

**A Tribute, Via Public Comments at GLWA Meetings,
to Saulius Simoliunass
My longtime Mentor and Friend**

**Poster Submission by Cindy Darrah and Saulius Simoliunass
May 6, 2020**

Abstract for 64th Annual Conference on Great Lakes Research

I and Saul Sindonas for many years have addressed GLWA on various subjects. However, we get no response. This is contrary to Great Lakes Water Agreement which states ^{the} public will be consulted on all steps.

Saulis Sindonas

Andy Darrak

Jan. 23, 2021

Saulis Sindonas, Kemplate, Inc.
665 W Warren, apt 214, Det 48202
Andy Darrak, Great Lakes Water Protection
Committee, 492 Peterboro, Det 48201

Wendy Foster

Business Manager

International Association for Great Lakes Research (IAGLR)

office@iaglr.org

iaglr.org

From: cindy darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 23, 2021 11:53 PM
To: office@iaglr.org; gpaterso@mtu.edu; simoliunass@netscape.net
Cc: Cindy Darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com>
Subject: Abstract for the Annual Conference by Saulius Simoliunass and Cindy Darrah

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <simoliunass@netscape.net>
To: <vinod.sharma@glwater.org>, <cindydarrah@gmail.com>, <gtvann@aim.com>
Cc:
Bcc:
Date: Tue, 19 Jan 2021 06:18:21 -0500
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment 1-20-21

-----Original Message-----

From: simoliunass@netscape.net
To: ceo@glwater.org <ceo@glwater.org>
Sent: Tue, Jan 19, 2021 6:15 am
Subject: Public Comment 1-20-21

***Public Comment to Great Lakes Water Authority BOARD:
January 20, 2021***

At the IJC (International Joint Commission for the Great Lakes; Agreement between Canada and the United States) conference on chlorine some years ago, I as President of SCATA (chemists's and technicians' union at DWSD), spoke against Chlorine disinfection.

On my 87th birthday, I had a stroke. However, I am still aware that State of the Art water disinfection demands that chlorine should be discontinued and/or significantly limited.

Anyone can Google the long-term damage it causes environmentally and health-wise. A combination of UV and Ozonation are the current state-of-the art treatment choices by most water and waste-water treatment facilities.

Please spend the rate-payers tax money on up- to- date treatment. It is only the right thing to do.

***Saulius Simoliunas
665 W. Warren
Detroit, MI 48201
(313) 832-3117***



Fwd: Public Comment 1-20-21.eml

10K

Subject: Fwd: Public Comment 1-20-21



simoliunass@netscape.net

Tue, Jan 19, 2021

to vinod.sharma@glwater.org, cindydarrah@gmail.com, gtvann@aim.com

You are viewing an attached message. Gmail can't verify the authenticity of attached messages.

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*Saulius Simoliunas
665 W. Warren
Detroit, MI 48201
(313) 832-3117*

—Original Message—

To: ceo@dwsd.org <ceo@dwsd.org>

Sent: Mon, May 25, 2020 6:09 pm

Subject: Public comment to GLWA Board Meeting on MAY 27, 2020

COVID 19 swept through Michigan with intensive hits in your service area, which does not have uv or ozone disinfection to kill virus. This is akin to Flint water crisis. Sooner or later the improper disinfection will come in public focus. You ignored all my comments about this matter in your own facebook. It is high time for action now. Saulius Simoliunas, 665 W. Warren Ave, Detroit, MI 48201, saulius@ieee.org, 313 465 5786



cindy darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com>

May 27,
2020,
4:23 PM

to Grethen, bcc: saulius, bcc: me

Please ask the Michigan Health Department to test both the GLWA drinking water and waste water for viruses. Ultra Violet and Ozonation kill viruses; our use of chlorine is unhealthy and can cause bladder cancer;

Grand Rapids and Ann Arbor use Ozonation.

Has anyone tested any of our Michigan water treatment water for viruses?

Cindy Darrah (313) 414-5181

492 Peterboro, Det 48201

cindydarrah@gmail.com

Fwd: Public comment to GLWA Board Mtg. on June 20, 2020

Inbox



simoliunass@netscape.net

Tue, Jun
23, 2020,
1:32 PM

to jack.w.schulz@gmail.com, gtvann@aim.com, jpkovoor@yahoo.com, me, sharma@dwsd.org,

-----Original Message-----

To: ceo@glwater.org <ceo@glwater.org>

Sent: Tue, Jun 23, 2020 1:30 pm

Subject: Public comment to GLWA Board Mtg. on June 20, 2020

There are no shortcuts to safe and effective treatment of water and wastewater and a good example of good treatment is Cincinnati, while the bad example is GLWA. We need public forum to discuss all of these issues. COVID 19 brought to attention to use ozone or uv light to disinfect water and this should be a primary topic for public forum. Saulius Simoliunas, 665 W.warren Ave, Detroit, MI 48201, 313v 465 5786, saulius@ieee.org



Fwd: Public Comment to GLWA Board Meeting July 22, 2020

Inbox

simoliunass@netscape.net

Mon, Jul 20, 2020,
8:10 AM

to Brian.baker@macombgov.org, jack.w.schulz@gmail.com, gtvann@aim.com, jpkovoor@yahoo.com, me, jcapizzo@yahoo.com, jrunyan@michlabor.legal

—Original Message—

To: ceo@glwater.org <ceo@glwater.org>

Sent: Mon, Jul 20, 2020 8:06 am

Subject: Public Comment to GLWA Board Meeting July 22, 2020

Bridge over troubled water is to discuss why we do not have safe disinfection using uv or ozone instead of chlorination, why no tertiary treatment, why no comprehensive plan to separate sewage pipes from rain pipes, why not have reliable sampling and analysis, why not disconnect water for poor people, why not have transparency in all dealings. Saulius Simoliunas, 665 W. Warren Ave, Detroit, MI 48201, saulius@leee.org, 313 465 5786

Dwsd meeting on another date increase today 2 pm



ci
n
dy
da
rr
ah

Wed,
Apr 21,
11:59
AM

Reduce money to police and INCREASE Money for Healthy Water for Everyone, including those dov



cindy darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com>

Wed,
Apr 21,
12:38
PM

to Dwsd, Evan, DWSD, ceo, rashidatlaib, Debra, bcc: Joanna, bcc: warwick_joanne, bcc: Tom,

**PUBLIC COMMENT DWSD PUBLIC HEARING ON proposed Annual Compounded
Increases in our City Water Rates.**

Today on the NPR radio program 1-A, a scientist representing the viewpoints from a central american, said global warming is a significant reason for immigrants leaving their homes to seek asylum here.

