE

Min 07-401: Finance and Services Committee Meeting Investments July 2007

SUMMARY

To advise Council of 2007/08 investments held for the period ending 31 August 2007.

COMMENTARY

The amount invested as at 31 August 2007 when compared to 31 July 2007 has increased by \$3,281,363.26. This is due to the payment of the first instalment of the 2007/08 Financial Assistance Grant on the 17 August 2007 and income received for the first instalment of the 2007/08 rating year due 31 August 2007.

INVESTMENT REGISTER 2007/08								
INSTITUTION	INV TYPE	DATE LODGED	DATE DUE	DAYS	INT	VALUE 31.07.07	VALUE 31.08.07	% OF TOTAL
ANZ	TD	30.07.07	01.10.07	91	6.56	574,972.99	574,972.99	3.47%
CBA	CMS Nt	06.11.06	06.11.11	1,825	7.31	500,000.00	500,000.00	3.01%
	On Call				6.20	644,199.15	1,649,077.64	9.94%
	Ethical	20.06.06	20.06.11	1,825	9.25	500,000.00	500,000.00	3.01%
	TD	01.09.07	15.10.07	45	6.77	0.00	1,000,000.00	6.03%
	TD	19.08.07	19.11.07	90	6.81	0.00	1,250,000.00	7.53%
CITIBANK	TD	11.07.07	11.09.07	62	6.45	528,331.28	528,331.28	3.18%
LG FINANCIAL	On Call				6.15	684,714.43	684,714.43	4.13%
	TD	06.07.07	06.11.07	120	6.56	300,000.00	300,000.00	1.81%
	TD	18.06.07	12.09.07	86	6.47	526,036.14	526,036.14	3.17%
	TD	07.08.07	07.11.07	90	6.65	513,380.24	519,060.33	3.13%
	TD	08.08.07	10.09.07	32	6.65	500,000.00	500,000.00	3.01%
	TD	25.06.07	15.10.07	107	6.54	2,425,000.00	2,425,000.00	14.61%
IMBS	On Call				6.50	267,809.72	269,185.48	1.62%
	TD	07.06.07	07.09.07	92	6.49	1,064,956.70	1,064,956.70	6.42%
	TD	29.06.07	15.10.07	108	6.55	478,765.97	478,765.97	2.89%
	TD	06.06.07	06.09.07	92	6.46	774,661.38	774,661.38	4.67%
	TD	23.08.07	23.11.07	31	6.92	754,208.22	762,436.12	4.59%
ALLIANCE	Managed	01.04.02	28.02.08	365		1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	6.03%
ST GEORGE	TD	17.08.07	17.09.07	30	6.73	500,000.00	502,779.18	3.03%
	TD	13.08.07	15.10.07	62	6.73	774,690.00	783,111.84	4.72%
			TOTAL			13,311,726.22	16,593,089.48	100.00%

I, Carol G Farnsworth, Lithgow City Council Internal Services Manager (Responsible Accounting Officer) certify as required under Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, that Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Regulations and Lithgow City Council's Investment Policy.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

All Council's investments are held in accordance with Lithgow City Council's Investment Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Investment income to date 31 August 2007 is \$141,526.96. Interest is paid on the maturity date of the investment and managed funds report earnings quarterly.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Investments are held in accordance with the Lithgow City Council's Investment Policy which accords with the requirements of the:

- Local Government Act 1993 - Section 625
- Local Government Act 1993 - Order dated 17 March 2000
- Local Government (General) Regulation 2005
- Trustee Amendment (Discretionary Investments) Act 1997- Section 14A(2), 14c(1) & (2)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council's 2007/08 investments for the period ending 31 August 2007 be received.

DELEGATES REPORTS

ITEM:12 DELEGATES REPORT - 17/09/07 - CENTROC MEETING HELD ON 30TH AUGUST 2007

REPORT FROM: THE MAYOR, NEVILLE CASTLE

COMMENTARY

The most recent Centroc meeting in Mudgee encountered much more debate than usual. This was brought about by the fact that the guest speakers from the Catchment Management Authority's in the central west were unable to be in attendance at the meeting and therefore the Delegates were able to more fully debate the issues.

The Bells Line Expressway was again a major item on the agenda and the meeting did hear of the most recent delegation from BLEG members in a meeting with the NSW Transport Minister, The Hon Eric Roozendaal at the recent Cabinet Meeting in Bathurst. Although Minister Roozendaal was not committal towards the project, he did indicate that he had not received certain correspondence regarding the Federal Government's offer of \$10M towards a further planning study of the route. It was revealed at the meeting that the Deputy Premier Mark Vaile was in the process of making that correspondence available to Minister Roozendaal. It is believed that State Government will seriously consider the offer by the Federal Government once it has been received and see what stipulations are attached to the money.

Also on the Bells Line Expressway Mr Graeme Dunn of the Cowra Futures 30 Group has asked to make a submission to Centroc in order to express his views. He has been openly critical of the route that has been selected but to this point in time has not been able to come up with an alternative that will service the central west.

Centroc believes that the Broadband Connect Scheme that is being offered by the Federal Government will be inadequate to people in rural Australia. Regardless of promises to the contrary early in the debate about parity between city and country as far as broadband is concerned, it is clear including the agreement of at least one coalition Minister, that the current proposal will mean that Broadband will be slower and more costly for people in the country compared to the city. It was also agreed that while the proposal by the Labor Party is significantly closer to what Centroc had been seeking and would have been more equitable for people in our area.

Centroc will seek a report on the potential for the Local Government Emissions Trading Scheme and also the City of Sydney Carbon trading initiatives. This particular scheme at this stage is voluntary and small scale and refers only to emissions made by the local governments themselves. A measure of concern was raised in that if a trading scheme was looking to be introduced state wide through local governments, that this would be extremely complex and if for example, coal mines and power stations were to be targeted then we would also need to make sure that the end users of the products, (i.e. people who use electricity) will also need to pay for the environmental damage / concerns rather than simply being able to "tax" the power stations and coal mines.

It was also pointed out that a very large amount of emissions nation wide are from cars and very little is done to lessen these emissions, which would be needed if we are going to be truly fair in any carbon trading scheme.

Finally, Centroc was in receipt of correspondence from Mr John Chivers who is the Regional Industry Career Advisor for the Central West Group Apprentices who will be making himself and his particular "Try a Trade" display available to any organisations in the central west upon request. This might be seen as a way to show young people what apprenticeships may be about rather than students simply reading about it. Centroc are happy to support such an initiative.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

**ITEM:13 DELEGATES REPORT - 17/09/07 - MINING RELATED COUNCILS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 31ST AUGUST 2007**

REPORT FROM: THE MAYOR - NEVILLE CASTLE

COMMENTARY

At the latest Associated of Mining Related Council meeting is was pleasing to see the long awaited guidelines for Community Consultative Committees finally being released by the Department of Planning. The guidelines apply to all major new mines in NSW and it is also anticipated that all existed mines will adopted the guidelines. It was also interesting to note that these guidelines for these committees show that the ones that are already set up in our areas have been set up fairly similar to the guidelines that have now been sent out by the Department.

A good outcome from work with the Association and individual councils has seen that Broken Hill Council in cooperation with the Executive Officer of the Mining Related Councils has been able to get the Valuer General to re-evaluate the mines in that area. The values have increased from \$25,000 to \$1.2M for 2005 and from \$25,000 to \$1.7M for 2006. This has shown that the Mining Related Councils has been vigilant in trying to make sure that mining related activities pay their fair share of contributions to the various councils rating structures.

Also on the agenda was a DVD entitled "Rivers SOS". This particular DVD was produced by a lobby group trying to limit the amount of coal mining in areas particularly near rivers in NSW. This group was asking for a financial contribution for their production of their DVD from the Mining Related Councils. It was agreed to seek further information as this DVD seemed to be quite biased and although well intentioned a number of facts in the DVD were challenged by members of the Executive Committee. The Committee will now seek input from the Mining Industry to counter balance the argument. It certainly seemed that the general feeling of the meeting was to not support financially this group. However, other approaches may be welcomed in endeavouring to make sure that rivers in general were not affected by coal mining activities.

A report was tabled about Low Emissions Coal Technology which has indicated that NSW coal produces will voluntarily make up to \$400M available over the next 10 years to support clean coal technology projects in NSW. The industry has already announced \$20M to support the NSW Government \$60M initiative on carbon capture and storage for a pilot CO2 storage trial in site.

At a future meeting of the Mining Related Councils a forum will be held on climate change. Earlier this year the CSIRO and Centre for Low Emissions Technology released its final research results in public perceptions onto new power generation technology, climate technologies and climate change. This survey was conducted in NSW and QLD over the past two years. A number of interesting observations were made. It certainly seems that the public in general recognise a problem of green house gas and are keen to look at new technologies that can be used to reduce green house gases. We look forward to this being debated at a future meeting.

Also on the agenda was the Mauldon Don Barton railway line and the general feeling of the council was that support should be given for the construction of this particular railway line which will allow not only coal but other freight to pass around Sydney rather than going through Sydney. This particular project has been on the drawing boards for some 20 to 30 years and could possibly be a very good solution for coal and general freight in the central west.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

NIL

ATTACHMENTS

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information was received.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Nil.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

15 JUN 2007

Doc. No
GDA Ref.
Years



13 June 2007

Mr Paul Anderson
General Manager
Lithgow City Council
180 Mort Street
Lithgow NSW 2790

Dear Paul

Please find attached the final report from the Western Research Institute's (WRI) survey of Lithgow Shire in which the community has indicated its position on water fluoridation.

A clear majority (72%) support water fluoridation. This reflects the findings of the ongoing and independent NSW Health Survey Unit's state-wide survey of more than 12,000 NSW residents. Other independent surveys recently undertaken in NSW and Queensland have shown similar results. Importantly, the recent Sydney University dental assessment of Lithgow children also found majority parental support for fluoridation.

The WRI survey was conducted following provision of printed and web-based information and education material for the Lithgow community. Media reporting on the subject occurred locally during this period.

As a voice for the community, the survey has fulfilled an unequivocal role and was made possible via a cooperative effort between Council, WRI and the NSW Health Survey Unit.

For more than 50 years in NSW, fluoridated water has seen tooth decay reduce. The impact is still evident. Council may recall that in neighbouring Blue Mountains Shire between 1993 (when their water was first fluoridated) and 2003, dental decay fell by more than 73 per cent in children aged 6-8 years and 75 per cent in 12 year-olds.

Unfortunately, Lithgow children have dental decay at higher than average levels. For example, they suffer twice the dental decay as fluoridated Bathurst. The trauma this leads to can be seen in the number of emergency cases requiring hospital treatment under general anaesthetic. In Lithgow, these outnumber the state average by a frightening 429 per cent for 0-4 year olds and an equally unacceptable 233 per cent for 5-14 year olds.

Apart from benefiting from community support for fluoridation, Council is eligible for 100 per cent subsidy for capital works related to design, installation and commissioning of fluoridation plant and equipment. This amount is capped to cover reasonable costs. Recurrent costs are the responsibility of Council. The economic benefit to the

community over the life of the equipment (nominally 25 years) is around \$4.4 million. This represents significant financial savings across all the population making it an unreservedly equitable approach. Moreover, the reduction in pain and suffering of individuals will be reflected in both better oral and general health.

Under the legislation Council can choose to either directly resolve to fluoridate, or refer the matter to the Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Advisory Committee for consideration. This expert committee is established under the *Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Act 1957* and it provides an option where Council feels it requires specialist resolution.

The *Teeth for Health* program provides assistance to councils that fluoridate by dealing with all public inquiries related to the matter and via community education and information initiatives.

In the past few years around 15 councils in NSW have elected to fluoridate their water supply which means more than 92 per cent of the NSW population has access to fluoridated water.

Should Council require further information on the matter or a presentation to councillors, I would be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely



John Irving
Project Manager

HOUSEHOLD FLUORIDATION SURVEY

Prepared for: Teeth for Health

By the Western Research Institute

Printed 4 June 2007

HOUSEHOLD FLUORIDATION SURVEY

Prepared for: Teeth for Health

By the Western Research Institute

Printed 1 June 2007

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Household Fluoridation Survey was conducted to gauge community sentiment regarding the fluoridation of the town water supply. A total of 369 households in Lithgow Local Government Area (LGA) were surveyed via mail survey or telephone interview.

The major findings of the study were:

- Seventy-two percent of respondents surveyed were connected to the public water supply.
- Overall the majority of respondents surveyed (76%) were in favour of adding fluoride to their water supply to try and prevent teeth decaying, while 17% were not in favour of fluoridation and 7% were unsure.
- Eighty-five percent of households surveyed with children under 6 years of age were in favour of adding fluoride to the town water supply.
- Thirty percent of respondents surveyed did not know whether or not fluoride had been added to their public water.
- Forty-seven percent of respondents surveyed believed that the 'community' should decide whether to add fluoride to the public water.
- Seventy-nine percent of respondents surveyed said they had received information on fluoridation. The most common information source was newspapers (39%), followed by television (32%) and health authorities (19%).
- The results of the survey imply that the majority of Lithgow households support the introduction of fluoride into Lithgow water supply.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

In March 2007 the Lithgow City Council considered a report regarding water fluoridation and resolved to seek public consultation and ask the Department of Health to consider funding a survey. Following this, Teeth for Health commissioned the Western Research Institute (WRI) to undertake a research project, the key element of which is to develop and conduct a community survey. This study aims to identify community sentiment regarding fluoridation of the town water supply of Lithgow LGA. The objectives of this study were to:

- estimate the proportion of Lithgow residents that want the water supplies fluoridated and those who do not;
- determine the reasons why residents do or do not want their water fluoridated;
- determine whether the residents are informed about fluoridation and what are their information sources;
- determine whether being informed affects the preference for fluoride.

1.2 Profile of Lithgow LGA

The Lithgow LGA is located approximately 140 kilometres from Sydney in the NSW Central West. Lithgow LGA consists of 3,517 square kilometres. The population of the region in 2006 was 20,981 (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006) with a total household number of 7,083 (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2001).

2 METHDOLOGY

2.1 Questionnaire Design

The survey instrument was provided by the Centre for Epidemiology and Research and the questionnaire was approved by Teeth for Health. Copies of the mailout covering letter, telephone interview introduction and questionnaire conducted by Lithgow City Council and WRI are included in Appendices 1, 2 and 3.

2.2 Data Collection

The questionnaire was administered to households in the Lithgow LGA via telephone interview and mail survey. This study consisted of 369 surveys, 108 of which were conducted over the telephone by experienced WRI staff, 150 postal surveys were distributed to Lithgow City Council's Resident Feedback Register and 155 telephone interview results were provided by the Centre of Epidemiology and Research.

1. Telephone interviewing with WRI trained interview staff took place between 4pm and 7pm on the 12th and 13th April 2007. A total of 108 surveys were completed.
2. Postal surveys were sent to Lithgow City Council's Resident Feedback Register with a return date of the 22nd April 2007. A total of 106 surveys were returned.
3. 155 telephone interview results were extracted from the NSW Population Health Survey to be included for analysis (NSW Health Survey Program, NSW Department of Health). The full description of NSW Population Health Survey is included in Appendix 4.

2.3 Sample Selection

A sample of 369 households responses was obtained from a total household number of 7,083 in the Lithgow LGA region, which provides a relative standard error of +/- 5%. This means that the true value of the means in this report lie within +/- 5% of the reported value on 95% of occasions and therefore provides a high level of confidence in the accuracy of results. The sample of random telephone numbers used by WRI was sourced from Marketing Pro (Desktop Marketing Systems Pty Ltd). The sample framework consisted of residents from the Lithgow city. The respondents were resident individual aged 18 years or older. It should be noted that the sample was not stratified according to the age or the location within Lithgow LGA.

