



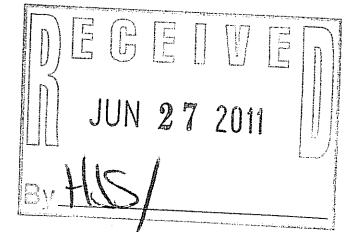
Water Quality Association
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A not-for-profit organization

June 24, 2011

Harold Singer
Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region
2501 Lake Tahoe Blvd.
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150



Mr. Singer:

We are writing in support of the Cleanup and Abatement Order proposed by the California Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, to address Chromium-6 contamination. In fact, our trade association is aggressively working to help ensure that certified products will be available for consumers as soon as possible.

We believe that implementing whole-house replacement water will be the most efficient and comprehensive solution that could be pursued to provide consumer protection.

As you may know, the Water Quality Association is a not-for-profit entity that represents the manufacturers and dealers of water treatment devices for point-of-use (POU) to whole house (AKA point-of-entry – POE) treatment as well as commercial and industrial applications. WQA maintains a close dialogue with other organizations representing different aspects of the water industry in order to best serve consumers, government officials, and industry members. WQA also operates a laboratory that tests and certifies products according to independent NSF/ANSI standards.

Technologies are readily available to address chromium-6 reduction such as reverse osmosis (using TFC or CTA membranes), distillation, strong base anion resin, and weak base anion resin. However, California requires testing of such technologies to validate performance according to national standards and at this time, none of the best available technologies in a whole house format are tested and certified. For this reason, WQA has put out a call to the industry to encourage the testing and certification of a whole-house system to treat Chromium-6. We have even offered a discount fee for testing to further promote this critical initiative. Throughout the process, we look forward to working with the California Department of Public Health on this issue, too.


Many states and communities are moving forward with whole house and POU final barrier treatment. Arizona, for example, has formally approved & set up rules for implementing POU and POE systems for arsenic removal that are also compliant with Federal regulation. Currently Arizona has numerous water systems successfully utilizing POU and POE systems as a means for drinking water compliance for multiple drinking water contaminants including arsenic, fluoride, and uranium.

We will be happy to answer any questions or address any concerns you or others may have on this crucial issue and look forward to continuing to assist.

Sincerely,



David Loveday
Director of Government Relations
and Communications
Water Quality Association



Pauli Undesser
Director of Regulatory and Technical Affairs
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