



Rules and Regulations
of the
State Department of Health of the State of New Jersey
Controlling the
Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies

WHEREAS, the State Department of Health of the State of New Jersey, under date of June 25, 1951, pursuant to Chapter 177, Laws of 1947, established Rules and Regulations for employment in controlling the fluoridation of Public water supplies; and

WHEREAS, the said Rules and Regulations included the following provision:

"These basic requirements are to be considered as minimum and, they are subject to amendment or supplement as the State Commissioner of Health may deem in the interest of public health."; and

WHEREAS, the said Department of Health, from its experience in employment of said Rules and Regulations, is of the opinion that said Rules and Regulations should be amended; therefore

THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY hereby amends the Rules and Regulations, dated June 25, 1951, for employment in controlling the fluoridation of public water supplies to read as set forth herein below.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BY:

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State Commissioner of Health

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WHEREAS, facts relative to the marked reduction in dental caries brought about by the presence of fluoride in water supplies have been accumulating for years, and

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WHEREAS, nature provided an excellent demonstration in New Jersey by yielding natural artesian well water with one part per million of fluoride in one community and water with little or no fluoride in the surrounding communities and the children who live in the community with fluoride in the water have excellent, strong teeth with relatively few caries and the children living in the surrounding communities with no fluoride in the water have the usual high percentage of fillings, caries or missing teeth, and

WHEREAS, the presence of the proper amount of fluoride in public water supplies has been definitely established as advantageous in the control of dental caries, and

WHEREAS, it is apparent that the application of fluoride to public water supply systems can be effectively controlled within reasonable limits, subject to established standards for application and control,

THEREFORE the State Department of Health of the State of New Jersey approves the fluoridation of public water supplies for the partial control of dental caries subject to the following Rules and Regulations herewith established.

Policy

The fluoridation of public water supplies for the partial control of dental caries is recognized by the New Jersey State Department of Health as an established method of water treatment subject to the approval of the Department as provided by R.S. 58:11-1 et seq.

The Department recognizes that it is the technical objective of the fluoridation process to maintain a fluoride ion concentration of at least one part per million not more than one and four tenths (1.4) parts per million, in the water delivered to consumers.

The Department will issue permits for the construction and operation of plants for the fluoridation of public water supplies pursuant to the law and the rules and regulations herein established.

Applications

Application for the approval of plans and specifications for plants for the

fluoridation of public water supplies shall be made on the form currently provided by the Department for this purpose.

Endorsements: Applications should be accompanied by formal endorsement of fluoridation of the water supply by the Local Board of Health of each municipality, the public water supply of which is to be fluoridated, the Local Medical Society, and the Local Dental Society. (It is suggested that these endorsements be obtained as a preliminary procedure prior to the preparation of professional engineering data.)

Plans and Specifications

Detailed plans and specifications and an engineer's report describing fully the proposed methods of treatment and all equipment and appurtenances incident thereto shall be submitted to and approved by the Department before fluoridation of a public water supply. Plans and specifications shall be prepared by an engineer licensed as prescribed by law to practice professional engineering in New Jersey and these engineering data shall be prepared in accordance with "Rules and Regulations for the Preparation and Submission of Designs for Sewer Systems and Sewage Treatment Works and Water Supplies and Water Treatment Works", dated April 1, 1949.

Equipment

- Feeding:
1. Fluorine compounds shall be added at as many points in water supply systems as are necessary to insure that all water being distributed to the consumer will have the proper concentration of fluoride ion.
 2. Equipment for the feeding of fluorine compounds may be of the solution or dry feed type depending upon the compound to be used and the size of the installation.
 3. Feeding equipment which permits wide variations in the amount of fluorine compound added will not be approved.
 4. Equipment which has not been demonstrated to the full satisfaction of the Department may be approved experimentally and subject to such special conditions as the Department may prescribe.

Safety: 1. Respirators of a type approved by the U. S. Bureau of Mines shall be provided for all persons handling dry fluorine compounds.

2. Rubber gloves shall be provided for all persons handling fluorine compounds.

3. Adequate means for the control of dust shall be provided where dry fluorine compounds are to be handled. If dust collecting or mechanical equipment is deemed necessary for specific feeders, such equipment shall be required.

4. Powdered or granulated fluoride compounds used in the fluoridation process shall be dyed or tinted in such manner that they will or may not be confused with any other compound or substance used at the water plant.

5. Rooms in which fluorine compounds are to be stored or handled shall be secured against entrance by unauthorized persons.

6. Waste liquids or sludge containing fluorine compounds shall be disposed of by such means as may be approved by the Department.

Supervision

Any person holding a license issued by the Department to operate public water supply systems or public water treatment plants will be given instruction by the Department in order that he may be adequately informed in the supervision of fluoridation of the public water supply for the operation of which he is responsible. The instruction will include training relating to the treatment method, the control and maintenance of equipment, handling precautions, legal obligations of the operator, field tests, record keeping and reporting.

Operation

1. The operator shall notify the Local Board of Health and the State Department of Health as required by R.S. 58:11-7 in case of any operating difficulties affecting the continuity of operation or the dosage rate of fluoridation.

2. The operator shall make field tests for fluoride ion concentration by means of a suitable field kit at intervals to be specified by the Department for each installation. These field tests are to be considered a means for estimating and they are designed primarily as a ready guide for dosage control. They are to be considered as a supplement to, not a substitute for, laboratory control.

3. The licensed operator shall keep accurate records on fluoridation. These records shall include, as a minimum, the following:

- (a) Delivery dates and quantities of fluorine compound purchased.
- (b) Maximum and minimum rates of application.
- (c) Daily weight of fluorine compound used.
- (d) Daily volume of water treated.
- (e) Results of field tests.
- (f) Results of laboratory tests.

4. Operating records shall be submitted to the Department monthly.

Laboratory Control

Laboratory determinations of the fluoride ion concentration of the water before and after fluoridation, including water from distribution systems, shall be made on a regular schedule to be prescribed in each instance by the Department. The laboratory determinations shall be in accordance with the current edition of "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Sewage" published by the American Public Health Association. Laboratory determinations may be made locally by the water department or company if adequate facilities are available or they may be contracted for with a commercial laboratory. The Department will make occasional laboratory determinations and it will reject local or commercial laboratory facilities or determinations if it finds them inadequate or unreliable.

The number of laboratory determinations which may be specified at the time fluoridation of any water supply is initiated may be reduced if experience in checking the fluoride ion concentration indicates that a reduction in the number of such determinations is reasonable.

Amendments

These basic requirements are to be considered as minimum and, they are subject to amendment or supplement as the State Commissioner of Health may deem in the interest of public health.