Facts he stressed, and were new to me:

Methane and nitrous oxide cause much more global warming than CO2.

AND the greenhouse gas they emit are VERY LONG LASTING

IN THE ATMOSPHERE

LET OUR DETROIT PUBLIC POLICIES

SUPPORT IN WORDS, POLICIES, and BUDGETED GOVERNMENT MONEY. i.e.

decrease the police budget ...

INCREASE the WATER BUDGET.

Please read my email , including the above title if I'm not on your virtual meeting for comment

On Wed, Apr 21, 2021, 11:59 cindy darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com> wrote:

Reduce money to police and
INCREASE Money for Healthy Water
for Everyone, including those downstream.

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Cindy Darrah (313) 414-5181

492 Peterboro, Det 48201

cindydarrah@gmail.com

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Inbox



simoliunass@netscape.net

Tue, Jun
23, 2020,
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to jack.w.schulz@gmail.com, gtvann@aim.com, jpkovoor@yahoo.com, me, sharma@dwsd.org,

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Public Comment to GLWA June 24, 2020
meeting / please put in the minutes, J. H. [unclear],
Cody Hannah 6/23/2020

I am asking GLWA to emulate
Cincinnati's water treatment practices.

~~From~~ The Cincinnati's Water

Department use activated carbon
filtrations on both water intake
and on discharge; they truck large
granules (not a powder) activated carbon
the size of a grain of sand
from the coal mines in West Virginia;
because the granules are large and
not pulverized to a powder, they can
be burned to become reactivated with
only a 7% loss, extending the life of the
carbon; ~~they put theirs in 3 or 4 years ago;~~
apparently Ann Arbor, ^{CEO} Steve McCormick's home base
installed a carbon reactivator machine
recently. Because filtration removes organic matter, less
chlorine gas is used for disinfect, resulting in lower levels of chlorine.

Cody-Products

Three or four years ago, ~~the~~ Cincinnati put in bigger filters (to adjust for the lower density of the larger gravels?) ~~for~~ (to accommodate larger storms?) They paid about 60 million 25 years ago for their carbon reactivator.

They use UV disinfecting, instead of ozonation, because it's less expensive to operate, though it is more expensive for the initial installation. Also ozonation could result in toxic byproducts when mixed with the bromine in the Ohio River water, UV doesn't get rid of chemicals but activated carbon filtration can. Their use of UV disinfecting reduces the amount of residual chlorine gas bubbled thru the water and the production of chlorine compounds is reduced.

Cincinnati has a combined sewer system

Fwd: Public Comment to GLWA Board Meeting July 22, 2020

Inbox

simoliunass@netscape.net

Mon, Jul 20, 2020,
8:10 AM

to Brian.baker@macombgov.org, jack.w.schulz@gmail.com, gtvann@aim.com, jpkovoor@yahoo.com, me, jcapizzo@yahoo.com, jrunyan@michlabor.legal

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Fwd: Public Comment to GLWA Board Meeting on August 5, 2020

Inbox

simoliunass@netscape.net

Sun, Aug 2, 2020,
10:27 AM

to jack.w.schulz@gmail.com, gtvann@aol.com, jpkovoor@yahoo.com, me, jcapizo@yahoo.com, sharma@dwsd.org, jjrunyan@michlabor.legal

-----Original Message-----

To: ceo@glwater.org <ceo@glwater.org>

Sent: Sun, Aug 2, 2020 10:24 am

Subject: Public Comment to GLWA Board Meeting on August 5, 2020

PROBLEM : Obsolete disinfection using chlorination producing toxic byproducts and unable to kill virus,
SOLUTION : Ozonation or UV for safe effective disinfection with no toxic byproducts and also killing virus. Saulius Simoliunas, 665 W. Warren Ave, Detroit, MI 28201, 2313 465 5786, saulius@ieee.org

Public Comment for GLWA August 5, 2020
by Candy Barwick

The recent issue of Metro Times has an indictment of the NEFCO dryer sludge that has poisoned sheep who grazed on land receiving the NEFCO sludge and ^{isoned} near by water wells of residents.

We still use chlorine which does not kill viruses, ~~and~~ but does create chlorine compounds that are TOXIC that are hard to remove.

Unlike Boston and Minneapolis who also use NEFCO (New England Fertilizer Company out of Quincy, Ma.) dryers, GLWA does not use activated carbon filtration, ultra violet ^{and} ozonation which do kill viruses and do Not create Toxic Compounds that are hard to remove.

Does activated carbon filtration remove toxins and does a carbon reactivator like Ann Arbor and Cincinnati ^{Ohio} ~~have~~ ^{burn ~~off~~ and} break down the toxins attached to the carbon particles? I think I recall Saulius Simulius saying ^{that} extremely hi temperatures can break down toxic chlorine compounds; maybe 10,000° Farenheight - I can't remember exact figures. How high is the temperature in our NEFCO dryers? We are paying about 23 million ~~ton~~ a year to ~~by~~ NEFCO to operate the dryers; they designed and built them.

Health is our most important wealth. We want healthy water and healthy sludge.