3 SURVEY RESULTS

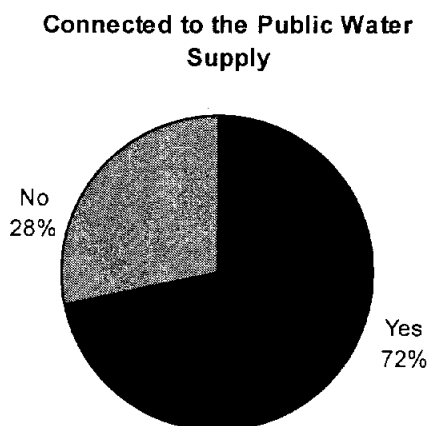
The responses to each question are set out below:

3.1 Community Responses

3.1.1 Public Water Supply

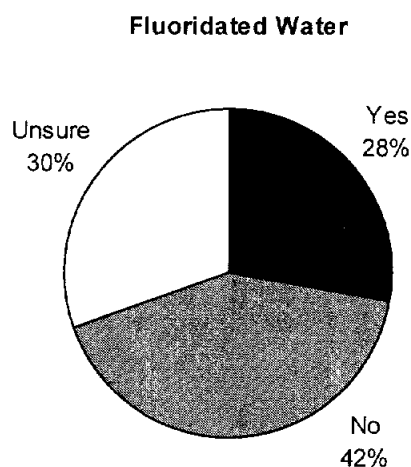
Respondents were asked whether their residence was connected to the public water supply.

- Seven-two percent of households surveyed were connected to the public water supply.
- Twenty-eight percent of respondents indicated that they utilised different water sources including rainwater, bottled water and private bore, spring or well.



Respondents were asked if they knew whether fluoride had been added to their public water supply.

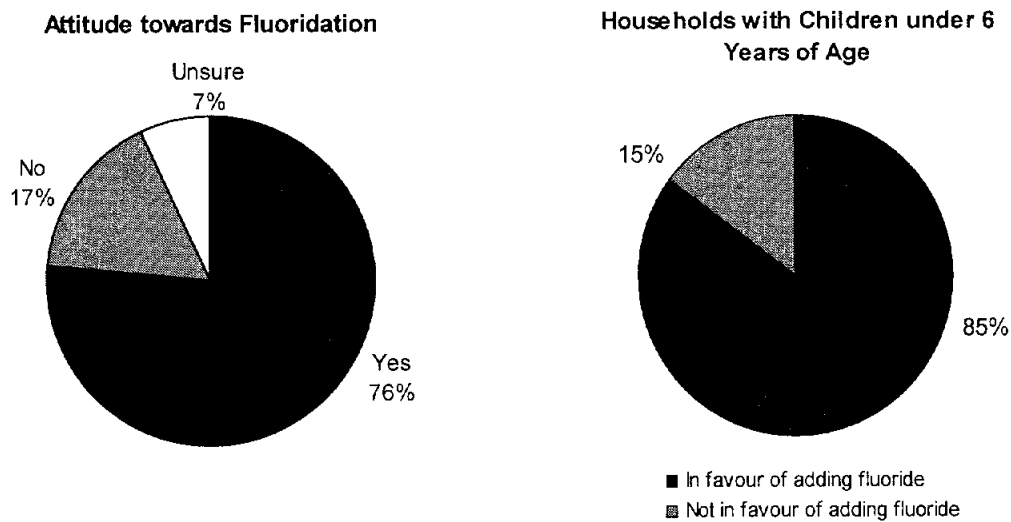
- Forty-two percent of respondents believed that fluoride had not been added to their public water supply.
- Nearly one in three respondents did not know whether the public water was fluoridated.
- Twenty-eight percent of respondents believed that fluoride had been added to their public water supply.



3.1.2 Adding Fluoride

Respondents were asked whether they were in favour of, or agreed with adding fluoride to the water, regardless of their knowledge of the fluoridation status of their water supply. Their responses were combined as shown below.

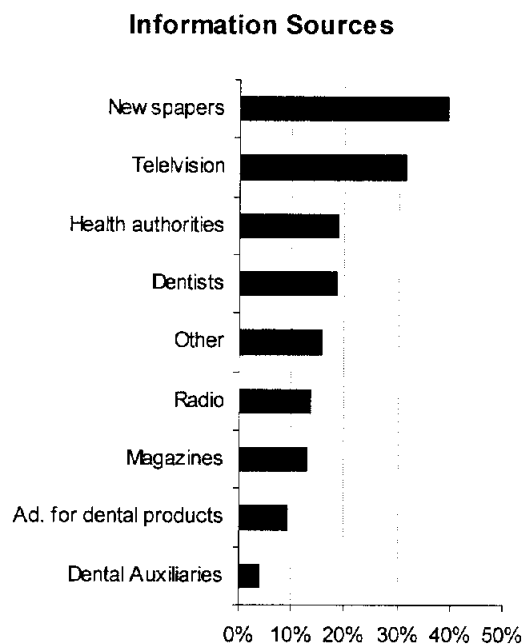
- The majority of respondents (76%) were in favour of, or agreed with the fluoridation of town water supply.
- Seventeen percent of respondents did not agree with the fluoridation of water, while 7% were unsure.
- Eighty-five percent of respondents from households with children under 6 years of age were in favour of water fluoridation for the sake of oral health.



3.1.3 Information Sources

Respondents were asked whether they had received any information about fluoridation, and if so, from what sources. Respondents were allowed to list more than one information source in this question.

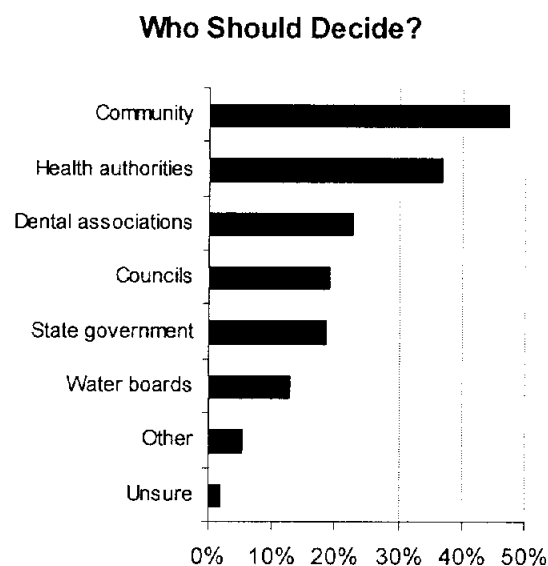
- Seventy-nine percent of respondents surveyed said they had received information on fluoridation.
- The most common information source on fluoridation was newspapers (39%), followed by television (32%) and health authorities (19%).
- Information sources specified in 'other' included previous residence experience in fluoridated areas, word of mouth, internet, family sources, health books, fluoride tablets, health practitioners and the Water Board.



3.1.4 Who Should Decide

Respondents were asked who should decide on the fluoridation of water supplies. The respondents were allowed to give more than one response.

- Forty-seven percent of respondents believed that their community should decide.
- The next most common responses were 'health authorities' (37%) and 'dental associations' (22%).
- Councils and the State Government received 19% and 18% of responses respectively, followed by the Water Boards (13%).
- "Other" included parents, individuals, the public and local government.

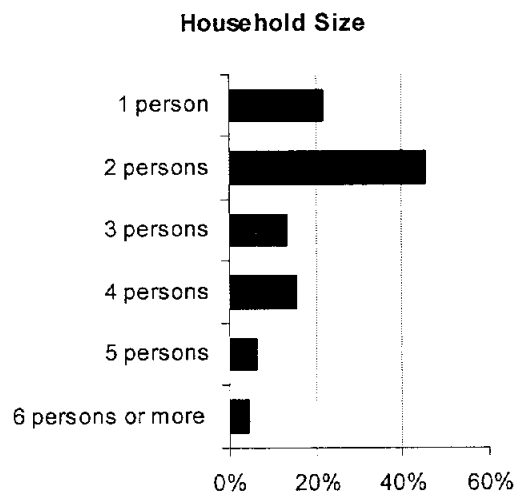


Nearly a half of respondents surveyed said they felt the community should decide. This report reflects the opinions of the community and has given a voice to residents. Those that have

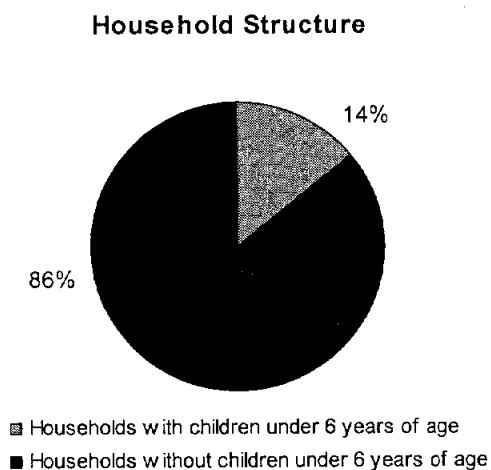
the responsibility to decide on the community's behalf can have confidence in the majority support the survey received.

3.2 Respondent Information

- Twenty-one percent of households surveyed were home to a single person.
- Nearly one in two respondents surveyed (45%) were from households of 2 persons.
- The average household size surveyed was 2.6, which is in line with the household size of 2.5 as calculated by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (2001).



- The majority of households surveyed (86%) were families without children under 6 years of age.
- Fourteen percent of households surveyed were families with children under 6 years of age.



4 CONCLUSIONS

The Lithgow Household Fluoridation Survey sought to assess community attitudes towards the fluoridation of the town water supply of Lithgow LGA. A total of 369 households in Lithgow LGA responded via mail survey or telephone interview.

- In total 72% of the households surveyed were connected to the public water supply.
- Forty-two percent of respondents surveyed were correctly aware that their water supply was not fluoridated, while 28% believed that fluoride had been added to the water supply.
- The majority of respondents (76%), regardless of their knowledge of the fluoridation status of their water supply, were in favour of adding fluoride to their water supply. Seventeen percent were not in favour of water fluoridation and 7% were unsure.
- Of the 14% of households surveyed with children under 6 years of age, 85% were in favour of adding fluoride to town water supply for the sake of oral health.
- Forty-seven percent of respondents surveyed believed that the 'community' should decide whether to add fluoride to the public water. Those surveyed believe the community should be responsible for decisions regarding fluoridated water, and over three-quarters of respondents from the Lithgow community were in favour of adding fluoride to Lithgow's public water supply. This suggests that policy makers can have confidence in the support of the majority of the Lithgow community if fluoride is added to the public water supply.
- Seventy-nine percent of respondents said that they had received information on fluoridation. The most common information sources were newspapers (39%), television (32%) and health authorities (19%).

REFERENCES

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (2001), *Basic Community Profile – Greater Lithgow (SLA)* Cat no. 2001.0.

NSW Health Survey Program, NSW Department of Health, *New South Wales Population Health Survey*, viewed 15 May 2007, <<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/public-health/survey/hsurvey.html>>.

APPENDIX 1: COVERING LETTER (MAILOUT)

2/4/2007

To the householder.

FLUORIDATION OF TOWN WATER

Council at its Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting of 3 March 2007 considered a report regarding water fluoridation and resolved to seek public consultation and ask the Department of Health to consider funding a survey by using the Western Research Institute or another suitably qualified research organisation.

Following this Teeth for Health has engaged the Western Research Institute to undertake this survey and Council is supporting the survey with the use of the Resident Feedback Register.

All Resident Feedback Register documentation is provided directly from Council and has not been provided to any third parties. Returned surveys will be forwarded to the Western Research Institute from Council.

Council appreciates your comments and thanks you for your time completing this important survey.

Your part in the survey

In order to complete the survey you must be over 18 years of age, and must not be employed by Lithgow City Council. Once completed the survey may be returned in the postage paid and addressed envelope provided by **Friday 20th April**. Alternative methods of returning the survey are in person to Lithgow City Council, 180 Mort Street, or via post to:

Lithgow City Council
P.O. Box 19
Lithgow 2790

Guarantee of confidentiality

The answers you provide will be treated in the strictest confidence. No information will be released in a way that would enable an individual or household to be identified. The Western Research Institute is a member of AMSRO and follows the stringent quality assurance guidelines set out under this agreement.

Further information

If you have any queries please contact Kathy Sloan at the Western Research Institute on (02) 6338 4673.

Regards,

Mrs Amanda Muir
MANAGER POLICY & PLANNING

for Mr Paul Anderson
GENERAL MANAGER

APPENDIX 2: TELEPHONE INTERVIEW INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Good afternoon, this is _____ from the Western Research Institute in Bathurst. On behalf of Teeth for Health and Lithgow City Council we are conducting a short survey on community attitudes towards water fluoridation. Would you have 2 or 3 minutes to complete the survey?

If no – thankyou for your time. Have a nice day.

If yes – thankyou. Firstly I just need to check that you are:

- over 18 years of age
- not employed by Lithgow City Council

[If eligible, continue]

[If not eligible, ask if someone else in the household may be eligible. Otherwise thank them for their time and end the interview]

APPENDIX 3: QUESTIONNAIRE

How to complete this form:

Answer questions by ticking only the single most appropriate option unless otherwise specified.
Please provide additional comments in the boxes provided.

Q1. Is your residence connected to the public water supply?

- Yes
- No

Q2. Has fluoride been added to your public water supply?

- Yes => go to Q3a
- No => go to Q3b
- Unsure => go to Q3b

Q3a. Do you agree with adding fluoride to your water supply to try and prevent teeth decaying?

- Yes => go to Q4
- No => go to Q4
- Unsure => go to Q4

Q3b. Would you be in favor of adding fluoride to your water supply to try and prevent teeth decaying...

- ... in children?
- ... in adults?
- both adults and children
- ... neither
- ... unsure

Q4. Where have you received information on water fluoridation?

- Newspapers
- Magazines
- Television
- Radio
- Advertisements for dental products
- Health authorities
- Dentists
- Dental auxiliaries
- No information/source
- Other: _____ [specify]
- Unsure

Select multiple options if necessary

Q5. Who should decide on the fluoridation of water supplies?

- State government
- Health authorities
- Dental associations
- Water boards
- Community
- Councils
- Other: _____ [specify]
- Unsure

Select multiple options if necessary

6. How many people including yourself, live in this household?

7. How many children under 6 years of age live in the household?

8. If you have any additional comments, please include them here:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

NO MORE QUESTIONS

Thankyou for taking the time to complete this survey. Please return it by the **20th March 2007** to:

Lithgow City Council
P.O. Box 19
Lithgow 2797

APPENDIX 4: NSW POPULATION HEALTH SURVEY

The New South Wales Population Health Survey is conducted continuously between February and December each year and covers the whole state population from birth upwards. The target population is all state residents living in households with private telephones. The target sample is approximately 1,500 people in each area health service (a total sample of 12,000).

Households are contacted using list assisted random digit dialling. Up to seven calls are made to establish initial contact with a household and up to five calls are made to contact a selected respondent. One person from the household is randomly selected for inclusion in the survey. Carers or parents of children aged 0–15 years are interviewed on their behalf.

Respondents are asked questions from modules on demographics, health behaviours, health status, and access to and satisfaction with health services. Additional question modules are added periodically and are reported less frequently.

Trained telephone interviewers carry out the interviews. Most interviews are conducted in English but the survey is also conducted in five other languages: Arabic, Chinese, Greek, Italian and Vietnamese.

The sample is weighted to adjust for differences in the probabilities of selection among subjects, and for differences between the age and sex structure of the sample and Australian Bureau of Statistics mid-year population estimates for New South Wales. This enables calculation of prevalence estimates for the state population rather than for the respondents selected.

