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# CitizenLetter®

An urgent message from a concerned citizen.

October 14, 2009

Michael Baes  
Attn: PHG Project  
CA EPA/Off. Env. Health Hazard  
1515 Clay Street, 16th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Michael Baes,

I am writing to urge you to finalize the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's drinking water standard for chromium 6 and oppose efforts to weaken it.

Chromium 6 is a heavy metal and a proven carcinogen. A recent study by the National Toxicology Program concluded that chromium 6 in water was absorbed by the cells of laboratory animals and caused malignant tumors in their mouths and intestines.

Almost a fifth of California's drinking water sources are now contaminated with chromium 6 at levels above 1 part per billion -- a concentration 17 times higher than what scientists say is safe.

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment recently proposed a public health goal of 0.06 part per billion for chromium 6 in drinking water. This proposal is the first of its kind in the U.S. and could serve as a model for other states.

I urge you to finalize the proposal immediately and protect California residents from toxic chromium 6. Please tell me how you intend to address this issue.

Sincerely,

Dorothy G Haight