Cindy Danks 8/4/2020

Public Comment GLWA 5/26/2020
Cindy Dandl -

MSU researchers under Joan Rose's leadership has found the corona virus in GLWA sludge; Joan Rose chairs an international task force examining wastewater for community infection of novel coronavirus. Cameron Rudolph, of Communications and Marketing for Michigan State U. College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, wrote an on-line article in which he quotes Researcher Rose as saying, "Even if you're asymptomatic, you excrete the virus. By testing sewage, we get a much more reliable sense of the disease's presence." Cameron Rudolph writes, "Partnering with public utilities,

health departments, and state agencies, Rose and her team are using a highly sophisticated method to spot novel coronavirus in sewage samples. The initial samples came from two of the most affected areas of the U.S., Southeast Michigan (i.e.: us) and New Orleans.

Several weeks ago, Metro Times' feature article, "From Toilet to Table," said ~~the~~ Nefco fertilizer ~~was~~ caused the death of a herd of sheep and the contamination of nearby water wells.

In Boston, where the sewage is ~~put~~ put through anaerobic digesters before going to the NEFCO driers; ~~the~~ samples ~~are taken every four hours~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~sludge~~ ~~coming~~ ~~out~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~digesters~~ ~~are~~ ~~taken~~ ~~every~~ ~~four~~ ~~hours~~, and ~~tested~~ ^(they are) tested for heavy metals, etc., in a composite sample, once a week. ~~They may be mistaken~~ ~~as~~ ~~the~~ ~~samples~~ ~~are~~ ~~taken~~ ~~and~~ ~~tested~~ ~~after~~ ~~the~~ ~~NEFCO~~ ~~drier~~ ~~phase~~. Their samples meet the EPA standards.

Boston gets its drinking water from a reservoir sp; but it still uses ozonation and U.V. disinfection of their drinking water, so the EPA gives them a waiver on ^(permit) ~~activated carbon~~ - 'filtration.'

Do we get ^(permit) ~~a~~ waiver on carbon filtration on River water treated with chlorine, which produces chlorine compounds??

~~The~~ Ozonation can oxidize contaminants. Systems with ozonation, ^{and/or} ~~and~~ anaerobic digestion can help detoxify the sludge. NEFCO representative said that their tests show that Pfos, heavy metals, PCBs, and organics are $\frac{1}{3}$ of the allowable limit set by the EPA.

What do OUR tests of ~~the~~ Our NEFCO drier output show? Could MSU help us do the proper composite testing?

Fwd: Public Comment to GLWA Board Mtg. on September 23, 2020

Inbox

simoliunass@netscape.net

Sun, Sep 20, 2020,
8:09 PM

to jack.w.schulz@gmail.com, gtvann@aol.com, jpkovoor@yahoo.com, me, vinod.sharma@glwater.org, jcapizzo@yahoo.com, jrunyan@michlabor.legal, brian.baker@macombgov.org

-----Original Message-----

From: simoliunass@netscape.net

To: ceo@glwater.org <ceo@glwater.org>

Sent: Sun, Sep 20, 2020 8:03 pm

Subject: Public Comment to GLWA Board Mtg. on September 23, 2020

It is important to know that water is universal solvent. Surface waters carry a lot of contaminants injurious to health. The ideal way is to distill water to get rid of contaminants. The cost is tremendous. However, there are good alternatives such as carbon filtration. Many many years ago there was carbon filtration for Detroit system and was later abandoned for spurious reasons. Let us return to carbon filtration to provide good water to our customers. Saulius Simoliunas, 665 W. Warren Ave, Detroit, MI 48201, 313 465 5786, saulius@ieee.org

Carbon filtration with carbon reactavators

Inbox

cindy

darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com>

to GLWA, bcc: me, bcc: sashadarrah, bcc: Leonardo2019, bcc: carolyndoherty123, bcc: simoliunass,

Public Comment for the GLWA September 23, 2020 Appointed Board of Water Commisioner's Meeting

New advances in carbon reactavators have made carbon filtration cheaper than it used to be; the reactivat it is reactivated; Cincinnati and recently Ann Arbor have gone to this system. We have a right to healthy w
P.S. I and my cats drink distilled water.

Cindy Darrah

Great Lakes Protection Committee

cindydarrah@gmail.com

492 Peterboro, Detroit 48201

(313) 414-5181

Irene

Mon, Sep 21, 2020, 7:42 AM

Welch

LOVE this comment Cindy! helpful and cute at the end!

simoliunass@netscape.net

Mon, Sep 21, 2020, 3:52 PM

to me

Good comment. SS

I agree!

Thanks!

Agree.

ReplyForward

Fwd: Public Comment to GLWA Board Mtg. on October 22, 2020

Inbox

simoliunass@netscape.net

Fri, Oct 23, 2020,
10:19 PM

to b.walkergriffa@mcc.edu, brian.baker@macombgov.org, jack.w.schulz@gmail.com, gtvann@aol.com, jpkovoor@yahoo.com, me, sharma@dwsd.org, jcapizzo@yahoo.com, jrunyan@michlabor.legal

-----Original Message-----

From: simoliunass@netscape.net

To: ceo@glwater.org <ceo@glwater.org>

Sent: Fri, Oct 23, 2020 10:16 pm

Subject: Public Comment to GLWA Board Mtg. on October 22, 2020

When COVID 19 is reappearing, it is irresponsible not to institute UV or ozone treatment to kill virus in drinking water. The technology is readily available and can be installed in short time. It is bewildering that your discussions do not cover this most important issue. So let us get to work! Saulius Simoliunas, 665 W.Warren Ave, Detroit, MI 48201, 313 465 5786, saulius@ieee.org

Public Comment GLWA October 28,2020 from Cindy Darrah, Great Lakes Water Protection Committee. Recently, Michigan State researchers found the virus in our Springwater sewage plant's sewage, and the GLWA employee, who escorted them through the plant, was subsequently removed from his job.