(NSW Health Survey Program, NSW Department of Health)

THE WESTERN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The WRI is a non-profit economic, business and social research organisation located on the Bathurst campus of Charles Sturt University. The WRI holds a wealth of knowledge on employment, business development and investment issues affecting regional Australia. It has worked with Commonwealth, State and Local Governments and industry groups on numerous investment and development programs in regional areas. The WRI has strong credentials in business and commercial market consulting and applied economic modelling including input-output analysis, shift-share, agribusiness and regional socio-economic surveys and analysis.

The Research Team

Tom Murphy - Chief Executive Officer *B.Ec. (Hons I) MSc. (Econ) Lancaster*

Tom Murphy holds the degrees of Bachelor of Economics from the University of New England and Master of Science (Economics) from the University of Lancaster. He is currently Chief Executive Officer of the WRI. Mr Murphy has previously held academic positions as senior lecturer in Economics and Director of the Regional Economics Research Unit in the Faculty of Commerce, Charles Sturt University, Bathurst and positions at the University of New England and Macquarie University. He has also held the positions of Economic Analyst with the Office of National Assessments in Canberra, with responsibility for the ASEAN economies and Senior Consultant with KPMG Peat Marwick Management Consultants.

Kathy Sloan – Research Manager *BAppSc (Geography) UC, GDip InfoSys CSU*

Kathy is research manager of the WRI and is an experienced researcher in both the private and public sectors. Kathy provides project management across the WRI projects. Kathy's strengths lie in conducting community surveys, data analysis and information communication technology. Her experience in private consultancy and the Planning and Audit Division of CSU provides a strong background in project management and quality assurance.

Luciana Mazzotti – Research Consultant *BBus (Hons 1) (Mkt/Adv)*

Luciana has a strong background in marketing and a keen understanding of complex economic modelling. Her strong analytical capabilities and excellent written communication skills are demonstrated by the clear and simple language that characterises WRI research reports. Prior to working with the WRI, Luciana worked in the retail, hospitality and advertising industries and brings a diverse range of skills to the WRI.

Lesley Arthur – Research Officer *BS. Bio Sc (Hons), MSc Tech Ec.*

Lesley is an experienced researcher in the areas of tourism, property development and economic development. Prior to joining WRI, Lesley was a director with KPMG Peat Marwick Management Consultants in Australia and Malaysia. Lesley is skilled in the construction and application of market forecasting and financial models and brings a wealth of experience to WRI projects.

Danielle Ranshaw – Research Officer *BEc&Fin NSW*

Danielle's experience in project management in the information technology sector combined with qualifications in economics and finance provide a solid background for WRI projects. Danielle recently joined the WRI after coordinating the Study Link program for Charles Sturt University. Danielle's skills in business and systems analysis, performance planning and review, and project planning make her a valued member of the WRI team.

Rachel Somerville – Research Officer *BEquineBusMgt (Hons)*

Rachel has experience in the hospitality and retail industries as well as having spent several years working as a sales representative for a local newspaper, developing a sound understanding of regional business. Rachel holds a Bachelor of Equine Business Management with second class, first division honours from the University of Sydney where she also listed on the Deans Honour List for Business Law.

Lin Jiang – Research Assistant *MSc(BusMgt) Hull, MA Educational Studies, Warwick*

Lin has Masters in Business Management and Education which coupled with her international business experience gives her a keen understanding of industry research. Lin has specific skills in statistical data analysis, including normal distribution, cross-tabulation and correlation coefficients in SPSS, teaching and counselling, administration and international trade and brings a variety of strengths to the WRI. Lin originates from Mainland China, where she worked at Qing Dao University.

In reply please quote:AK/ak/180/B/25/78

From the President's Office
Dr Andrew Keegan
MB BS (Hons), B Sc (Med), PhD, FRACP

13 September 2007

Mr Paul Anderson
General Manager
City of Lithgow Council
Lithgow NSW 2790

Dear Mr Anderson,

AMA (NSW) understands that the City of Lithgow Council is considering adding fluoride to the local water supply.

The Australian Medical Association is one of the many health and medical bodies worldwide supporting fluoridation, for its demonstrated benefits to oral and general health. There is no credible evidence that fluoride in water supplies is not beneficial, let alone harmful.

The Medical Services Committee of NSW maintains that the fluoridation of water supplies has been one of the most important and successful public health initiatives of recent years.

AMA (NSW) unequivocally supports the Australian Dental Association and NSW Health in their advocacy of fluoridation, and we hope that Council will implement this important health measure as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,



DR ANDREW KEEGAN
President

From: Paul Anderson
Sent: Friday, 27 July 2007 7:08:31 AM
To: 'records@lithgow.nsw.gov.au'
CC: Andrew Muir
Subject: Fw: Water fluoridation

Please register
Paul Anderson
General Manager
Lithgow City Council

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert McCray <mccrays@bigpond.net.au>
To: Paul Anderson <paul.anderson@lithgow.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Thu Jul 26 23:21:25 2007
Subject: Water fluoridation

Mr Paul Anderson
General Manager
Lithgow Shire Council

Dear Mr Anderson

Dentists are altruistic in their campaign for more people to have access to a public health initiative – fluoridation of community water supplies – which currently provides a proven, safe and effective oral health advantage to 15 million of their fellow Australians.

The Australian Dental Association Queensland Branch is committed to seeing a wider implementation of water fluoridation, not just in Queensland but across Australia and is disappointed that residents in your local authority still live without water fluoridation – which medical professionals of the calibre of 2006 Australian of the Year Professor Ian Frazer endorse as safe and effective on the ADAQ produced website, <<http://www.fluoridationqld.com/>> www.fluoridationqld.com.

This website was set up to put forward the facts regarding water fluoridation. Many members of the public are confused about this issue, partly because there are a handful of opponents who have misinterpreted and misrepresented scientific research.

I know of no leading health and medical authority in the world that opposes fluoridation of public water supplies. It is rejected by only a small number of individuals who are out of step with mainstream thinking within their own fields.

The misinformation put out about community water fluoridation makes it hard for the general population to fully understand the issues. That is why it is a decision that must be made by the elected representatives, in the interests of the majority.

The science of water fluoridation is based on generations of effective use and literally thousands of research papers published in credible, peer-reviewed medical, dental and scientific journals.

Currently 400 million people worldwide have access to and benefit from optimal levels of water fluoridation. It is the most analysed public health measure of all time. When available to a population, it will reduce the overall incidence of tooth decay.

After decades of use in every Australian capital except Brisbane, as well as around the world, no individual has been shown to have been harmed through exposure to water fluoridation at optimal levels but tooth decay rates measurably fall within 18 months of its introduction.

A Queensland cost-benefit study indicates potential community savings of \$1 billion over 30 years if water fluoridation is introduced in that state, and the Victorian experience confirms similar savings have been achieved there since widespread fluoridation was introduced in 1977.

Water is universally accepted as the best vehicle for delivery of the benefits of fluoride across the entire community and this process has repeatedly been shown to be more effective than any other single measure.

Tragically, it is the less educated, poorer members of our society who suffer most from a lifetime of consequences (cost, pain, suffering, loss of function, embarrassment and risks to general health) of poor oral health.

I believe that in your position you have an ethical responsibility to consider the common good that would follow the introduction of community water fluoridation. Good public health policy is a balance between the good of society as a whole and the rights of the individual.

I urge you to actively support and take decisive action now on water fluoridation and not let the

debate continue to go around in circles while many members of your community continue to live with the consequences of avoidable substandard oral health.

Yours sincerely

Dr Robert McCray

Fluoridation spokesperson

Australian Dental Association

(Queensland Branch)



25 July 2007

Mr. Paul Anderson
General Manager
Lithgow City Council
PO Box 19
LITHGOW NSW 2790

Lithgow City Council
Scanned

30 JUL 2007

Doc. No
GDA Ref
Years

Dear Mr. Anderson,

Fluoridation of public water supplies

I understand Lithgow City Council is to consider fluoridating public water supplies in the Lithgow Local Government Area (LGA). I write this letter to urge your Council to adopt and implement this important public health initiative.

The overwhelming majority of dental practitioners, dental academics and other health professionals in Australia support the addition of fluoride to public water supplies. The proven protective benefits of water fluoridation have been instrumental in the decline of dental decay in Australia over the past fifty years.

Poor oral health is frequently associated with pain, functional limitations and interference with a person's normal activity. Furthermore, poor oral health is directly linked to poor overall health and can have a significant impact upon a person's self-esteem, employment opportunities and overall quality of life. Dental decay is Australia's most prevalent health problem and is the second most costly diet-related disease in Australia, with an economic impact comparable with that of heart disease and diabetes.

There is now solid scientific evidence that fluoride added to drinking water helps to protect teeth against dental decay. For example, when fluoride was added to water in the Blue Mountains (NSW) in 1993, children there had 135% more dental decay than children in the neighbouring region of the Hawkesbury which had water fluoridation since in 1969. Significantly, a follow-up study conducted by the University of Sydney in 2003 found that the incidence of dental decay in Blue Mountains children aged 6-8 years had decreased by 73% in the ten-year period since the introduction of fluoride. The oral health of these children is now on par with children in the Hawkesbury. It is also true that communities that cease water fluoridation have demonstrated an increase in the level of dental decay they experience.

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) continues to support the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines* statement that fluoridation of public water supplies "continues to be an important health measure".

Unfortunately, in regional NSW almost 40 percent of the population still remains without fluoridated water and therefore misses out on the protective oral health benefits provided by fluoride. Children living in un-fluoridated rural areas have 60 percent more dental decay than those living in metropolitan areas.

Until recently, much of the evidence about fluoride focused on the benefits in relation to children. A new report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's Dental Statistics and Research Unit demonstrates however that fluoride provides significant dental benefits into adulthood as well. Australians adults born after 1970 (the "fluoride generation") have, on average, half the level of decay of their parents' generation.

Australia's dental generations: The National Survey of Adult Oral Health 2004-06, launched earlier this year at the 32nd Australian Dental Congress in Sydney, provides the first evidence within the Australian population that drinking fluoridated water during childhood translates into significantly better dental health in adulthood.

Water fluoridation is also the most efficient way of delivering fluoride as opposed to other forms such as adding it to tablets, drops, toothpaste, mouthwash etc. Research has also shown that water fluoridation is most effective for children and adults from low socio-economic groups who are least able to afford or access dental-care services and alternative discretionary sources of fluoride. Despite claims to the contrary, water fluoridation does target those groups most at risk and who will therefore benefit the most.

It is often claimed that water fluoridation is difficult to regulate and costly. This is simply untrue. Given the proven health benefits, fluoridation is not expensive, nor is it technically difficult for engineers to adjust the fluoride concentration in drinking water, which is why reputable bodies such as the World Health Organisation support fluoridation as the cornerstone of oral health promotion.

The US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reported in 1999 that the safety and effectiveness of water fluoridation have been frequently re-evaluated and no credible evidence supports an association between any conditions such as cancer, osteoporosis and bone fracture, Alzheimer disease, allergic reactions, and other health conditions. The Australian Consumers' Association (Choice) reported in March this year that claims by those who oppose fluoridation "are often based on outdated information, questionable research and selectively picking studies that support their case."

The addition of fluoride to public water supplies in the Lithgow LGA will mean children in the area can look forward to a decrease in rates of dental decay. Adults will also experience the benefits of fluoride and the rapidly increasing number of them who will retain most or all of their teeth at retirement age can expect to experience less dental disease.

The Australian Dental Association strongly supports water fluoridation as a proven and effective public health measure. I urge all Council members to support fluoridating public water supplies in your area when this issue is next considered.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Anthony Burges
President



PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
of Australia Inc
ABN 41 062 894 473

Lithgow City Council
Scanned

30 JUL 2007

Doc. No
GDA Ref
Years

Mr Paul Anderson
General Manger
Lithgow Shire Council
PO Box 19
Lithgow NSW 2790

Dear Mr Anderson,

Fluoridation of water supplies

The Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) is a forum for the promotion of the health of the public as well as being a professional resource for public health personnel. The Association provides opportunities for the exchange of ideas, knowledge and information on public health and actively undertakes advocacy for public health policy, development, research and training.

Currently, the delivery of oral health care in Australia has severe limitations:

- 650,000 people are on waiting lists for public dental care - average waiting time is 27 months.
- 5 million adults are eligible for public dental care, many of whom experience acute problems of access to dental services.
- 2.1 million adults are not eligible for public dental care but costs make them delay or avoid treatment.

Low-income adults, people living in rural and remote areas, Indigenous people, nursing home residents, people with disabilities, young adults on income support payments and single parents are worst affected.

While the PHAA is seeking changes to the delivery of oral health care services, we would also like to encourage all authorities responsible for water services to fluoridate water as an active public health measure that will in time reduce the number and severity of oral health problems.

Misinformation about the safety and efficacy of water fluoridation is often directed at local authorities when this issue is discussed. Often those directing this information are vociferous, but not well informed by a scientific evidence base.

At the 162 session of the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) in September 2006, members supported the publication of the NHMRC's support of water fluoridation. NHMRC's selective tender for the conduct of a systematic review of fluorides and health in Australia will be the first step in addressing this responsibility for raising the standard of individual and public health.

The PHAA believes that water fluoridation is an important population health measure and encourages the Lithgow Shire Council to take the public health measure of fluoridating it's water as early as possible.

I would be happy to talk to you about this issue should you think that this would be useful. I can be contacted on plaut@phaa.net.au or at (02) 62852373.

Yours sincerely

Pieta Laut
Pieta Laut
Executive Director

23 July 2007

From: QAWF info

Sent: Friday, 10 August 2007 11:07:04 AM

To: Clr Wayne McAndrew

Subject: MEDIA RELEASE : END FLUORIDATION SAY 600 PHYSICIANS, DENTISTS, SCIENTISTS and ENVIRONMENTALISTS

End Fluoridation, say 600 Physicians, Dentists, Scientists, and Environmentalists : Media Release

New York – August 9 – In a statement released today, over 600 professionals are urging Congress to stop water fluoridation until Congressional hearings are conducted. They cite new scientific evidence that fluoridation, long promoted to fight tooth decay, is ineffective and has serious health risks. (<http://www.fluorideaction.org/statement.august.2007.html>)

Signers include a Nobel Prize winner, three members of the prestigious 2006 National Research Council (NRC) panel that reported on fluoride's toxicology, two officers in the Union representing professionals at EPA headquarters, the President of the International Society of Doctors for the Environment, and hundreds of medical, dental, academic, scientific and environmental professionals, worldwide.

Signer Dr. Arvid Carlsson, winner of the 2000 Nobel Prize for Medicine, says, "Fluoridation is against all principles of modern pharmacology. It's really obsolete."

Paul Connett, PhD, Executive Director of the Fluoride Action Network (FAN), announced that an Online Action Petition to Congress in support of the Professionals' Statement will soon be available at FAN's web site, www.FluorideAction.Net.

"The NRC report dramatically changed scientific understanding of fluoride's health risks," says Connett. "Government officials who continue to promote fluoridation must testify under oath as to why they are ignoring the powerful evidence of harm in the NRC report," he added.

An Assistant NY State Attorney General calls the report "the most up-to-date

expert authority on the health effects of fluoride exposure.”

The Professionals’ Statement also references:

- The new American Dental Association policy recommending infant formula NOT be prepared with fluoridated water.
- The CDC’s concession that the predominant benefit of fluoride is topical not systemic.
- CDC data showing that dental fluorosis, caused by fluoride over-exposure, now impacts one third of American children.
- Major research indicating little difference in decay rates between fluoridated and non-fluoridated communities.
- A Harvard study indicating a possible link between fluoridation and bone cancer.
- The silicofluoride chemicals used for fluoridation are contaminated industrial waste and have never been FDA-approved for human ingestion.

The Environmental Working Group (EWG), a DC watchdog, revealed that a Harvard professor concealed the fluoridation/bone cancer connection for three years. EWG President Ken Cook states, “It is time for the US to recognize that fluoridation has serious risks that far outweigh any minor benefits, and unlike many other environmental issues, it's as easy to end as turning off a valve at the water plant.”

