Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 3:03 PM

Subject: INVESTIGATION: WATER UTILITIES MISLEADING ABOUT LEAD

Dear Aquathin Dealer OnLine, Splash NewsBulletin and Allergic Reaction NewsBulletin Members;

The quick read below reveals cities intent to mislead, hide and avoid fixing water problems. And in a recent quick read, we pointed out that municipalities are immune to most types of civil legal action when their water companies fail to comply with regulations...or fix the problem.

We all thought this type of garbage from the 1950's and '60s was over and done, with the presence of new government watchdog groups and Clean Water Act....and that if it occurred today, it was rumor or hype.

The reality is if you want to be assured...take action ourselves.

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Warmest regards to all...as well, your comments are always welcome and very much appreciated.

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"Alfie" Alfred J. Lipshultz, President

P.S. "Splash NewsBulletins", "Forum Q & A", "Allergic Reaction", Biz Bank, Tech Bank and Quote Bank... <u>ARE ALL FREE</u> services to all Authorized Aquathin Dealers and their clients to keep you abreast of technology updates and industry news.

Industry Outlook - 10/5/2004 1:14:45 PM

Investigation: Water utilities misleading about lead

WASHINGTON — Cities across the country are manipulating the results of tests used to detect lead in water, violating federal law and putting millions of Americans at risk of drinking more contaminants than suppliers are reporting, according to a controversial investigation

by The Washington Post, as reported by MSNBC.

The *Post's* analysis of the US drinking water regulations claims that some cities, including Philadelphia, New York and Boston, have thrown out tests that show high readings or have avoided testing homes most likely to have lead.

The result of the analysis states that communities, large and small, may have a false sense of security about the quality of their water and that water treatment utilities can avoid spending money to correct the problem, the article said.

The Washington Post examined 65 large water systems whose reported lead levels have hovered near or exceeded federal standards. Federal, state and utility records show that dozens of utilities obscured the extent of lead contamination, ignored requirements to correct problems and failed to turn over data to regulators, MSNBC reported.

In a National Rural Water Association (NRWA) statement on the matter, Mike Keegan, policy analyst for the NRWA, said that *The Post* took a close look at the nation's regulatory system for protecting drinking water and found flaws, however, the newspaper missed the key policy point.

"The flaws and problems they found are a result of the country's uniform regulatory compliance program that is too complex and arbitrary to handle local individual problems," Keegan said in the statement. "Instead of promoting the most progressive public health plan in every community, the current program relies on strict adherence to static, uniform, and arbitrary regulations that are not always consistent with the best public health policy."

To read the full report, click <u>here</u>.