Inbox

cindy darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com>
to GLWA, bcc: simoliunass, bcc: me

Sun, Oct 25, 2020, 1:02 PM

The Allen Park water intake is down stream from the Springwells Water Treatment Plant; so Allen Park should be the first to receive ultra violet treatment. Ozonation also kills viruses and might work better for sewage; Cincinnati opted for ultra violet, saying it was cheaper to install. Could you give us a cost for equipment, installation labor, and maintance and replacement Vs. the cost of chlorine treatment. So if this causes a loss of income between you and chlorine companies and bladder cancer surgeons, this loss can be rectified by having the new ultra violet companies chip in, I. e. Giving back, not Kicking back.

Sent from my iPhone

...

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)

simoliunass@netscape.net
to me

Sun, Oct 25, 2020, 3:55 PM

Good comment with an ironic twist. SS

cindy darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com>
to simoliunass@netscape.net

Sun, Oct 25, 2020, 4:44 PM

thank you for the inspiration and your shared knowledge.
i thought of Sanford when i included surgeons.



ReplyForward

Fwd: Public Comment GLWA October 28,2020 from George T Var Retiree from DWSD.

Inbox

simoliunass@netscape.net
to me

Sun, Oct 25, 2020, 9:07 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: gtvann@aol.com

To: ceo@glwater.org <ceo@glwater.org>

Cc: jack.w.schulz@gmail.com <jack.w.schulz@gmail.com>; saulius@ieee.org <saulius@ieee.org>; jpkovoor@yahoo.com

Sent: Sun, Oct 25, 2020 7:29 pm

Subject: Public Comment GLWA October 28,2020 from George T Vannilam, Forced Retiree from DWSD.

I wonder there ever was a concrete plan to have good and cheaper water supply to the Tri-county region!! A few years handed over to GLWA and just before that, under the false pretext of saving money for the Department, about 14 Analytical Chemists were laid-off from DWSD Analytical Laboratory. The D for evaluation of the existing Chemists and still, without even glancing at it, the Department simply used it as a ploy and union- Sanitary Chemists and Technicians Association (SCATA)- officials! I was the vice-president of the association at though I was the second senior most chemist with no adverse remarks about my work or knowledge of subject or attenc degree in Chemistry, a MBA degree with Waste Management, a post-graduate certificate in Hazardous Waste Control ; Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) at the master level. I am an adjunct faculty in Chemistry at the Wayne County could not move up in my career with DWSD simply because I complained to the then Director (who is currently the GLW inept Lab management. People with no Chemistry degree were retained and even promoted. These are not simply ac proved. Now the GLWA Analytical Lab is just for simple analyses for basic technicians, and they fail in most such analys management a new name with the power entrusted to the same old individuals cannot improve the efficiency or standar

George T Vannilam

Ph: (248) 921-9941

ReplyForward

George Vannilam's Pub Comment

Fwd: Public Comment to GLWA Board Mtg. on Nov. 25, 2020

Inbox

simoliunass@netscape.net

Sun, Nov 22, 2020, 7:04 PM

to jack.w.schulz@gmail.com, gtvann@aol.com, jpkovoor@yahoo.com, me, vinod.sharma@glwater.org, jcapizzo@yahoo.com

-----Original Message-----

From: simoliunass@netscape.net

To: ceo@glwater.org <ceo@glwater.org>

Sent: Sun, Nov 22, 2020 7:01 pm

Subject: Public Comment to GLWA Board Mtg. on Nov. 25, 2020

Upgrading wastewater treatment plants and addressing combined sewer overflows and urban stormwater 1985 - 2019, Cleveland spent 2.85 billion dollars, Milwaukee 3 billion dollars, Detroit 1.326 billion dollars. Technology wise, Cleveland and Milwaukee were state of the art, Detroit used outdated technology. This is the issue that GLWA has to address. Saulius Simoliunas, 665 W. Warren Ave, Detroit, MI 48201, saulius@ieee.org, 313 465 5786

cindy

Tue, Nov 24, 2020, 8:14 AM

darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com>

to ceo, simoliunass, Jack, gtvann, jpkovoor, vinod.sharma, jcapizzo, bcc: ceo, bcc: Tricia

Would the technology used in Cleveland and Milwaukee waste water treatment plants work here in detroit?

Are these plants

still the state of the art?

We've been digging in my backyard trying to make a drainage field to reduce stormwater load and reuse the water for plant irrigation.

The ground is impervious clay. Tech testing, for the Shiping Container food court 2 doors down, went 15 feet down and found clay all the way down.

Who said "feet of clay"?

The new restaurant choose not to put stormwater drainage under their parking lot because it would take ten years to recoup the money.

If one wants to reuse the stormwater to flush toilets, the city still wants you to pay for the sewage going down the drain, even though the system ameliorated the city's sewage overflow.

So what is one to do? Let it flow, let it flow, let it flow...

Why Gilbert named the company, Bedrock which focused on downtown skyscrapers that rest on deep bedrock beneath the clay.

Should we convert our freeways into water ways to the river to separate our sewage from stormwater overflows? and replace them with elevated roads?

This food for thought leaves me hungry.

Should the water departments begin separation when making sewage repairs instead of just repairing an antiquated system? Is this feasible and when? The city recently did the traffic islands on Oakman Blvd with a Dention system between Joy and Tireman.

Cindy Darrah

492 Peterboro, Det.48201

cindydarrah@gmail.com

(313) 502-8122

(313) 414-5181

simoliunass@netscape.net

Tue, Nov 24, 2020, 10:12 AM

to me

You got in time and it is timely to say that there is no stormwater control. SS

My Public Comment was not posted as received in GLWA meeting This last wednsday

Inbox

cindy

Nov 26, 2020, 8:56 AM

darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com>

to ceo, bcc: simoliunass, bcc: Irene, bcc: me, bcc: Tricia, bcc: Joe, bcc: Chad

I Forwarded, (in order to reduce typing on my cell phone), Saul's Public Comment with my Reactive Public Comment Attached, to CEO@GLWATER.ORG as well as to Saul's recipients. Please insert my "Public" Comment into your minutes, send it to the commissioners, and post it for your next meeting.