Contact: Dr. Paul Connett 802-338-5577 paul@fluoridealert.org

SOURCE: Fluoride Action Network <http://www.FluorideAction.Net>

http://www.prnewswire.com/news/index_mail.shtml?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/08-09-2007/0004642508&EDATE=

From: Ailsa Boyden
Sent: Sunday, 12 August 2007 3:24:25 PM
To: Jim Nichols
Subject: Potential fluoridation poll

Mr Jim Nichols
Acting Regional Services Manager
Lithgow City Council
jim.nichols@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Dear Jim,

I would be much obliged if you would be kind enough to inform me if the Lithgow City Council intends to correctly inform all Lithgow residents about the substantiated harmful effects of water fluoridation (NRC 2006) if a fluoridation poll were to be conducted by council.

Yours truly

Ailsa Boyden
Spokesperson
Australian Fluoridation Information Network
Phone: (07) 49598145

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
180 Mort Street
Lithgow NSW 2790

August 20 2007

Dear Councillor

Our Association has recently become aware of a survey commissioned by John Irving of Northern New South Health that is being used to encourage you to fluoridate your community's public water supply.

On examining the survey, we have major concerns with it's shortcomings and we wish that you will take our analysis into consideration. (Part1)

John Irving's letter accompanying the report raises serious questions. (Part 2)

Water fluoridation has throughout its history been a very controversial issue and is becoming more so with recent developments (accumulating evidence of adverse health effects linked with the practice and also lack of effectiveness) which could place any fluoridating authority at risk of future liability. (Part 3)

When deliberating on water fluoridation, we hope that over all you are mindful that fluoride-containing chemicals are added to public water supplies specifically to treat people, ostensibly to treat or prevent tooth decay.

Water fluoridation is Mass Medication of unseen patients, medical history unknown, water consumption unknown (therefore dosage unknown), for a lifetime with no medical monitoring.

Fluoride accumulates in the body, mostly in the bones and a small amount in the teeth. Fluoride has also been proven to accumulate in the Pineal gland in the brain.

Fluoride is excreted by the kidneys but even if the kidneys are functioning well only half of any fluoride that is ingested and absorbed is able to be excreted, which means that fluoride is continually accumulating in the body. In people who have kidney impairment (many diabetics) or in the elderly or in rapidly growing children or those who consume a lot more water than others (such as athletes or outdoor workers) the dose of fluoride that they receive from fluoridated water is a lot more or is effectively more than many others. These groups of people are more at risk from any long-term adverse health effects from fluoridation.

Water fluoridation is portrayed as natural, safe and effective. It is none of these. The chemicals used in most fluoridation schemes (Hydrofluorosilic Acid and Sodium Silicofluoride collectively known as silicofluorides, waste products from Phosphate Fertiliser pollution scrubbers) do not even exist in Nature. Arsenic,

Cyanide and Lead are all "Natural" yet no one would advocate adding more of these substances to a public water supply.

There is no proof of safety of water fluoridation; there has never been any health and safety studies done on any tissue other than teeth. The National Health and Medical Research Council in 1991 and 1999 urgently called for health safety studies and total fluoride intake studies to be done. These studies have not been done. Fluoridation is portrayed as being safe because it has been around for 50 years, so has smoking and asbestos and it took 75 years to establish that Phenacetin in headache powders caused renal failure.

Water fluoridation does not, or at least no longer, make a significant difference to tooth decay - please see page 14 for some examples of this in NSW and pages 16,17,18 for a few other examples.

In 2000, the British Government commissioned York University to do a Meta-analysis of Water Fluoridation. It was to be the study of all studies and was to give credence to the claims of effectiveness and safety of water fluoridation. Although it was used by the British Fluoridation Association and Dental Associations for this purpose, please see the release by Prof Sheldon, Chair of the Study Advisory Committee for his comments particularly "*the review did not show water fluoridation to be safe*" and "*there was little evidence to show that water fluoridation has reduced social inequalities in dental health*" page 15

If water fluoridation is not very effective at reducing dental decay combined with much uncertainty over its safety, particularly with the lack of any quality research, why do it?

The Australian Dental Association promotes water fluoridation very aggressively, yet, in 2006, the Federal CEO of the ADA advised that the ADA would not be liable for any harm and that water fluoridation was a matter for local councils.

Waters and Krause Lawyers in the United States, who have won a billion dollars in Asbestos compensation damages in the last 10 years, are positioning themselves to litigate for fluoride victims on the strength of research linking water fluoridation to Osteosarcoma.

The " Interim" Advisory by the American Dental Association November 2006 and the Centre for Disease Control that infant formula for infants under the age of 12 months not be made up with fluoridated water because of the risk of dental fluorosis resulted from findings of the National Research Council Report " Fluoride in Drinking Water 2006". The issue is the water that the formula is made up with, not the formula itself.

It may eventuate that any fluoridating authorities (Lithgow Council?) will have to provide unfluoridated water for infants 12 months and under.

Is there a need to do anything?

The respondents surveyed showed a very clear preference that the community itself, not health authorities or councils should decide on fluoridation. At the very least it would be beholding on the Council to let the Community decide in a legitimately conducted Referendum rather than forcibly impose fluoridation on the community.

A Referendum on an issue of Mass Medication is however still undemocratic and inherently immoral, it is not like the election of a politician where it can be voted out in 3 or 4 years. If 70% or more of an ill-informed public are in favor of fluoridation it could mean that 30% of the public are medicated against their wishes. It is against the United Nations Charter of Human Rights to medicate any person without their full and informed consent. There are adverse health effects associated with water fluoridation and the public must be fully informed of these.

Those who can afford to buy bottled water, tanks, or reverse osmosis filters can at least mostly escape having to drink fluoridated water (even if they still have to bathe in it)

Those who are on limited incomes or in circumstances where they must live in rented accommodation will have little choice and will be trapped into having to drink and bathe in fluoridated water.

Although we do not recommend Fluoride tablets, it does provide an option for those who desire to be able to consume fluoride if they still hold the belief that ingested fluoride decreases tooth decay.

In view of the issues we have raised, a legitimate option for the Lithgow Council is to do nothing to progress water fluoridation in the Lithgow shire. Councils often feel under pressure from Government agencies or from Dental authorities but they cannot be forced into fluoridating unless they deliberately hand over their authority to the Fluoridation Committee.

The recommendation of the 2006 NSW Upper House Inquiry into Dental Services was to allow local councils to keep the responsibility for fluoridating (or for not fluoridating).

We would urge you to not proceed with fluoridation but to instead ask the NSW Government for actual proof of their claims of safety before any consideration is done. Please do not settle for rhetoric but ask for genuine proof.

Please also ask Australia's National Health and Medical Research Council why it has not done the safety studies they called for as long ago as 1991.

I would also urge you personally to research water fluoridation extensively.

May I recommend an excellent web based source of information to be found at www.fluoridealert.org for a good look at the "other side" of water fluoridation.

This website provides extensive information on adverse health effects associated with fluoride and water fluoridation (dental fluorosis, endocrine disruption, thyroid activity lowering, increased rates of hip fractures, Osteosarcoma links, early stage skeletal fluorosis (joint and bone pain which mimics arthritis) and others.

Yours faithfully

Merilyn Haines
B App Sc (Med Lab Tech)
Spokesperson for Queenslanders Against Water Fluoridation Inc

PART 1

SURVEY SHORTCOMINGS – SUMMARY

- survey was a **“push poll”** using a **leading question** with the expectation **“to decrease tooth decay”** placed as part of the question
- design of survey had negative responders repeatedly re-questioned 5 times which could send a message their response was incorrect and may enhanced a change to a positive or unsure response
- 58% of those surveyed did not know or were incorrect on their own public water supply fluoridation status (30% did not know, 28% were incorrect)
- 28% of those surveyed were not even connected to reticulated water supply
- 155 of the 369 surveys were “gathered” from a state NSW Survey, year and locality were not specified and thus not necessarily from Lithgow
- 106 of the surveys were surveys returned from the Lithgow Resident Feedback Register – not randomly assigned and thus subject to a bias
- only 61% of feedback surveys were returned (106 of the 150 sent out)
- great emphasis was placed that those surveyed with children under 6 yrs showed 86% in favour but this was only 14% of the survey group
- 2 major fluoridation promotions occurred just prior to survey which could have increased the number of positive responses
- **a stated objective of study was to determine reasons why residents do or do not want their water fluoridated – yet no attempt to do this as no data was apparently collected – why was this not done?**

PART 2

Following are brief responses to issues raised by Mr Irving's letter that accompanied the Survey-

- printed education material provided did not even mention any adverse health effects associated with water fluoridation, public thus not fully informed
- referral to Blue Mountains shire tooth decay data; this data is believed to be from a conference abstract only (*The benefit of water fluoridation in Blue Mountains by W.Evans UNSW*) - not journal published, and not peer reviewed
- in the Blue Mountains study Hawkesbury (continuously fluoridated since 1969) was used as a control. The decay figures for the Hawkesbury control area dropped 24% for baby teeth and 37% for permanent teeth in the same time period (**why did the Control values also decrease?**) **the claimed reduction in decay figures for the Blue Mountains should therefore be taken with caution if the Control values changed**
- Hospital admission data for dental treatment only quoted as percentages, not absolute values, no dates, no references provided. (it could be as little as 5 children as opposed to 3 children for a particular year)
- Hospital admission rates are not necessarily related to water fluoridation, they can be reflection of the capacity of dental service available and preventative services available (children can be treated as outpatients in larger centers, but would need to be admitted to Hospital in smaller or rural areas without the same facilities)
- Hospital dental admission rates for younger children is usually from "Baby Bottle Tooth Decay" which water fluoridation does not prevent – every State has reported a baby bottle tooth decay crisis (eg West Australian newspaper June 26 2004, 1000 very young children a year in Perth admitted for dental treatment in hospital, Perth being fluoridated for 38years)
- Comparison of NSW published data shows that water fluoridation does not significantly reduce tooth decay (see page 14) yet it was claimed Lithgow children have twice the decay as fluoridated Bathurst
- Economic saving to community is grossly overstated if little actual reduction to tooth decay (A Queensland report estimating 1 billion dollars would be saved over 30 years was based on a 1996 publication showing Townsville children had up to 65% less tooth decay than Brisbane children – this 65% was however only 0.2 of a tooth surface out of 128 teeth surfaces in a child's mouth. Townsville children (fluoridated) now have more decay in their permanent teeth than children from Brisbane North, the Gold Coast and several other unfluoridated Qld Health districts (***) If a new report was done would water fluoridation now be estimated to cost the community a billion dollars on the current figures?

- Lithgow Council ratepayers would bear the ongoing recurrent costs of water fluoridation despite the Local Govt Assn of NSW calling for the NSW govt to pay this ongoing burden

- Adverse health effects are increasing being scientifically documented as linked to fluoride in drinking water, what economic, pain and suffering cost to the community from this? (National Research Council 2006 –Fluoride in Drinking Water)

- **Referral to the Fluoridation Advisory Committee DOES NOT PROVIDE AN OPTION, fluoridation is then locked in as the Committee never advises against water fluoridation and Councils cannot rescind once referred (Tenterfield Council 2007)**

- **15 Councils have not necessarily “elected” to fluoridate in the past few years, as with Tenterfield Council the NSW government has forced fluoridation upon them once referred to the Committee despite Tenterfield Councils change of heart. Commonly referred to as the “The Tenterfield Trap”**

Letters of support were also presented to Council at the time of the Lithgow survey presentation.

John Irving who commissioned and organised the Lithgow survey is no doubt sincere in his enthusiasm for fluoridation and is known to have previously requested health professionals to not go public with their written views on fluoridation so as not to stir up the anti-fluoridationists. He had advised instead to write to local government and provided a “copy and paste” letter for the local council “*Fluoridation: How you can help (MedicineAu News Oct 20 2005)*”

Letters of support of fluoridation received by Lithgow Council could be considered in view of previously organised “support letters” in other NSW areas.

*** Queensland Children’s Dental Health Surveys for the years 2002, 2001 and 2000. These are the latest 3 Queensland Surveys to be published and the only ones found that reported results for individual health districts.

PART 3

Recent Developments challenging Water Fluoridation.

End Fluoridation, say 600 Physicians, Dentists, Scientists, and Environmentalists : Media Release

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http://www.prnewswire.com/news/index_mail.shtml?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/08-09-2007/0004642508&EDATE=

Survey Issues (part 1 expanded)

THE SURVEY WAS A PUSH POLL USING A LEADING QUESTION AND QUESTIONABLE DESIGN

There is increasing and accumulating evidence that nowadays water fluoridation makes very little difference in reducing tooth decay. (Discussed in a part 3)

We believe the Lithgow survey is fundamentally flawed as it is clearly a "push poll" where a leading question has been asked, the question having been linked with an expectation "do you support water fluoridation to prevent tooth decay".

Many people would feel it was difficult to say that they would not support fluoridation if they felt that fluoridation made a significant difference in decreasing tooth decay, they may even feel guilty if they felt by saying "NO" to fluoridation that they impact negatively on others health.

As stated in Mr Irving's accompanying letter, independent surveys conducted in NSW and Queensland show a majority of the public in surveys say that would support water fluoridation (when a push poll is done). The result of approximately 70% of favour when the public are given a leading question and are poorly informed of adverse health effects linked to water fluoridation is the result that is normally found.

In late 2005 the Local Government Association Of Queensland (LGAQ) conducted a push poll of 400 households.

The LGAQ poll employed the leading question...

"Do you consider that your water supply should be fluoridated to improve dental health?"

The LGAQ survey showed 73 per cent of respondents favoured fluoridation however, the survey showed there was strong view that there should be a referendum before fluoride was introduced to water supplies, with 63.8 per cent wanting to see a state-wide referendum. If the decision were to be made locally, almost 56 per cent believed a local referendum should be mandatory. **With leading question it was a wonder that it did not get almost 100% support, yet 30% of people still did not support it.**

The current Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Mr Campbell Newman (Liberal) has said he would not entertain fluoridation of the public's water supply when nearly 30% of the public do not support it.

When fluoridation was being made a local government election issue in Brisbane the previous Lord Mayor Jim Soorley (Labor) initiated a Taskforce Report on fluoridation. This report was of high quality, gained worldwide respect and the outcome was that the panel majority did not support fluoridation.

In Tenterfield in late 2005 (the same time as the QLD LGAQ poll) a Plebiscite was held with only people who were actually connected to the reticulated water supply being eligible to vote.

Despite the NSW government funding a fluoride promotion in Tenterfield, 80% of the voters voted against water fluoridation.

In the Tenterfield poll the question asked was simply *“ Do you support the adding of fluoride to the Tenterfield Town supply”*

If the public are aware of water fluoridation they would know that it is done solely and ostensibly to prevent tooth decay. There would therefore not need to be led in a question that tells them that fluoridation prevents (or helps to prevent tooth decay) It is believed that this type of leading question would not be allowed in a legal trial.

The Questionnaire was structured to encourage a positive response.

The Questionnaire shows that if the surveyee gave a negative or an unsure response to being in favour of adding “fluoride to your water supply to try and prevent teeth decaying”, they were channelled into 5 more questions

“were they in favour of adding to try and prevent teeth decaying in”

- 1) children
- 2) in adults
- 3) both adults and children
- 4) neither
- 5) unsure.

This re asking of the question 5 more times gave the surveyee the expectation that they should support it and would have placed pressure on them to be supportive of fluoridation.

There is no breakdown supplied of the extra 5 questions asked to engender support. Presumably just one positive response in the second round of questioning would then register as a support and would have overturned an original negative response. Again, no data was supplied on how many surveyees changed their mind when the question was repeated 5 times.

