

Sent: Friday, February 06, 2004 1:39 PM

To: CURLEY, FERGUS -- AQUATHIN IRELAND, THE PURE H2O CO.; GUTHRIE, JOE -- AQUATHIN IRELAND, THE PURE H2O CO.

Cc: WILTSHIRE, ROGER--PERSONAL

Subject: IRELAND WATER SHOWS IMPROVEMENT.....BUT

Dear Joe & Fergus;

I am certain you are aware of the information in the article below concerning Ireland's public waters. I wish to make the following evident that you may not be familiar with...the issues that the article (and similar ones that may appear in your newspapers) do not mention.

- 1. Fecal coliform can be sickly or deadly at 1 cfu. Often survivors are placed on kidney and liver medication for life.*
- 2. Aluminum presence is probably from overdosing flocculation. Aluminum is thought to be a leading cause of Alzheimer's....but it is a fact that aluminum in extremely low concentrations causes "dialysis dementia", a withering, suffering and fatal disease contracted by dialysis patients.*
- 3. Nitrates cause methhemaglobanemia, or blue baby syndrome. In farm livestock, cattle will not birth and milk production drops.*
- 4. Phosphorous creates tremendous algae blooms and increases BOD (biological oxygen demand) resulting in decreased fish and microbial populations...and the potential release of endotoxins.*
- 5. And lastly, concerning the commentary for status of the rivers...well, everyone lives downstream from someone else. Not a pleasant concept when polluted.*

Hence, the title of the article spins a warm fuzzy feeling "of improvement"...but there are severe and serious issues that are not properly addressed.

Warmest regards to all,

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"Alfie"

Alfred J. Lipshultz, President

P.S. When responding please continue 'REPLY' to include all previous correspondences on this subject.

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Ireland's water quality reports show room for improvement

The management of Ireland's water resources by local authorities came under scrutiny this week with the launch of three reports looking at drinking water quality, urban waste water discharges and the implementation of phosphorus regulation in rivers.

Minister for the Environment Martin Cullen, hailed improvements, which occurred in 2002 and were reported this week, as evidence of his department's investment into a rural water programme.

Despite gains made for drinking water, with compliance rate for faecal coliforms is improving at 98% and 81% compliance for public and private water supplies respectively. However, private group water schemes - those that abstract and distribute drinking water, and supply water to around 50,000 households - remains unsatisfactory.

Mr Cullen said: "The level of compliance in the group water sector remains unacceptable, and the drive to improve water quality in these schemes must be maintained."

The EPA also noted that **some public water supplies consistently breach standards and are found to contain aluminium and in some cases nitrates** - it has called for corrective action programmes to rectify this.

Secondary treatment of waste water is up to 70% from 29% in 2001, however nearly two thirds of secondary wastewater treatment plants have failed to comply with one or more standards. Again the EPA called for corrective action programmes for the plants which consistently breach the standards, and for procedures in relation to the use of sewage sludge in agriculture to be implemented on a consistent basis.

The EPA has also stated that the decline in the number of river stations of the highest biological water quality is a serious cause for concern - with one third of all river stations not in compliance with the targets. It also found that meeting targets set by the phosphorous regulations would continue to be a major challenge.

Dr Matthew Crowe, Programme Manager, Office of Environmental Enforcement explains, "Source protection means preventing pollution from entering waters in the first place. This is the first line of defence in ensuring a sustainable supply of good quality drinking water, particularly in smaller rural

supplies. It is also the key management tool in improving the quality of our rivers and lakes where the quality has been eroded through over enrichment by nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen or for other reasons. To protect water resources, local authorities require detailed knowledge of the potential risks to water quality that exist in their functional areas so that these risks can be managed "

The EPA has called for sanitary authorities to make greater efforts to provide monthly monitoring results to consumers on drinking water.

By Sorchia Clifford