Would you, the staff and the board, actually RESPOND to our suggestions and quires (?s), etc.?

Have a thankful Thanksgiving.

Cindy Darrah

492 Peterboro, Det.48201

cindydarrah@gmail.com

(313) 502-8122

(313) 4 4-5181

Fwd: Public Comment to GLWA Board Meeting on Dec. 17, 2020

Inbox

simoliunass@netscape.net

Sun, Dec 13, 2020, 10:53 AM

to jack.w.schulz@gmail.com, gtvann@aol.com, jpkovoor@yahoo.com, me, jcapizo@yahoo.com, jrunyan@michlabor.legal, vinod.sharma@glwater.org

-----Original Message-----

From: simoliunass@netscape.net

To: ceo@glwater.org <ceo@glwater.org>

Sent: Sun, Dec 13, 2020 10:49 am

Subject: Public Comment to GLWA Board Meeting on Dec. 17, 2020

This year was marked by COVID 19 crisis. GLWA was dismally missing in action In water and wastewater treatment. Ozone or uv disinfection kill viruses. GLWA stayed with ineffective chlorine disinfection even when Michigan State University researchers found a variety of viruses in GLWA wastewater. This is a call to mobilize citizens to change how business is to be dealt at GLWA . Saulius Simoliunas, 665 W. Warren Ave, Detroit, MI 48201, 313 465 5786, saulius@ieee.org

simoliunass@netscape.net

Sun, Dec 13, 2020, 7:08 PM

to me

You may dwell on the same topic as it is big news. SS

Great Lakes Water (GLWA) Protection Committee

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Letter requesting a meeting with GLWA

May 4, 2015

To: Great Lakes Water Authority

We, Great Lakes Water Protection Committee, would like to meet with GLWA to discuss the issues we have raised in public comment. We should find a mutually convenient time for such a meeting. When can we meet with you?

Thank you,

Irene Welch
Carolyn Dougherty
Susan McDonald

Friday, April 24, 2015

More on Why Chlorine is Bad for Health and the Environment

More on Why Chlorine is Bad for Health and the Environment

The chemical industry is wrestling with the use of chlorine, looking for substitutes for it. Production is energy intensive and its derivatives:

"have negative impacts on the global environment and human health (e.g. toxicity and ecotoxicity, ozone layer depletion, energy consumption, and climate change) and chlorine-based chemistry often does not obey the principles of atom economy and waste minimization." (CHEMISTRY International, January – February 2015, p. 25: International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry)

The article concludes that if the industry wants to respond to "environmental constraints and efficient energy usage" then it needs "to develop new chemical strategies beyond chlorine chemistry". The article says this is difficult, but, that scientists are already coming to *new innovative processes* which address health impact, energy consumption, and economic feasibility.

The project addressing this is called "2013-057-3-300 beyond chlorine chemistry". Deep discussion among the task group was held in Venice on 22-23 July 2014. It addressed scientific education on *Green-Sustainable Chemistry*. This is obviously an on-going project, and the article says more people should be involved, primarily from industry, but toxicology, environmental, and health experts, as well. They emphasize *collaboration* is crucial, especially in the corresponding Divisions of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry: the Committee on Chemistry and Industry (COCI), and the Committee on Chemistry Education (CCE).

The article finishes by saying chemists don't want to be perceived as being "polluters of the planet". Chemists want to be perceived as "people able to address issues of sustainable development". It says they want to do this in concert with politicians, economists, entrepreneurs and philosophers, a worthy goal we would say. Here, in Detroit, we are still using chlorine to disinfect our water! In 2000 only 5% plants in the U. S. used it. Are we in the dark ages here? *Alternative* technology has been around a long time to disinfect water. Boston, Chicago, New York, etc. etc. use a *combination of Carbon treatment with UV and/or Ozonation for safe disinfection of drinking water*. The recent article in the paper about Flint's water treatment reminds us that drinking water is also cooking water, and bathing water. It shouldn't be chlorinated. And our Environment doesn't need the dangerous compounds created in its use either. (The writers of the IUPAC cited *References: Environmental Protection Agency. Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2012. Washington, DC: 2014 <http://www.epa.gov>*)

February 9, 2015

Great Lakes Water Protection Committee

Carolyn Dougherty
Cindy Derrah
Susan McDonald
Irene Welch
(313) 832-3117
Detroit, 48201

Thursday

-----Original Message-----

From: simoliunass@netscape.net

To: ceo@glwater.org <ceo@glwater.org>

Sent: Tue, Jan 19, 2021 6:15 am

Subject: Public Comment 1-20-21

*Public Comment to Great Lakes Water Authority BOARD:
January 20, 2021*

At the IJC (International Joint Commission for the Great Lakes; Agreement between Canada and the United States) conference on chlorine some years ago, I as President of SCATA (chemists's and technicians' union at DWSD), spoke against Chlorine disinfection.

On my 87th birthday, I had a stroke. However, I am still aware that State of the Art water disinfection demands that chlorine should be discontinued and/or significantly limited.

Anyone can Google the long-term damage it causes environmentally and health-wise. A combination of UV and Ozonation are the current state-of-the art treatment choices by most water and waste-water treatment facilities.

Please spend the rate-payers tax money on up- to- date treatment. It is only the right thing to do.