THE PUBLIC ARE NOT WELL INFORMED

The Lithgow Shire survey found that 30% of those surveyed did not even know whether or not the water supply was already fluoridated. Another 28% of the public thought incorrectly that their water supply was fluoridated. This is a very significant factor and would have affected the results of the survey.

Nearly two thirds of those surveyed did not know, or wrongly thought that their water supply was already fluoridated.

Overall, most children today have very good oral health, whether they are from fluoridated communities or non –fluoridated communities. It is quite possible that a parent of a child or children with no tooth decay and who thinks that the water supply was already fluoridated would assume that water fluoridation was responsible for their child’s lack of decay.

An important factor to be considered is that if people think that fluoride is already in the water and they have noticed no adverse effects on their health they will believe that fluoride has no harmful affect on them.

ONLY MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS SHOULD HAVE BEEN SURVEYED

Less than three quarters of those surveyed were even connected to the reticulated water supply. This could make a considerable difference to their support or lack of support.

Although those who are not connected to the public water supply can be affected in a small way (when they visit restaurants that use a fluoridated water supply or if their children go to school connected to fluoridated water) they will not be as affected as someone who will constantly be drinking and bathing in fluoridated water. These lesser stakeholders may readily agree to fluoridation for others, especially for children and especially with a push poll, while knowing that they personally will be minimally affected.

THE EFFECT OF FLUORIDATION PROMOTIONS JUST PRIOR TO SURVEY

It was stated in the survey that 79% of respondents had received information on fluoridation with newspapers and Television quoted as being the most common sources, yet 30% of respondents did not even know whether or not fluoride had been added to their public water and another 28% got it wrong.

On the 17th March 2007 a National Adult Oral Health Survey- "The Dental Generations", the first adult oral health survey for 18 years was released with much fanfare and national newspaper and television coverage. The Oral Health Survey was touted on national ABC Television that the fluoride generation had half the decay of the generation before and this was "the first hard evidence that water fluoridation works". This was despite the fact that there was no attempt made to separate any effects from fluoridated toothpaste or from fluoridated water, (and it being almost impossible to do with fluoridated toothpaste constituting over 95% of toothpaste sales) There was also no attempt to take into account the use of mouth washes, better oral hygiene education or the use of teeth sealants, antibiotics or diet or any other factors.

Additionally, World Health Organisation data clearly shows that tooth decay has dramatically decreased over the last 50 years the same in most developed countries in the world regardless of whether fluoridated or not (only 5% of the worlds countries have water fluoridation). The Australian media's promotion in March 2007 that water fluoridation was responsible for the halving of decay in the current generation was therefore unjustified.

The public of Lithgow who were surveyed (58% of whom did not know or were incorrect on the fluoridation status of their own water supply) would not be aware of the same decrease in tooth decay world wide and would **have taken the information that "water fluoridation has been proven to work " at face value.**

This unjustified promotion of fluoride with the release of the Oral Health Survey occurred just before the Lithgow survey was done and being fresh in the memory would definitely have affected the outcome of the survey.

In March 2007 Choice magazine, in spite of recent evidence linking water to adverse health effects and for reasons best known to them, chose to do a glowing testimonial on water fluoridation. This report, just before the survey was done would also have had an impact on the survey.

SAMPLE SELECTION ANOMALIES

It was stated that 369 households provided responses and this gave a high level of confidence, yet of the surveys collected it states that 155 surveys were extracted from the NSW Health Survey Program for inclusion in the analysis.

There is no reference as to how these extra 155 surveys were selected, when they were collected, or what geographic area they were collected from.

Why were these extra 155 surveys gathered from another source and used? Why did the Western Research Centre not conduct all of the surveys in-house? With 155 of the 369 surveys having been gathered from a NSW State survey (year not specified) this could have a significant result on what was supposed to be a local Lithgow survey

Of the 369 surveys, 108 resulted from the Lithgow City Council's Resident Feedback Register; not being randomly assigned could mean a possible bias

To have any confidence in the survey all 369 of the surveys should have been collected using the same criteria and method of collection and collected at the same time.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION

Emphasis was placed on the statistic that 86% of those surveyed who had children less than 6 years of age showed support for fluoridation. **It should be pointed out that this group of respondents represented only 14% of the community.**

There was no attempt to find out how many people were edentulous (had false teeth) to whom water fluoridation could never be of any possible benefit.

CONCLUSIONS

The use of a leading question where the responders were told in the question that water fluoridation prevents tooth decay would bias the result obtained.

The design of the questionnaire where a negative responder was asked whether in favour 5 times could easily have impacted the result. The responder on being repeatedly questioned may have formed the opinion that their answer was incorrect and may have changed their response.

The Lithgow public are not well informed on water fluoridation with 58% not knowing, or being incorrect on the fluoridation status of their public water supply.

Two significant water fluoridation promotions just prior to this survey would have had an impact on the survey.

The method of sample collection of the survey was flawed.

The survey had several limitations and interpretations should be taken with great caution.

Little Difference in Tooth Decay between non-fluoridated and fluoridated (1ppm) areas by health regions in NSW, 2000

Lithgow and Bathurst both lie within the NSW Mid West Health District. As seen from the table with data extracted from the publication (1) children from unfluoridated areas within the Mid West Region had slightly less decay in baby teeth than children from fluoridated areas.

After swallowing fluoride for 11 to 12 years, children from the fluoridated areas of the Mid West Health Region had only slightly less decay (average 0.02 of a tooth, an insignificant difference) than children from unfluoridated areas such as Lithgow

It has been reported that tooth eruption is delayed in children living in fluoridated areas and this may explain why there can be a small difference in decay in baby teeth when comparing fluoridated areas to non-fluoridated areas.

Water Fluoridation cannot be demonstrated to make a significant difference to tooth decay analysing NSW data published in 2005. If there was a genuine reduction in tooth decay from water fluoridation, the longer fluoride was consumed, the more difference there would be. Any gap would widen, not narrow to insignificance as can be seen from these results.

5-6 Year-old dmft (dmft = decayed, missing, filled BABY teeth)			
NSW Health Region Year 2000	Non-fluoridated	Fluoridated	Mean number of teeth difference in decay
Greater Murray	1.94	1.02	0.9 of a tooth
Hunter	1.90	0.75	1.2 of a tooth
Mid North Coast	1.53	0.96	0.7 of a tooth
Mid West - including Lithgow unfluoridated Bathurst fluoridated	1.11	1.14	No significant difference
New England	1.69	0.87	0.8 of a tooth
Northern Rivers	1.83	1.27	0.6 of a tooth
SW Sydney	0.83	0.93	No significant difference
Southern	1.37	0.89	0.5 of a tooth

11-12 Year-old DMFT (DMFT = decayed, missing, filled PERMANENT teeth)			
NSW Health Region Year 2000	Non-fluoridated	Fluoridated	Mean number of teeth difference in decay
Greater Murray	0.59	0.35	0.2 of a tooth
Hunter	0.40	0.44	No significant difference
Mid North Coast	0.48	0.17	0.3 of a tooth
Mid West - including Lithgow unfluoridated Bathurst fluoridated	0.41	0.39	No significant difference
New England	0.43	0.29	No significant difference
Northern Rivers	0.66	0.56	No significant difference
SW Sydney	0.53	0.47	No significant difference
Southern	0.47	0.32	0.2 of a tooth

(1) Data from the publication " *Public water fluoridation and dental health in New South Wales* " 2005 (ANZ Journal of Public Health Vol 29 No 5) author Jason Armfield.

9/10/04

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Professor Trevor A Sheldon
Pro-Vice-Chancellor: Learning & Teaching

To whom it may concern

In my capacity of chair of the Advisory Group for the systematic review on the effects of water fluoridation conducted by the NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination the University of York and as its founding director, I am concerned that the results of the review have been widely misrepresented. The review was exceptional in this field in that it was conducted by an independent group to the highest international scientific standards and a summary has been published in the British Medical Journal. It is particularly worrying then that statements which mislead the public about the review's findings have been made in press releases and briefings by the British Dental Association, the British Medical Association, the National Alliance for Equity in Dental Health, the British Fluoridation Society and others abroad. I should like to correct some of these errors.

- 1 Whilst there is evidence that water fluoridation is effective at reducing caries, the quality of the studies was generally moderate and the size of the estimated benefit, only of the order of 15%, is far from "massive".
- 2 The review found water fluoridation to be significantly associated with high levels of dental fluorosis which was not characterised as "just a cosmetic issue".
- 3 The review did not show water fluoridation to be safe. The quality of the research was too poor to establish with confidence whether or not there are potentially important adverse effects in addition to the high levels of fluorosis. The report recommended that more research was needed.
- 4 There was little evidence to show that water fluoridation has reduced social inequalities in dental health.
- 5 The review could come to no conclusion as to the cost-effectiveness of water fluoridation or whether there are different effects between natural or artificial fluoridation.
- 6 Probably because of the rigour with which this review was conducted, these findings are more cautious and less conclusive than in most previous reviews.

The review team was surprised that in spite of the large number of studies carried out over several decades there is a dearth of reliable evidence with which to inform policy. Until high quality studies are undertaken providing more definite evidence, there will continue to be legitimate scientific controversy over the likely effects and costs of water fluoridation.

(Signed) T.A. Sheldon, Professor Trevor Sheldon, BSc, MSc, DSc, F MedSci.

Drinking non-fluoridated water (bottled or tank water) does not result in increased tooth decay (if water fluoridation worked it should have)

Recently some Australian newspapers, A Current Affair and Today Tonight have run stories raising the spectre of tooth decay increasing due to the increasing popularity and consumption of bottled (non- fluoridated water) by the public.

The Australian Dental Association had raised this issue resulting in these stories being done and this association has been a champion for a change in the legislation to allow some bottled water manufacturers to be allowed to add fluoride to bottled water.

As an indicator that increased decay could occur due to the popularity of bottled (non-fluoridated) water the Australian Dental Association have cited a publication from the Dental School of the Adelaide Uni. “ *Consumption of non-public water: implications for children’s caries experience*”) Jason M. Armfield, A. John Spencer *Community Dent Oral Epidemiol* 2004 ;32 :283-96

However, this study found “no significant difference” when looking at decay in the permanent teeth of 10 to 15 year olds, regardless if they had drunk non fluoridated water (tank or bottled) all of their lives, or fluoridated water all of their lives. That is fluoride made no difference to tooth decay rates.

This study did find a difference that they called significant, in the baby teeth of 4 to 9 year children when comparing those who had always drunk non-public water (tank or bottled) to children who always drunk fluoridated public water.

In the 4 to 9 year old grouping of children who had always drunk fluoridated water there was an average of 2.95 tooth surfaces in baby teeth that had been affected by decay. In this same age group children who had never drunk fluoridated water had an average of 4.47 tooth surfaces in baby teeth that had been affected by decay.

The authors, in looking at decay in baby teeth, after factoring in differences in household income, “occupational prestige” and education say the benefit “ remained significant “, although the effect size ... of this relationship was small. They did not however, publish the actual quantitative results for baby teeth after factoring in these differences! In baby teeth there is a maximum difference of one and half tooth surfaces between the two groups

. As one filling usually equates to two tooth surfaces, with a total of 128 tooth surfaces in a child’s mouth, this difference in tooth surfaces is equivalent to an average difference of less than one filling in baby teeth of younger children and “no significant difference” in the permanent teeth of older children.

After swallowing fluoride for 10 to 15 years there should be large difference in decay in children’s permanent teeth if water fluoridation was effective.

If the so-called “ benefit” is so small (non-existent in the older group), but the risks are so high (in fluoridated areas there is at rate of at least 30% of children with dental fluorosis- a biomarker of fluoride overexposure) why take this risk?

First, do no harm.

Water fluoridation is not shown to be effective for lower socio-economic children.

The Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health based at Adelaide University SA, analyses data collected by the school dental services in each Australian state and territory. Publications by this statistical unit are used by Australian Dental Associations as being supportive of water fluoridation being effective and particularly so, for the more disadvantaged children in Australian society.

Data analysis, when looking at differences between small numbers which are then expressed as percentages often seem to be impressive. However this same data, if looked at in absolute terms often puts things in a more realistic light.

Please refer to the table below using data from the article "*Public water fluoridation and dental health in New South Wales*" (A & NZ Journal of Public Health 2005 vol 29 no 5) authored by Jason Armfield. As can be seen from this data, the difference between fluoridated and non-fluoridated areas in NSW comparing children in different socioeconomic groupings shows an maximum of of 0.7 of one tooth difference in baby teeth and a maximum of 0.2 of one tooth difference for permanent teeth. This is a more realistic way of comparison than the up to 68 % less decay that is claimed.

Looking at this data, it is hard to trumpet water fluoridation as being effective for the disadvantaged children of Australia. There is only a maximum of 0.2 of one tooth difference (permanent teeth) whether the child comes from a disadvantaged group or a more privileged socio-economic group. How can water fluoridation be justified with such a tiny reduction in decay? These figures do not support water fluoridation as being effective for children from poor or from wealthy families.

Difference in Caries Experience Between Non-fluoridated and Fluoridated (1ppm) Areas by SEIFA (Socio - Economic Index for Areas) NSW 2000

	Non-Fluoridated	Fluoridated (1ppm)	Difference by %	Mean number of teeth difference
5-6 Year-old baby teeth				
	Mean dmft	Mean dmft		
Most disadvantaged	1.86	1.26	47.6%	0.6 of a tooth
-	1.72	1.06	62.3%	0.7 of a tooth
-	1.61	0.92	75.0%	0.7 of a tooth
Least disadvantaged	1.16	0.69	68.1%	0.5 of a tooth

	Non-Fluoridated	Fluoridated (1ppm)	Difference by %	Mean number of teeth difference
11-12 Year-old Permanent Teeth				
	Mean DMFT	Mean DMFT		
Most disadvantaged	0.68	0.57	19.3%	0.1 of a tooth
-	0.52	0.51	2.0%	No significant difference
-	0.49	0.45	8.9%	No significant difference
Least disadvantaged	0.56	0.41	36.6%	0.2 of a tooth

(dmft = decayed, missing, filled baby teeth) DMFT = decayed, missing, filled permanent teeth)

Water Fluoridation is NOT EFFECTIVE

Latest statistics show little difference in dental decay rates for permanent teeth when comparing fluoridated to non-fluoridated areas.

Townsville - artificially fluoridated for 40 years - has similar decay rates to non-fluoridated Queensland regions. For 12 year old children, averages for Decayed Missing and Filled Teeth (DMFT) follows.

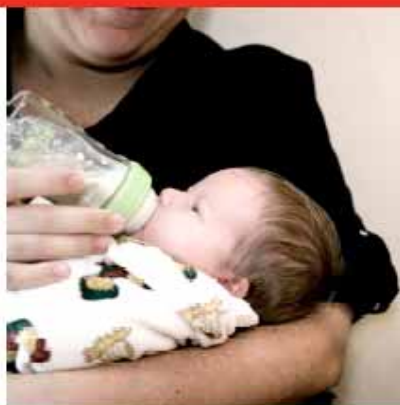
DMFT of 1.0 = average of one decayed tooth
Higher the DMFT rate = more decay

Queensland Dental Health Survey 2002		
	Local Areas of Comparison	DMFT Rates
Fluoridated	Townsville	1.38
Non - Fluoridated Areas in Qld	Rockhampton	0.76
	Mackay	0.93
	Gold Coast	1.02
	Brisbane North	1.28
	Sunshine Coast	1.44
	Mount Isa	1.58
	Toowoomba	1.92
	Logan/Beaudesert	1.95
World Wide Comparisons, WHO 2007		
Fluoridated	USA	1.28
	Ireland	1.1
	Australia	0.95
Non - Fluoridated	Switzerland	0.9
	Denmark	0.9
	Sweden	1.1
	Belgium	1.1
	Italy	1.1
	Finland	1.2

Benefits of water fluoridation are overstated. Tooth brushing with toothpaste and diets low in sugar are the true oral health solutions. There is no need to fluoridate our drinking water.

