

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

FINAL

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The whistleblower on fluoride was right

Your paper is to be commended for publishing the news article "Fluoride Foe Gets Job Back" (Feb. 11). When fluoride foe Bill Marcus was fired in 1992, Pittsburgh was the only city I know of where you could read the story.

In 1992 Dr. Marcus was one of the highest ranking toxicologists in the Office of Drinking Water at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. One of his greatest achievements was writing the position paper on the health effects of lead in drinking water. His talents were apparently held in high regard when he was producing politically correct science on the very important topic of lead.

When he applied those same talents to the effects of fluoride in drinking water, he was fired.

Labor Secretary Robert Reich found in his Feb. 7 decision vindicating Dr. Marcus, that he was fired for blowing the whistle on fluoride. This whistleblowing consisted of pointing out the possibility that the government had lied about the results of an animal study on fluoride in drinking water. Dr. Marcus found sufficient evidence in the animal study to show a direct correlation between fluoride and bone cancer in male rats.

This leads me to ask the following questions: Why was the government

trying to silence Dr. Marcus? Was he right? Does fluoride in drinking water cause cancer? Have we been lied to? My answer to the last three questions is yes.

Dr. Marcus was not the only EPA scientist to be concerned about the government policy on fluoride. When I was an EPA scientist and an official of the professionals' union, I also questioned the policy.

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President

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Enough experimenting

I have studied fluoridation for more than 10 years. Many of those who are opposed to its use are members in good standing in dental, medical, chemical and dietetic professional communities. They include such noteworthy individuals as Dr. John Coluohoun, chief dental officer of New Zealand. Eleven Nobel Prize winners also have questioned the wisdom of using fluoridation.

The proponents have had to reverse themselves as to fluoride being an essential nutrient; it is not. The Food and Drug Administration still lists fluorides as experimental drugs.

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