*Saulius Simoliunas
665 W. Warren
Detroit, MI 48201
(313) 832-3117*

Preliminary Demands in Response to Bulk Storage Collapse into Detroit River

In the aftermath of the collapse of the Detroit Bulk Storage facility into the Detroit River, it is important to learn from the failures and blind spots at the root of this incident. These issues span topics related to emergency response protocols/systems, water quality testing, the proximity of toxic facilities on waterways and a host of other issues. Each level of government has a role to play in making sure that concerns are addressed systematically. We acknowledge this is not the first time a community has been poisoned, but at risk for their lives and safety, and require addressing as in the Flint Water Crisis which remains unresolved.

Local Stakeholders: Detroit City Council & Mayor Duggan (and executive offices)

1. The City of Detroit, through conditional land use permitting powers, should require regular inspection of shoreline control structures at all industrial facilities & known contaminated sites along the Detroit river to ensure soundness.
2. The City of Detroit should maintain a list of heavily contaminated parcels along the Detroit and Rouge Rivers and ensure that this list is made accessible to the public.
3. Mayor Duggan's office should conduct a comprehensive assessment of the City of Detroit's current emergency response and management systems to identify areas of concern and improvement.
4. Detroit City Council should review and expand the bulk storage ordinance, analyzing high risk sites, reviewing provisions related to setback from waterways, height and weight requirements.
5. Mayor Duggan's office should commit to establishing structures to hold future policy related work on this matter.
6. City of Detroit, GLWA and DWSD should conduct emergency water quality testing protocols in the case of potential hazardous contamination within 24 hours and implement emergency drinking water notification systems

State Stakeholders: Michigan Department of Environment Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE), Governor Whitmer and the Michigan State Legislators (Sen. Chang, Rep Carter, and others)

1. The State of Michigan should adopt new rules or legislation requiring owners and operators of ALL sites along Michigan waters to notify EGLE immediately when there has been a shoreline collapse.
2. The State of Michigan, through EGLE, in collaboration with local stakeholders (GLWA and others), should actively monitor for pollution migrating from contaminated sites into rivers. Water quality monitoring should take place near and downstream of contaminated parcels (either by legislation or by EGLE rulemaking).
3. The State of Michigan, should add additional permitting requirements related to shoreline control structures (seawalls, retaining walls, sheet pile, riprap, etc.) for properties with contaminated soil and/or legacy sites with a history of contamination adjacent to waterways. The permitting process should include regular monitoring.
4. The deficiencies identified in the State Auditor General's report about Great Lakes Areas of Concern program should be addressed immediately, particularly in relation to the Detroit and Rouge Rivers
5. The Governor, EGLE and State legislators should work collaboratively to set up a plan and timetable to clean up and remediate toxic sediments in the Detroit and Rouge Rivers.
6. The State of Michigan should conduct a risk assessment of current and historic industrial facilities along the Detroit River and the impact of climate change and rising water levels and establish necessary safeguards to prevent future incidents

7. Allocate monies within the state budget for the implementation of drinking water investments, emergency response, and reparations for those already contaminated

8. Host regular public open meetings on drinking water safety to update community members on drinking water safety.

Federal Stakeholders: Congresswoman Lawrence, Congresswoman Tlaib & Environmental Protection Agency

1. The EPA, if not already, should monitor water quality near & downstream of contaminated parcels.

2. Given the health, drinking water, and food safety/fish contamination issues present, our federal stakeholders should request additional funds to clean up the Detroit and Rouge Rivers.

3. A priority list of sites listed for future clean-up (based on toxicity and public health threat) should be created and made readily available for the public.

4. Federal stakeholders should conduct an assessment of current communication and emergency response protocols with the Coast Guard and Army Corps of Engineers.

5. Require that Coast Guard and Army Corps of Engineers to report to state environmental agencies when a shoreline collapse of any kind, especially at industrial facilities, occurs.

Fwd: Saulius Simoliunas' Public Comment to GLWA Board Meeting on June 26, 2019

Inbox

simoliunass@netscape.net

Sun, Jun 23, 2019, 2:27 PM

to jack.w.schulz, jpkovoor, gtvann, me, sharma, jcapizzo, iwelch54

-----Original Message-----

From: simoliunass <simoliunass@netscape.net>

To: ceo <ceo@glwater.org>

Sent: Sun, Jun 23, 2019 2:22 pm

Subject: Saulius Simoliunas' Public Comment to GLWA Board Meeting on June 26, 2019

There are many red flags rising in GLWA domain, such as rising rates, water shutoffs, lack of carbon filtration, no tertiary treatment, floating of new bonds, etc. There are no adequate answers from GLWA. Its facebook avoids problem issues. The real answer is a public debate between GLWA and the public. It is never too late to start a meaningful dialogue. Many water authorities encourage public participation. GLWA Board may consider adding a public member, what was not done at its creation. This public representative may be elected. Saulius Simoliunas , 665 W. Warren Ave, Detroit, MI 48201, 3134655786, saulius@ieee.org

ReplyReply allForward



cindy

Apr 21, 2021, 12:38 PM (10 days ago)

darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com>

to Dwsd, Evan, DWSD, ceo, rashidatlaib, Debra, bcc: Joanna, bcc: warwick_joanne, bcc: Tom, bcc: james, bcc: Debra, bcc: DeMeeho, bcc: Deidre, bcc: Debra, bcc: me

PUBLIC COMMENT DWSD PUBLIC HEARING ON proposed Annual Compounded Increases in our City Water Rates.

Today on the NPR radio program 1-A, a scientist representing the viewpoints from a central american, said global warming is a significant reason for immigrants leaving their homes to seek asylum here.

Facts he stressed, and were new to me:

Methane and nitrous oxide cause much more global warming than CO2.

**AND the greenhouse gas they emit are VERY LONG LASTING
IN THE ATMOSPHERE**

LET OUR DETROIT PUBLIC POLICIES

**SUPPORT IN WORDS, POLICIES, and BUDGETED GOVERNMENT MONEY. i.e.
decrease the police budget ...**

INCREASE the WATER BUDGET.