HEALTH ALERT: FLUORIDE WARNING FOR INFANTS

Health authorities now agree that fluoride should **not** be given to infants. Health professionals, water districts, and the media need to work cooperatively to deliver this information to parents and caregivers so they can protect their children.



- On November 9th, 2006, based on a National Research Council (NRC) report (1) the American Dental Association (ADA) warned that fluoridated water should not be mixed into concentrated formula or foods intended for babies one year and younger in order to avoid moderate dental fluorosis (white, yellow or brown stains affecting the tooth surface) (2).
- On December 15, 2006, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) stated that using fluoridated water for infant formula may influence a child's risk for developing enamel fluorosis (3). According to the CDC, 32% of American children have dental fluorosis, a significant increase from 23% in the 1980s (4).
- The Academy of General Dentistry has cautioned parents to avoid fluoridated water when making infant foods (5).
- The American Academy of Pediatrics has advised that fluoride not be given to infants 6 months and younger (6).
- Fluoridated water (1 ppm) has 250 times more fluoride than occurs naturally in human breast milk (.004pm) (7).
- The Environmental Working Group analyzed government data in March 2006, and found that babies are over-exposed to fluoride in most major U.S. cities. In Boston, over 60% of formula-fed infants are over the safe fluoride exposure level (8).
- In November 2006, the respected medical journal The Lancet described fluoride as an "emerging neurotoxic substance" due to evidence linking fluoride to lower IQs in children, and brain damage in animals (9).
- In March 2006, the National Research Council reported that fluoride is an "endocrine disrupter" which may interfere with the normal activity of the thyroid and pineal glands (10).
- A May 2006 Harvard study found a significant link between fluoridated water and bone cancer in boys (11).
- Common household water filters do not remove fluoride; and unlike chlorine, which steams off when water is boiled, fluoride becomes more concentrated.

References:

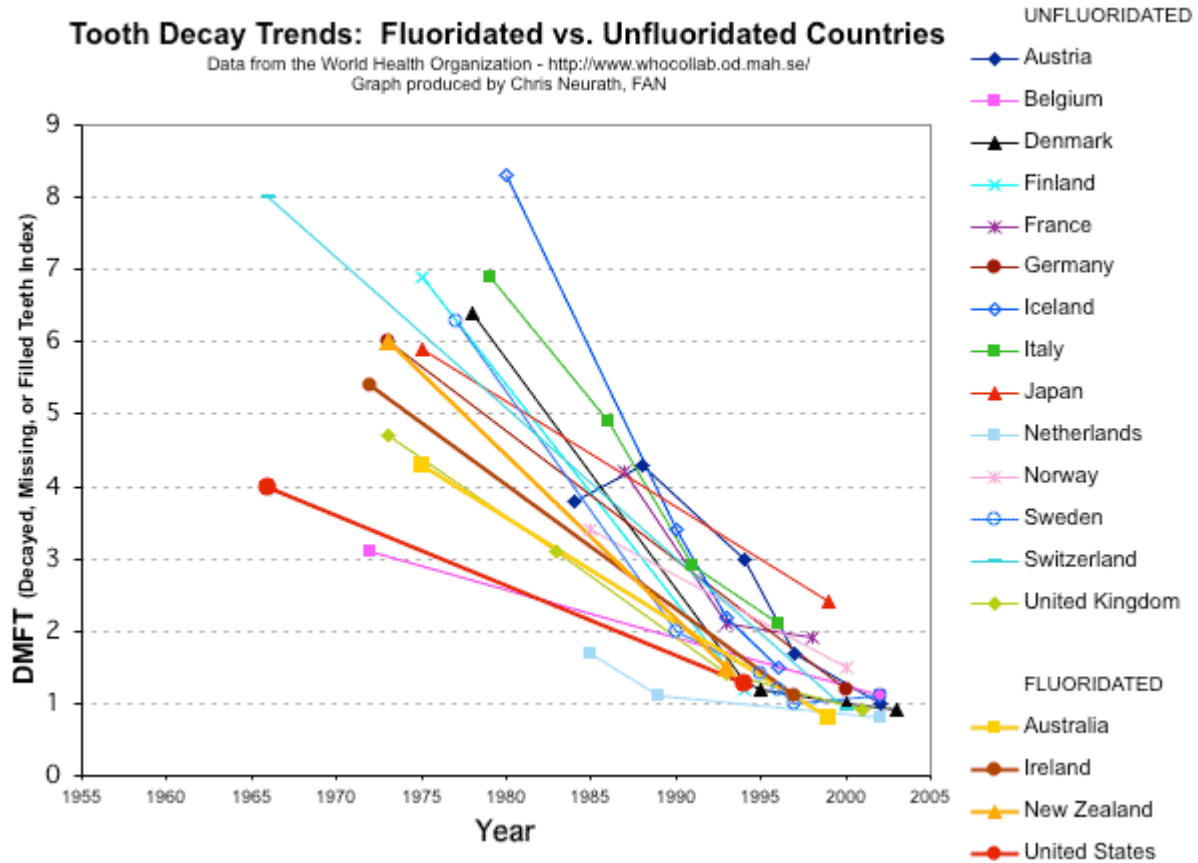
- (1) http://www.nap.edu/catalog/11571.html?onpi_newsdoc03222006
- (2) http://www.ada.org/prof/resources/pubs/epubs/egram/egram_epubs/egram_egram_061109.pdf
Dental fluorosis pictures: <http://www.FluorideAlert.Org>
- (3) http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/safety/infant_formula.htm
- (4) <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/figures/s403a1t23.gif>
- (5) <http://www.agd.org/consumer/topics/baby/fluoride.asp>

- (6) <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/abstract/pediatrics;115/2/496>
- (7) http://www.nap.edu/catalog/11571.html?onpi_newsdoc03222006 (p. 33)
- (8) <http://ewg.org/issues/fluoride/20060322/index.php>
- (9) <http://www.canada.com/80/saskatoon/news/story.html?id=3ac13c57-80cc-4ddf-bb26-58d592a63014&k=95961>
- (10) <http://www.fluoridealert.org/health/epa/nrc/excerpts.html>
- (11) <http://www.springerlink.com/index/W51278475H35L456.pdf>

To learn more, visit: <http://www.FluorideAlert.Org>

World Health Organization Data (2004) –

Tooth Decay Trends (12 year olds) in Fluoridated vs. Unfluoridated Countries:



view at <http://www.fluoridealert.org/health/teeth/caries/who-dmft.html>

As can be seen from World Health Organisation data, tooth decay has dramatically decreased in the last 40 years, the same amount in countries with water fluoridation as in countries without water fluoridation. Water fluoridation thus cannot claim the credit.

Perhaps this decrease in tooth decay is due to fluoridated tooth paste, better oral health education or diet, mouth washes, preventative fillings (teeth sealants) antibiotics or a combination of factors.

Most countries in the world do not have water fluoridation. Less than 5% of the world's population drink artificially fluoridated water and it is believed there are only 6 countries in the world that have more than 50% of their public water supply fluoridated, mainly the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Ireland.

Less than 5% of Queensland's population drink fluoridated water.

P.O. Box 620
KATOOMB 2780
17th August 2008.

PAUL ANDERSON MANAGER.
CASEY CHARKE.
Lithgow Council
Lithgow Water,
P.O. Box 19
Lithgow 2790

Lithgow City Council
Scanned

21 AUG 2007

Doc. No
GDA Ref.
Years

Dear Sir Council - OUR HOME.

Re. PROSE-WRITING
FOURIDE IN Lithgow Water

Please accept this Prose
of open view. Hope this can be submitted
in your Council NEWSLETTER to OPEN
another view of water in our homes.
and the BLUE MOUNTAINS HISTORY
of Health, EXHAUSTING MOUNTAIN
AIR and the long HISTORY from
VICTORIAN ERA. people visit our
WONDERFUL area. and trust for a
Reply in due course.

Yours faithfully

Charlotte Camelot
PROSE WRITER.

COPY 2

OUR HOME.

We should have the choice
to VIEW the disadvantages of Fluoride in
the water.

To REQUEST, the advantages for the waters
in our HOMES to remain PURE running
water for drinking, cooking, and bathing
The family having the choice to add/
USE aromatic HERBAL RADOX Bath Salts
for MUM and DAD in bath or showers.
Palmolive AROMATHERAPY Gel for
Camelia and Janes in the shower

The Blue mountains Rich History
and the Hydro Majestic Hotel at MEDLOW
Bath in the past specialized in offering
HYDRO THERAPY Baths,
AND the added Ambience of colour
LAMPS.

THE RETREATS of to-day from Wallacia
Perith, RIGHT through to HEURA KATOOMBA
Lithgow and Jenoleon Caves, with orchestral
concerts in Jenoleon Caves.

This is a small demonstration of the Rich
History ALIVE..

KNOWN for the exhilarating mountain air
Tourists flocking from overseas to
experience the ALIVE myth.

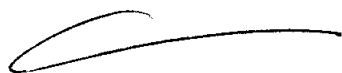
Packing a Ruck sack
Heading away from the big city
Going Back, Re-connected, MORE ENERGY
to cope.

Taking Photos, Waterfalls, other WONDERS.

OUR HOME.

The choice to view and express the advantages of fluoride and this giving forthright opinions in care of the family, with added fluoride to their home water, with such enthusiasm the response to buy the fluoride toothpaste and, other medical advice available to trial the individual efforts.

The choice always there



To Lithgow Council.

Lithgow WATER.

Charlotte Camelot
PROSE - WRITER.

17th August 2004.

From: Doug Everingham

Sent: Saturday, 8 September 2007 5:51:13 PM

To: council@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au; Council

CC: XNeil.Mumme@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au; clr.michaelcorbin@bigpond.com; Fergus.

Thomson@bigpond.com; clrbrown@bigpond.net.au; cairney1@bigpond.net.au; chriskowal@bigpond.com; clr.grahammcgillivray@exemail.com.au; robsandpollock@dodo.com.au; clralanmorton@bigpond.com; Neville Castle; Clr Michael Wilson; Clr Martin Ticehurst; Clr Barbara Moran; Clr Wayne McAndrew; Clr Howard Fisher; Clr Brian Morrissey; Clr Margaret Collins; Clr Ann Thompson

Subject: LITHGOW and EUROBODALLA fluoridation

Doug N. Everingham MB, BS
5 Eriboll Close
MIDDLE PARK QLD 4074

tel. 07 3376 7763
8 Sep 2007

Dear Councillors of Lithgow City and Eurobodalla,

If you are considering fluoridating town supplies, please look for evidence of safety and effectiveness in publications by scientists engaged in actual demography and clinical research rather than comforting claims of officials.

There is a half century trend of pro-fluoride selectivity in quotes from administrations in the few countries still fluoridating town water supplies

– mainly a handful of English-speaking countries.

In the 1950s I published support for fluoridation but when challenged and increasingly since I have been convinced that favorable claims often encourage unbalanced views and resist challenges to debate with informed opponents.

I will be happy to email on request a pamphlet summarizing my views

Sincerely

Doug Everingham
1972-75 Australian Minister for Health



C/- Charles Sturt University
Research Station Drive
Bathurst NSW 2795
Australia

Telephone: (02) 6338 4435
Facsimile: (02) 6338 4699
Email: tmurphy@csu.edu.au

ABN 76 090 089 991

13 September 2007

Mr John Irving
Project Manager
Teeth for Health
PO Box 649
Taree NSW 2430

Dear John,

It was good to catch up last Monday week at Lithgow City Council for the presentation of the Greater Lithgow Household Fluoridation Survey. I note from your email that one Councillor is asking for a poll or referendum about the issue. In my opinion this would be a waste of the Council's resources given the results of our study which clearly demonstrates that a large majority of Lithgow households are in favour of fluoride. I am very confident that if such poll were to be conducted it would give a similar result to our survey.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tom Murphy'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Murphy
Chief Executive Officer

Local Government Act 1993 No 30

249 Fixing and payment of annual fees for the mayor

- (1) A council must pay the mayor an annual fee.
- (2) The annual fee must be paid in addition to the fee paid to the mayor as a councillor.
- (3) A council may fix the annual fee and, if it does so, it must fix the annual fee in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal.
- (4) A council that does not fix the annual fee must pay the appropriate minimum fee determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.
- (5) A council may pay the deputy mayor (if there is one) a fee determined by the council for such time as the deputy mayor acts in the office of the mayor. The amount of the fee so paid must be deducted from the mayor's annual fee.

Item 4.

Lithgow City Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT
for the year ended 30 June 2007

"A centre of Regional excellence that:

- Encourages community growth and development
- Contributes to the efficient and effective management of the environment, community and economy for present and future generations."



Lithgow City Council

Income Statement

for the financial year ended 30 June 2007

Budget ⁽¹⁾			Actual	Actual
2007	\$ '000	Notes	2007	2006
Income from Continuing Operations				
<i>Revenue:</i>				
13,234	Rates & Annual Charges	3a	15,175	13,681
5,418	User Charges & Fees	3b	2,770	2,779
431	Interest & Investment Revenue	3c	917	624
173	Other Revenues	3d	720	599
4,115	Grants & Contributions provided for Operating Purposes	3e,f	4,846	4,427
2,870	Grants & Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	3e,f	3,185	2,761
26,241	Total Income from Continuing Operations		27,613	24,871
Expenses from Continuing Operations				
10,863	Employee Benefits & on-costs	4a	9,492	9,762
298	Borrowing Costs	4b	594	549
5,485	Materials & Contracts	4c	7,536	6,966
3,700	Depreciation & Amortisation	4d	3,521	3,612
3,390	Other Expenses	4e	2,903	2,978
-	Net Losses from the Disposal of Assets	5	220	45
23,736	Total Expenses from Continuing Operations		24,266	23,912
2,505	Operating Result from Continuing Operations		3,347	959
2,505	Net Operating Result for the Year		3,347	959
2,505	Net Operating Result attributable to Council		3,347	959
(365)	Net Operating Result for the year before Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes		162	(1,802)

(1) Original Budget as approved by Council - refer Note 16

Lithgow City Council

Balance Sheet
as at 30 June 2007

\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2007	Actual 2006
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	6a	13,714	8,041
Investments	6b	2,000	2,050
Receivables	7	2,749	2,194
Inventories	8	748	653
Other	8	6	104
Total Current Assets		19,217	13,042
Non-Current Assets			
Inventories	8	378	378
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	9	186,596	173,321
Total Non-Current Assets		186,974	173,699
TOTAL ASSETS		206,191	186,741
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	10	3,415	2,627
Interest Bearing Liabilities	10	440	317
Provisions - anticipated as being payable within the next 12 months	10	746	790
Provisions - anticipated as being payable after the next 12 months	10	2,068	1,877
Total Current Liabilities		6,669	5,611
Non-Current Liabilities			
Payables	10	597	588
Interest Bearing Liabilities	10	6,358	4,380
Provisions	10	4,759	4,489
Total Non-Current Liabilities		11,714	9,457
TOTAL LIABILITIES		18,383	15,068
Net Assets		187,808	171,673
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings	20	175,020	171,673
Revaluation Reserves	20	12,788	-
Council Equity Interest		187,808	171,673
Total Equity		187,808	171,673

Lithgow City Council

Statement of Changes in Equity
for the financial year ended 30 June 2007

\$ '000	Notes	Retained Earnings	Reserves (Refer 20b)	Council Equity Interest	Minority Interest	Total Equity
2007						
Opening Balance (as per Last Years Audited Accounts)		171,673	-	171,673	-	171,673
Revised Opening Balance (as at 1/7/06)		171,673	-	171,673	-	171,673
c. Current Year Income & Expenses Recognised direct to Equity						
- Transfers to/(from) Asset Revaluation Reserve	20b (ii)		12,788	12,788		12,788
Net Income Recognised Directly in Equity		-	12,788	12,788	-	12,788
d. Net Operating Result for the Year		3,347		3,347	-	3,347
Total Recognised Income & Expenses (c&d)		3,347	12,788	16,135	-	16,135
Equity - End of Reporting Period Balance		175,020	12,788	187,808	-	187,808

\$ '000	Notes	Retained Earnings	Reserves (Refer 20b)	Council Equity Interest	Minority Interest	Total Equity
2006						
Opening Balance (as per Last Years Audited Accounts)		170,714		170,714		170,714
Revised Opening Balance (as at 1/7/05)		170,714	-	170,714	-	170,714
e. Net Operating Result for the Year		959		959	-	959
Total Recognised Income & Expenses (c&d)		959	-	959	-	959
Equity - End of the Reporting Period Balance		171,673	-	171,673	-	171,673

Lithgow City Council

Cash Flow Statement

for the financial year ended 30 June 2007

Budget		Notes	Actual	Actual
2007	\$ '000		2007	2006
Cash Flows from Operating Activities				
Receipts:				
13,234	Rates & Annual Charges		14,987	13,788
5,418	User Charges & Fees		3,075	2,952
431	Interest & Interest Received		832	655
6,986	Grants & Contributions		7,561	7,389
173	Other		481	1,412
Payments:				
(10,863)	Employee Benefits & On-costs		(9,345)	(9,709)
(5,485)	Materials & Contracts		(7,308)	(7,703)
(298)	Borrowing Costs		(324)	(311)
(3,390)	Other		(2,351)	(3,811)
<u>6,206</u>	Net Cash provided (or used in) Operating Activities	11b	<u>7,608</u>	<u>4,662</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities				
Receipts:				
-	Sale of Investments		-	4,675
1,250	Sale of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment		428	755
Payments:				
	Purchase of Investments		50	-
(14,326)	Purchase of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equip.		(4,467)	(6,066)
-	Purchase of Real Estate Assets		(47)	(132)
<u>(13,076)</u>	Net Cash provided (or used in) Investing Activities		<u>(4,036)</u>	<u>(768)</u>
Cash Flows from Financing Activities				
Receipts:				
4,125	Proceeds from Borrowings & Advances		2,425	-
Payments:				
(659)	Repayment of Borrowings & Advances		(324)	(282)
<u>3,466</u>	Net Cash Flow provided (used in) Financing Activities		<u>2,101</u>	<u>(282)</u>
(3,404)	Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents		5,673	3,612
8,041	plus: Cash & Cash Equivalents - beginning of year	11a	8,041	4,429
<u>4,637</u>	Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year	11a	<u>13,714</u>	<u>8,041</u>

Please refer to Note 11 for information on the following:

- Non Cash Financing & Investing Activities.
- Financing Arrangements.
- Net Cash Flow disclosures relating to any Discontinued Operations

Lithgow City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the financial year ended 30 June 2007

Note 6a. - Cash Assets and Note 6b. - Investment Securities

\$ '000	2007		2006	
	Actual Current	Actual Non Current	Actual Current	Actual Non Current
Cash & Cash Equivalents (Note 6a)				
Cash on Hand and at Bank	960	-	363	-
Cash-Equivalent Assets ¹				
- Deposits at Call	1,847	-	1,027	-
- Other Financial Assets	10,907	-	6,651	-
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents	13,714	-	8,041	-
Investment Securities (Note 6b)				
- Managed Funds	1,000	-	1,000	-
- Long Term Deposits	1,000	-	1,050	-
Total Investment Securities	2,000	-	2,050	-
TOTAL CASH ASSETS, CASH EQUIVALENTS & INVESTMENTS	15,714	-	10,091	-

¹ Those Investments where Maturity (from date of purchase) is < 3 mths.

**Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments were
classified at year end in accordance with
AASB 139 as follows:**

Cash & Cash Equivalents

a. "At Fair Value through the Profit & Loss"	13,714	-	8,041	-
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Investments

Nil

a. "At Fair Value through the Profit & Loss"

- "Held for Trading"	6(b-i) 1,000	-	1,000	-
d. "Available for Sale"	6(b-iv) 1,000	-	1,050	-
Investments	2,000	-	2,050	-

Lithgow City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the financial year ended 30 June 2007

Note 6b. Investments (continued)

\$ '000	2007		2006	
	Actual Current	Actual Non Current	Actual Current	Actual Non Current
Note 6(b-i)				
Reconciliation of Investments classified as "At Fair Value through the Profit & Loss"				
Nil				
Balance at the Beginning of the Year	1,000	-	1,000	-
Balance at End of Year	1,000	-	1,000	-
Comprising:				
- Managed Funds	1,000	-	1,000	-
Total	1,000	-	1,000	-
Note 6(b-iv)				
Reconciliation of Investments classified as "Available for Sale"				
Nil				
Balance at the Beginning of the Year	1,050	-	5,725	-
Additions	(50)	-	-	-
Balance at End of Year	1,000	-	1,050	-
Comprising:				
- Term Deposits	1,000	-	1,050	-
Total	1,000	-	1,050	-
Total Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investment Securities	15,714	-	10,091	-
attributable to:				
External Restrictions (refer below)	10,566	-	9,043	-
Internal Restrictions (refer below)	3,115	-	836	-
Unrestricted	2,033	-	212	-
15,714	-	10,091	-	

Lithgow City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the financial year ended 30 June 2007

Note 6c. Restricted Cash, Cash Equivalents & Investments (continued)

Details of Restrictions	Opening Balance	Transfers to Restrictions	Transfers from Restrictions	Closing Balance
External Restrictions - Included in Liabilities				
Nil				
Specific Purpose Unexpended Loans-General (A)	-	1,275	-	1,275
Specific Purpose Unexpended Loans-Water (A)	-	1,150	-	1,150
Specific Purpose Unexpended Loans-Sewer (A)	-	500	-	500
External Restrictions - Included in Liabilities	-	2,925	-	2,925
External Restrictions - Other				
Nil				
Developer Contributions - General (D)	301	338	(48)	591
RTA Contributions Mobility Access Plan (E)	10	-	-	10
Specific Purpose Unexpended Grants (F)	1,084	773	-	1,857
Specific Purpose Unexpended Grants (F) - Water Fund	-	1	-	1
Water Supplies (Includes \$639 PWD) (G)	3,592	-	(1,117)	2,475
Sewerage Services (Includes PWD \$663) (G)	3,013	-	(1,271)	1,742
Domestic Waste Management (G)	1,043	-	(78)	965
External Restrictions - Other	9,043	1,112	(2,514)	7,641
Total External Restrictions	9,043	4,037	(2,514)	10,566
Internal Restrictions				
Nil				
Employees Leave Entitlement	636	281	(100)	817
Land & Buildings	150	367	(32)	485
Plant & Vehicle Replacement	-	488	-	488
Deposits, Retentions & Bonds	-	659	-	659
Election	50	60	-	110
Works in Progress	-	556	-	556
Total Internal Restrictions	836	2,411	(132)	3,115
TOTAL RESTRICTIONS	9,879	6,448	(2,646)	13,681

A Loan moneys which must be applied for the purposes for which the loans were raised.

B Advances by the Roads and Traffic Authority for works on the State's classified roads.

C Self Insurance liability resulting from reported claims or incurred claims not yet reported.

D Development contributions which are not yet expended for the provision of services and amenities in accordance with contributions plans (refer Note 17).

E RTA Contributions which are not yet expended for the provision of services and amenities in accordance with those contributions.

F Grants which are not yet expended for the purposes for which the grants were obtained. (refer Note 1)

G Water, Sewerage, Domestic Waste Management (DWM) & Special Rates/Levies/Charges are externally restricted assets and must be applied for the purposes for which they were raised.

Lithgow City Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the financial year ended 30 June 2007

Note 13. Statement of Performance Measurement

\$ '000	Amounts 2007	Indicator 2007	Prior Periods 2006 2005	
1. Unrestricted Current Ratio				
Current Assets less all External Restrictions ⁽¹⁾	7,598	3.17 : 1	1.08	1.09
Current Liabilities less Specific Purpose Liabilities ^(2,3)	2,399			
2. Debt Service Ratio				
Debt Service Cost	649	2.79%	2.83%	2.16%
Revenue from Continuing Operations excluding Capital Items & Specific Purpose Grants/Contributions	23,236			
3. Rates & Annual Charges Coverage Ratio				
Rates & Annual Charges	15,175	54.96%	55.01%	44.86%
Revenue from Continuing Operations	27,613			
4. Rates, Annual Charges, Interest & Extra Charges Outstanding Percentage				
Rates, Annual & Extra Charges Outstanding	1,355	8.24%	7.65%	8.76%
Rates, Annual & Extra Charges Collectible	16,437			
5. Asset Renewals Ratio				
Asset Renewals ⁽⁴⁾	4,832	137.23%	n/a	n/a
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	3,521			

Notes

⁽¹⁾ Refer Notes 6-8 inclusive.

Also excludes any Real Estate & Land for resale not expected to be sold in the next 12 months

⁽²⁾ Refer to Note 10(a).⁽³⁾ Refer to Note 10(c) - excludes all ELE not expected to be paid in the next 12 months.⁽⁴⁾ Asset Renewals represents Capital Expenditure on the replacement, refurbishment or upgrade to an existing Asset/s.

Item 11.



Association of
Mining Related Councils Inc

August 1 2007

Mr Paul Anderson
General Manager
Lithgow City Council
PO Box 19
LITHGOW NSW 2790

Lithgow City Council
Scanned

06 AUG 2007

Doc. No
GDA Ref
Years

Dear Paul

Enclosed is a self explanatory letter from Rivers SOS and an accompanying DVD requesting financial support. The author has requested me to forward this to all of the Association's member councils for individual consideration. A previous version with stark, significant mine subsidence in Pennsylvania, was shown to the delegates attending the Association's Mid Year General meeting in Narrabri. It was not part of the agenda and no formal discussion took place. In contrast, the latest DVD is specific to areas in New South Wales and appears relatively factual.


The DVD will be shown at the August meeting in Mudgee and listed as an agenda item for discussion.

If you have any comments in relation to the request or the context of the DVD, I would be pleased to hear from you.

Yours faithfully


Margaret MacDonal-Hill
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PO Box 273
BELMONT NSW 2280
Telephone: (02) 4971 6104
Facsimile: (02) 4971 6105

PO Box 6170


Email info@miningrelatedcouncils.asn.au




Rivers SOS

PO Box 73
Douglas Park
NSW 2569
riverssos@riverssos.com
www.riverssos.com

Maurice Blackwood
310 Moreton Park Road,
Douglas Park. 2569
E mozzieb@ispdr.net.au

July 18, 2007.

Dear Councillor,

I represent Rivers SOS, an alliance of thirty-five community groups spread across NSW. We formed specifically to lobby the NSW government to mandate a safety zone around rivers in NSW, to protect them from the effects of mining. Since then we have sought not to stop mining, but to rein in the number of mining approvals that impact on all our water resources, affecting everyone from farmers, to irrigators, to grape growers, to horse studs as well as the city dweller's catchments.

We are non-political. We aim to continue to be a credible lobby group and recently we were rewarded with the "Most Outstanding New Environmental Movement in 2006" by the Nature Conservation Council of NSW.

While we do appreciate the positive economic effects of mining, there has been continual and well-documented damage to water supplies and we recognise the urgent need to lobby for their protection more effectively.

Enclosed is a DVD with a copy of our 2006 film, "Rivers of Shame", which is specifically about the damage caused to rivers and creeks. It was shown widely across NSW, at universities, Lions clubs, film launches and community meetings. Also on the same DVD is a copy of "NSW Coal Rush", which is about the Mudgee community, produced by Stuart O'Rourke, a freelance journalist, which won an award at UWS, recently.

I write to you seeking financial assistance to help produce a new film covering other important issues, such as the damage to bores and aquifers and the various health effects on the communities around the mines. These subjects along with the previous film material provide a

• Rivers SOS is a coalition of environment/community groups: formed as a result of the wrecking of rivers in NSW by mining operations. We campaign for a safety zone of at least 1k round all rivers to protect them from ongoing damage. Groups supporting this campaign are: • The Wilderness Society • Nature Conservation Council of NSW • Total Environment Centre • Colong Foundation for Wilderness • Blue Mountains Conservation Society • Mineral Policy Institute • Minewatch NSW • Sutherland Shire Environment Centre • Macarthur & Illawarra National Parks Association • Gloucester Environment Group • Nepean Action Group • Georges River Environmental Action Team • Hunter Environment Lobby • Greens NSW • Waterkeepers Australia • Central West Environment Council • OnlyOne Planet Australia • Mudgee District Environment Group • Mountain Dragon Bushwalkers • Lithgow Environment Group • Pages River and Tributaries Water Users' Association • Clarence Residents' Association • Johnsons Creek Conservation Committee • Save Barrington Tops Committee • NSW Canoeists Inc. • River Canoe Club • Caroon Coal Action Group • Australian Coal Alliance • Upper Hunter Waterkeepers Alliance • Wollondilly Bass Club • Robertson Environment Protection Society • Save Water Alliance • Inland Rivers Network • Australian Democrats • Water First

2.

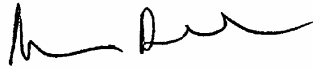
compelling viewpoint that will give a voice to the problems affecting our communities and the states water resources. The complete history and its implications need to be told.

As you know, there is an apparent lack of concern regarding these issues by both State and Federal governments, and combined with the mining companies drive to expand their businesses, the water supply damage is being ignored. Even many of the government department's objections are ignored. Without this view being aired the damage will continue to go unnoticed.

With Stuart O'Rourke's professional assistance, this will be a factual and telling film. Would you please consider approaching your Council on our behalf, for some funding assistance? We are budgeting on a cost of \$23,000 to produce and manufacture this DVD.

Any support your council can offer to help put this community story would be gratefully received.

Yours faithfully,



Maurice Blackwood.
DVD Coordinator.
Ph 0417 218 462.

Lithgow City Council
Scanned

30 AUG 2007

Doc. No
GDA Ref.
Years



8/26/2007
58 Tank Street Lithgow
NSW 2790.

To The Mayor Alderman Neville Castle

Dear Neville,

Further to our recent discussion and viewing of the site at Lake Wallace Wallerawang. Our Committee have applied for and gained approval from Delta Electricity to turn this beautiful 16 hectare (40 acre) site into a Giant Trees Arboretum. The long term lease is being worked out as is the committee constitution and incorporation.

We have been looking for a site for some time as you know and were all delighted with the positive response from Delta. The site is basically the eastern foreshores of Lake Wallace.

We have divided the park into three botanic collections, the southern end of the area is designed as an endemic plants collection, the central area is to be an Australian Trees collection and the northern area will be dedicated to Giant Trees of the World. The northern area contains the remains of the old Barton Park (some foundations) and importantly four trees estimated to be 80 to 90 years of age, each is of real botanic interest.

We are seeking council support of the project, any financial support available would be gratefully received and assistance in applying for funding and grants would be most helpful. The way we hope council will be most able to assist would be with the creation of a car park and the entrance road and with the some slashing and or the availability of mulch (wood chip). The area is very large and each new planted area will be heavily mulched to save on the maintenance costs.

In the first 18 months the project will not be open to the public, while the road and fences are put in place, though some private planting and screen planting, will start as soon as this spring. In the Giant Trees Area, only advanced trees will be planted and will have protectors and an optional plaque for the donor. The committee will select and purchase all plants and all endemic species will be purchased from the Lithgow Community Nursery.

We know that when toilets are needed we will need to talk to council but it is hoped that the (deep pit) National Park style toilets will be able to be constructed though if enough funding were available we would envisage putting in an "envirocycle" style of toilet.