Please read my email , including the above title if I'm not on your virtual meeting for comment

On Wed, Apr 21, 2021, 11:59 cindy darrah <cindydarrah@gmail.com> wrote:

Reduce money to police and

INCREASE Money for Healthy Water

for Everyone, including those downstream.

Wednesday, August 19, 2015

MI-NLG} ARTICLE: Environmental Racism Persists; the EPA Is Not Responding Effectively

<http://readersupportednews.org/news-section2/312-16/31654-environmental-racism-persists-and-the-epa-is-one-reason-why>

Posted by Unknown at 11:30 AM No comments:

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Tale of Two Cities (Boston and Detroit)

A The real difference between Boston and Detroit Water Systems is that Boston was based on Boston Harbor

Cleanup while Detroit was based on meeting NPDES Permit Limits, which were very lax. Although Detroit River

is an area of concern for International Joint Commission, Federal District Judge John Fiekens ignored the

Great Lakes Water Agreement. Detroit River increases in phosphorous ten times and significantly contributes

to Algae Blooms in western Lake Erie.

B Capital Improvement Programs in Boston led to state of the art facilities such as Anaerobic Digestion of

sewage sludge, fertilizer use of digested sludge, disinfection of drinking water by methods not producing Toxic

Chemical Bi Products, etc.

Capital Improvement Programs in Detroit was Upgrading of Incinerator Systems spewing noxious and poisonous

gases such as polychlorinated aromatic compounds, spending millions of Bond money on Non Workable

CSO Retention Basins and a huge Tunnel, which finally was abandoned. Now Detroit built a Hot Air Sludge Drying

Facility, which will have to be abandoned for odor problems. Detroit has 6 Billion Dollars Debt!

C The present transformation of Detroit Water and Sewage Department into Great Lakes Water Authority

came through Detroit Bankruptcy Proceedings. Massachusetts's Water Resources Authority came through the

State legislature and the governor.

Detroit Emergency Manager Kevin Orr wanted to sell DWSD, but there were no takers due to the 6 Billion dollar

debt. Then he engineered through federal Mediation a new entity GLWA, made up of 2 policemen from

Detroit, Airport Manager from Wayne County, two CPAs from Oakland and Macomb counties, and a retired

lawyer from the governor's office. Detroit will receive \$50 million annually for 40 years. The Discussion at

GLWA Meetings Concerns Finances, but Not the Technical Operation of the Facility.

D Charles Dickens in his Tale of Two Cities compared Paris and London. The former had Guillotine and was

executing the good and the bad. London did not commit murder. Detroit Water and Sewage Rates are 3 Times

the National Average. Detroit says Half of its 323,000 Accounts Are Delinquent and has Turned Off the Taps

for at least 100,000 Accounts. United Nations Agency came to investigate this matter and advised Detroit not

to shut off water, but Detroit ignored. If Detroit would be rational, then Detroit would Not Spend Money on

Unnecessary Projects and would Make Water Affordable to People.

1 Theory of Retention Basins to Control Combined Sewer Overflows: 1) First Flush will capture combined sewer

overflows; 2) The rest of the rainwater will be pure and will need little disinfection.

Results of Retention Basins to Control CSOs: 1) There is no first flush to capture CSOs; 2) The rest of the rainwater

remains dirty and will need high doses of disinfectant.

2 Theory of Retention Basins to Control Combined Sewer Overflow is based on Speculation, but not Experimental

Data. Building of Retention Basins to Control CSOs on Rouge River was therefore called Rouge River

Wet Weather Demonstration Project.

Rouge River Retention Basins showed that Retention Basins do not work to control CSOs. After Rains Dissolved

Oxygen Goes Down and Fecal Coliform Abounds in Rouge River.

3 How Much Do Retention Basins Alleviate Combined Sewage Overflow? Maybe 5 to 15 %.
Therefore retention

basins are not the right method to control CSOs.

4 Detroit water and sewerage dept. built 15 retention basins and 1 abandoned tunnel for 4 billion dollars. International

joint commission issued a report called "Lake Erie Ecosystem Priority" In August 2013 showing

eutrophication in LAKE ERIE. There is at least 10-fold increase of Phosphorus between lake huron and lake

erie. Detroit river is thought to contribute 90% of the discharge and about 50% of of the Phosphorus to the

western lake erie.

5 IJC Recommends strict monitoring of phosphorus in Detroit river and will set monitoring stations.

6 DWSD has no monitoring data and no environmental modelling. DWSD is decreasing the number of chemists

and is relying on operators to do chemical analysis.

7 What went wrong? One may look at Carl Djerassi's book "Cantor's Dilemma", where fictional Cantor announces

his theory with proof and gets Nobel prize. The architects of retention basins to control CSOs announced

their theory without verification. They got prizes from the building companies, from state of Michigan,

but in fact they earned a Booby Prize.

8 Real solution to control combined sewer overflows is to separate sewer pipes from rain pipes and build

ditches for rainwater.

EnVR: Division of Environmental Chemistry

425 - Tale of two cities (Boston and Detroit)

Saulius Simoliunas (sauliu@ieee.org), Irene Welch, Cindy Darrah, Susan McDonald, Carolyn Dougherty

Abstract: The Boston and Detroit sew systems were put under judicial control due to pollution problems.

Judge Paul C. Garrity, in 1984, directed Boston to follow the US Army Corps of Engineers' plan to build stateof-

the-art sewage sludge anaerobic digestors to produce useful methane gas and fertilizer. The Massachusetts

legislature established a regional water authority. Now Boston Harbor has been and piecemeal captain improvement

programs. The Detroit River is still not fit for swimming, drinking, or fishing. The Detroit system

has a 6 billion dolar debt and water is 2.7 times higher in cost than national average. Due to bankruptcy proceeding

a regional system was established in court to try to solve Detroit pollution problems.