Much latter in the project if funding becomes available a visitor centre is planned but this will be well in the future.


The name of the park and committee is still to be decided as this site now may make Barton Park Giant Trees Arboretum a more appropriate name. We are still looking at the name and the Barton family will be contacted if that name is selected. Other names have been as above, Lithgow GTA, Wallerawang GTA and Lake Wallace GTA.

Delta Electricity, have agreed that the Arboretum will be their major financial community support program for 2008 / 09. We have also looked at the Federal Government "Envirofund" to assist with the fencing.

Until the leases are finally signed we are not going to press with the project, but this should happen in the next few weeks.

We hope that council will see the benefits of the project and look forward to any assistance you may be able to offer.

Yours Sincerely



Bruce Ryan
President.

Lithgow State Mine Railway Limited

Corporate Office: Lithgow State Mine Railway Limited 6 Railway Parade Lithgow N.S.W 2790 Phone: (02) 6352 4280 Fax: (02) 6352 4201 Mobile: 0427455580 ACN: 119 090 256	All Correspondence To: The Secretary P.O. Box 350 Lithgow N.S.W. 2790 Email: mail@stateminerailway.com.au Web: http://www.stateminerailway.com.au ABN: 56 119 090 256
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Mr. Paul Anderson
General Manager
City of Lithgow Council
PO Box 19
Lithgow NSW 2790

Lithgow City Council
Scanned

17 AUG 2007

14th August 2007

Doc. No
GDA Ref.
Years

Re: Council Rates on Property No. 104436
Station Masters Residence
6 Railway Parade Lithgow

Dear Mr. Anderson

Further to our recent discussion, the Board of Lithgow State Mine Railway Ltd (LSMR) wishes to request the Council to consider a rate reimbursement of the difference between the current business rates levied on the above property and the amount of rates that would be payable if it was rated as residential. The property is used for residential purposes and having it rated as business, in addition to the water, sewerage, stormwater and garbage being rated as business connections, imposes an extremely heavy burden upon LSMR.

Our organisation is a local, not for profit company, with the aim of restoration and returning to public use, several railway properties that have significant historical links to earlier periods of our local community life.

All income generated by the subleasing of the above property is being reinvested in the restoration and maintenance of it with the view to adding to the quality of Lithgow's preserved historical buildings. As you can no doubt appreciate, paying business rates on this residential property reduces the amount of funds available to carry out the stated intentions.

Further information if required can be discussed with myself on 6352 2458.

Yours faithfully



Ron McNair
Finance Officer LSMR

President
Brett Radburn
"Farnleigh"
Rydal
0263 556305
0412685986



Secretary
Sarah Martin
"Talawa"
Rydal
0263 556250
0408147562

Lithgow City Council
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21 AUG 2007

7th August 2007

Doc. No.
GDA Ref.
Years

Dear Greater Lithgow City Council

I am currently finalizing the Rydal Show Program for 2008.

In the past, you have donated a trophy or some sort of sponsorship to assist our Show. I am writing to see if you are still happy to donate this prize and to check if I have the correct details.

According to my details, the sponsorship you provide is for:
Sponsorship for the Heavy Horse section

If this is correct and you still wish to assist the Show as in the past, could you please confirm this with me, either by phoning, emailing or writing to me. To phone, please contact me via my mobile 0408 147 562.

If the details are not correct or you no longer wish to sponsor this section, again please let me know as soon as possible as the program has to be finalised by mid September and we wish to acknowledge everyone's sponsorship.

Thank you very much.

Sarah Martin

Hon. Secretary

Treasurer: David Black
Telephone: 0263 556360

From: Kearns, Malcolm
Sent: Tuesday, 28 August 2007 10:23:33 AM
To: Council
Subject: REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF FEES & LIGHTING CHARGES AT KREMER PART
PORTLAND

ATT: Community & Culture Manager, Penny Hall.
CC: all councillors, CEO & Mayor.

Item of Concern: Unacceptable Lighting Charges. (Invoice No -- IVN157183)

Request:
The PCRLFC would like the Council to Waiver the charges for Lighting at Kremer Park Portland for the 2007 Football season.

Reason for Request:

- Original charges were \$2541.00
- Charges are still considered to be unacceptable after the review carried out by council in August 2007.
- After the review, \$1,320.00 for power is still considered to be way too high & miscalculated.

Supporting Info:

- We have supplied Council with 2 letters of concern. 1 letter was stating the reasons for not being happy with the charges.

The second letter stated the Income & expenditure of the Footfall Club for 2007. I will forward these letters again.

- We had a meeting with council regarding the fees & lighting charges.
- We only have 1 team that trains & plays at Kremer Park.
- We mark the football fields & clean out the sheds. Council supplies the stone dust & line marker.
- Council has mowed the ground 3 times during 2007 season
- Council has cleared the garbage 8 times for us in 2007.
- We are Non Profit organisation.
- The lighting fee of \$33.00 p/hour is not a metered reading of Kremer Park lighting, load demand.

The Problem as we see it:

The lighting charge hourly rate is calculated to be \$33.00 per hour.

This figure is a stated figure for lighting power costs at Lithgow Sports Ground. (2006/2007 Management Plan)
It may cost \$33.00 per hour to light up the Luchetti Sports Ground as there are probably 50 or more lights at the

ground.

To charge \$33.00 per hour for Power at Kremer Park is way too high.
There are only 15 lights at Kremer Park & only 11 of these are serviceable.

If there was a metered hourly rate for the Power / Lighting at Kremer Park it would probably only come in at around

\$10.00 per hour.

To charge the \$33.00 per hour for using Kremer Park Lights is not acceptable & is not a clear metered

assessment

of what an organisation should pay for electricity usage at the facility.

The 2 fees for hire for matches & hire for training, also seem to be high when we only have 1 football side in the

Portland Community. 2 invoices @ \$786.50. Total = \$1573.00

\$786.50 to play 7 games at ground. This means that we have to take \$112.00 out of each gate we have & give it

to council.

\$786.50 to have approx 17 people train at the ground for 20 weeks.

Conclusion:

The Portland Colts Football Club would like this request to be put to a full council meeting for consideration.

We would request the councillors to show some compassion regarding the Lighting Costs.

We consider that the costs should be waived until there is a proper metered hourly rate calculated for the

15 lights at Kremer Park Portland. Over.

Yours sincerely

Mal Kearns

Sec. PCRLFC

This e-mail may be confidential and only the intended recipient may access or use it. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete this e-mail and notify the sender immediately.
The contents of this e-mail are the writer's opinion and are not necessarily endorsed by Delta Electricity unless expressly stated.
We use virus scanning software but exclude all liability for viruses or similar in any attachment.

28-08-'07 11:30 FROM-

T-203 P001/004 F-382

* ATT: Penny Hare. *



CITY OF LITHGOW COUNCIL

180 Mort Street, Lithgow NSW 2790
Phone: 02 63521077
FAX 02 63514259
Email: glcc@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Lithgow City Council
Scanned

29 AUG 2007

Doc. No
GD & Ref.
Years

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING BY COUNCIL UNDER SECTION 356 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993

In order to apply for financial assistance from Council the following information must be provided to allow your application to be processed. Individual sporting persons or sporting groups must make application through their local governing body. Financial Assistance is only available to individuals or community groups residing within Council's local government area.

- Organisation and purpose
- Funds required (cash or in kind)
- Projects to be undertaken, detailing community benefits
- Budget documents (projected expenditure and income for the current period)
- Financial position (copy of last audited financial result)

Applicant / Recipient Organisation:

PORTLAND BERTS FOOTBALL CLUBS

Contact: MAL KERRIN Phone: 0439 789 641

Fax: 63528647 Email: Mal.kerrin@portlandberts.com.au

Address: 21 DUNDAS ST PORTLAND

ABN : _____

Is your organisation registered for GST? Yes No (Refer Note)

Amount of funding requested: \$2893.00 (Including GST / Excluding GST)

IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE:

If your organisation has an ABN & is registered for GST then Council MUST RECEIVE A TAX INVOICE PRIOR TO PAYMENT being made. The invoice must be for the grossed up amount inclusive of the GST component.



CITY OF LITHGOW COUNCIL

180 Mort Street, Lithgow NSW 2790
Phone: 02 63521077
FAX 02 63514259
Email: gicc@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

1. PURPOSE FOR COUNCIL ASSISTANCE:

	<i>Koombas Park</i>	
<i>Cooper</i>	<i>Licence Charges</i>	<i>\$ 320.00</i>
"	<i>Growth (Drama)</i>	<i>\$ 786.50</i>
"	<i>" (Matches x 7)</i>	<i>\$ 786.50</i>

2. FINANCIAL DETAILS

a) of the Event/Activity/Purpose for which the Financial Assistance will apply:

\$

BUDGET:

EXPENSES:

SEE INFORMATION

SENT TO PENNY HALL

ON 28/8/07

SENT BY M. WARD

INCOME:

INCOME / EXPENDITURE

DEVELOP

SUCCESS

songs from G&S and popular hymns.

Meetings are held in the Library Meeting Room at 7.30pm, 2nd Wednesday each month, (entry from Woolworth's side), October 17; November 14.

President Rae Burton, (02) 6352 354 burtoni@bigpond.com.au;

aritchie@lisp.com.au. Mail: PO Box 336,

Don't forget, next month's deadline, 1st October for Event details or sponsorship advertising. Ph/Fax: Margaret Maddock at Lyre Blue Creative, (02) 6353 1161, or e-mail _____.



MEMORANDUM

TO: COUNCILLORS
FROM: GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

-
- LIST OF NEW APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL
 - LIST OF APPROVED APPLICATIONS
-

28 AUGUST 2007 TO 7 SEPTEMBER 2007


Mr Paul Anderson
GENERAL MANAGER



 (02) 6354 9999
 (02) 6351 4259
 www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au
council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au
 ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE
TO GENERAL MANAGER
PO BOX 19, LITHGOW NSW 2790

DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION APPROVALS 28 AUGUST 2007 TO 7 SEPTEMBER 2007

App/Proc ID	Property Address	Property Owners	Description	Clock Days	Neigh Not
149/07DACC	6 BEAUFORT STREET LITHGOW NSW 2790	MR DA SMITH & MRS FH SMITH	PATIO COVERS AND DECK	6	N
167/07DACC	3 CHURCH STREET LITHGOW NSW 2790	MR BR MAGILL	Garage	19	N
082/07DACC	34 WILLES STREET LITHGOW NSW 2790	MR JG DEAN & MRS L DEAN	DWELLING ALTERATIONS	37	N
031/07DA	139-147 BELLS ROAD LITHGOW NSW 2790	MR PC LAWRENCE & MRS LT LAWRENCE	Earthworks	32	Y
148/07DACC	2 PAU STREET LITHGOW NSW 2790	MR I BLACK & MRS KL BLACK	GARAGE	39	Y
166/07DACC	50 MAGPIE HOLLOW ROAD SOUTH BOWENFELS NSW 2790	MR GE ALLAN	GARAGE	23	N
155/07DACC	130 KARAWATHA DRIVE LIDSDALE NSW 2790	MR NG HUTCHINSON & MRS MB HUTCHINSON	GARAGE	16	N
164/07DACC	85 BAANERS LANE LITTLE HARTLEY NSW 2790	MR AW JACKSON & MRS MJ JACKSON	SHED	22	N
121/07DACC	192 THOMPSONS CREEK ROAD WALLERAWANG NSW 2845	MR JP GIOKARIS & MRS KE GIOKARIS	DWELLING ALTERATION	84	N
165/07DACC	12 JAMES PARADE WALLERAWANG NSW 2845	MS EM ROBINSON	Garage	8	Y
046/07DA	MAIN STREET WALLERAWANG NSW 2845	MR NJ MORRISSEY & MRS N MORRISSEY	STORAGE UNITS	12	Y
153/07DACC	FOREST STREET PORTLAND NSW 2847	MS ML LUMBROSO	CARPORT	39	N

048/07DA	187 JERRYS MEADOW ROAD SODWALLS NSW 2790	MR LJ EARL	SUBDIVISION INTO 2 LOTS	32	Y
047/07DA	ANAREL ROAD SODWALLS NSW 2790	SEAMOST PTY LIMITED	SUBDIVISION INTO 2 LOTS	7	Y

14 APPLICATIONS

27 days

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED 28 AUGUST 2007 TO 7 SEPTEMBER 2007

App/Proc ID	Date	Description	Property Address	Target Days	Neigh Not
180/07DACC	30-Aug-07	ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS	41 MAIN STREET LITHGOW NSW 2790	29-Sep-07	N
181/07DACC	30-Aug-07	NEW DWELLING	22 HENDERSON PLACE LITHGOW NSW 2790	20-Sep-07	N
183/07DACC	03-Sep-07	GARAGE	38 FINLAY AVENUE LITHGOW NSW 2790	17-Sep-07	N
185/07DACC	04-Sep-07	GARAGE	9 BEAUFORT STREET LITHGOW NSW 2790	18-Sep-07	N
012/07CC	06-Sep-07	FORMATION OF HASSAN STREET AND JOINING OF STORMWATER PIPE	COL DREWE DRIVE BOWENFELS NSW 2790	27-Sep-07	N
179/07DACC	29-Aug-07	SHED	SUNRAY AVENUE HARTLEY NSW 2790	12-Sep-07	N
067/07DA	07-Sep-07	SUBDIVISION INTO 2 ALLOTMENTS	4 PINE GROVE AVENUE WALLERAWANG NSW 2845	28-Sep-07	N
188/07DACC	07-Sep-07	DWELLING	4 BULKELEY LANE WALLERAWANG NSW 2845	28-Sep-07	N
186/07DACC	06-Sep-07	GARAGE	1 PARK STREET PORTLAND NSW 2847	20-Sep-07	N
066/07DA	04-Sep-07	SUBDIVISION INTO 2 ALLOTMENTS	WOLGAN ROAD WOLGAN VALLEY NSW 2790	25-Sep-07	N
184/07DACC	04-Sep-07	DWELLING	WOLGAN ROAD WOLGAN VALLEY NSW 2790	25-Sep-07	N
187/07DACC	06-Sep-07	GARDEN STUDIO/OFFICE AND RETAIL PLANT NURSERY	855 CHIFLEY ROAD CLARENCE NSW 2790	06-Oct-07	N
182/07DACC	30-Aug-07	DWELLING & POOL	WILLMAREE 331 PORT MACQUARIE ROAD GLEN ALICE NSW 2849	20-Sep-07	N

13 APPLICATIONS

From: QAWF info

Sent: Monday, 20 August 2007 4:37:46 PM

To: Clr Howard Fisher

Subject: WATER FLUORIDATIONRESPONSE TO SURVEYATTACHED
WORD DOC

Councillor Howard Fisher

Dear Howard

many thanks for discussing opposition to water fluoridation with me last week. As I discussed with you,I have now prepared a response to the Lithgow Survey and addressed several issues that I believe may be of interest and assistance to you.

I believe that water fluoridation discussions will be held at the September Council meeting - according to the Mayor's notes on the Council website.

I would like to send a hard copy of my 20 page response (when I am satisfied enough with it) to each Councillor and the CEO and other interested parties.

I would be very grateful for any comments that you may have with the response. If you could also advise me of any other contacts that it could be useful to send to.

It would be very good to see the Council not proceed with any action , but if they do, a referendum is imperative.

Would you mind advising me of the Council meeting date in September when fluoridation will be on the agenda.

Please feel free to ring me at any time on 07 38791080 mob 0403029077 and feel free to forward on my response to your contacts if you desire.

best wishes

Merilyn Haines
on behalf of Queenslanders Against Water Fluoridation Inc

PS The survey and the letters of support received can now be found on the Council website for quick reference.