GLWA Fact Sheet:

1, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed on September 9, 2014.

2, Articles of Incorporation officially signed on November 25, 2014.

3, authority membership: City of Detroit; Wayne County, Oakland county, Macomb County.

4, GLWA board representation: Two (2) from City of Detroit; one each from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb

Counties; one from State of Michigan; Board Members serve at the pleasure of those who appointed them

(Mayor, County Executives, Governor, rspectively)

5, "Super Majority" of five Board votes needed to approve and adopt major measures, such as rates, Capital

Improvement Plan purchase, etc.

6, Service area: provider of wholesale water and sewer services for roughly 40 percent of the state of

Michigan's population

7, First Official Board meeting hld on December 12, 2014

8, Authority becomes officially autonomous: TBD.

You can comment and post your papers on our blogspot, which is

<http://greatlakeswaterprotectioncommittee.blogspot.com/>

Posted by Unknown at 11:17 AM No comments:

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Thursday, June 18, 2015

Gag Order Lifted but Lease Requirements Still Unclear

Members of the protection Committee and the Raging Granies attended a GLWA meeting on Fri. @ 9AM, JUNE 12, 2015 at Waterworks Park on east Jefferson, near Cadillac and Manistique.

Wednesday I went to the Waterboard Bldg. to check about meetings posted on the door and found I had missed 2 meetings and 1 workshop regarding DWSD earlier that day; on the 3rd door down from these notices was a notice that the great lakes water authority was holding their monthly meeting Friday afternoon at 1 P.M. on June 12, 2015 in the 5th floor auditorium in the Waterboard Building at 735 Randolph; Thursday I called Saul about this meeting and he informed me that the meeting had been moved up to 9 A.M. Friday morning and the location had been changed to Waterworks Park.

I heard that the gag order was removed sometime Wednesday morning....plenty of time to read the lease that the "representatives" would vote on at the 9 A.M. Friday morning meeting. THE PUBLIC SHOULD HAVE A DEMOCRATIC RIGHT TO READ AND EVALUATE THIS PROPOSED LEASE BEFORE THEIR SO CALLED APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES VOTE ON IT. TWO DAYS IS NOT SUFFICIENT FOR THE PEOPLE TO STUDY a lease that was mediated in secret meetings during the bankruptcy.

At the meeting the public was allowed a comment period. Nancy Goedert wrote a song that the Raging Granies sang, asking people to find another way and not deny people water. I went back in to talk with people after the meeting had been adjourned. I asked Chairman Dadda why they had changed the meeting place and time on such short notice; he replied that the elevator was broke in the Waterboard Bldg. and the room wasn't big enough. I asked him if Detroiters would have to continue to pay for 83% of the retention pond debt as agreed under Fiekens; he replied yes. I overheard part of his conversation with a reporter where he said the Macomb county representative, also an accountant, misrepresented a full sided picture by omitting the benefits, and Dadda also said that the \$50 million could be used by Detroit to pay its debt and if the debt was bigger they would have a grace period to adjust by for example not filling 10 vacant positions, The Gag order

was removed Wed. according to Dadda. No mention, except by public comment, was made about the health of the water and the health of the people. I mentioned in my public comment that we would not like to be downstream like Toledo who receives our sewage overflow. Also that I wanted them to start dividing the storm water from the sewage system when they tear up the streets for things like the M-1 Rail. And with no separation of the systems even when public credit is used to finance the construction of an entertainment stadium ...this is wasteful, thoughtless, and unsustainable. So Much for the transparency Dadda extolled... the police asked me to leave the room, helping me to the door and and the rushed me out of the parking lot as I was trying to finish a conversation with Bateson. We have plenty of police security. How about investing in water quality?

The meeting was announced, on WED on the door for 1PM, though occurred in actuality at 9AM.

The notification to meeting was sent by email not by the door notification.

A majority of members of GLWA approved the secretly mediated lease IF CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE MET BY JANUARY, 2016. I am unclear as to what those conditions entail; is the public being made privy to the secrets? DOES THIS LEASE HAVE ANY LEGITIMACY? THIS WAS NOT DECIDED IN A COURT OF LAW, THE LEGISLATURE OR BY VOTER INITIATIVE OR REFERENDUM. IT VIOLATES THE DETROIT CITY CHARTER AND IS POTENTIALLY A PRIVATIZATION OF AN ASSET IMPORTANT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH of Detroit with the surrounding

Countie: Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and OTHERS OUTSIDE THESE BOUNDARIES RECEIVING OUR WATER.

Posted by Unknown at 11:27 AM No comments:

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Be In Attendance! June 20, 2015

Gray Panthers Presents:

A Publicly Owned State Bank

"A Solution for Michigan's Economic Stability"

GUEST SPEAKER: Dan Osterman, County Coordinator

Campaign for Liberty and current

Michigan GOP State Committee Member

10 a.m. June 20, 2015

Royal Oak Community Center

3500 Marais, Royal Oak (E. of Crooks/N. of 13 Mile)

Posted by Unknown at 10:48 AM No comments:

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Gray Panthers of Metro Detroit letter to Mike Duggan Aug 5,
2014

Gray Panthers of Metro Detroit

Age and Youth in Action

www.graypanthersmetrodetroit.org

Convenors: Randy Block, Kelly Smith
MI 48237

P.O. Box 37033, Oak Park,

August 5, 2014

Mayor Mike Duggan

Manoogian Mansion

9240 Dwight St

Detroit, MI 48214

Dear Mayor Duggan:

Gray Panthers of Metro Detroit are writing to express our outrage at the massive water shutoffs in Detroit. The city government and the DWSD's policies could create a public health crisis. More than 700,000 children worldwide die each year from diseases related to lack of clean water. Detroit should not be adding to that number.

A civilization is judged by how it treats the least fortunate. Detroit has chosen to declare war on the poor. How shall we be judged? The United Nations has condemned the actions of DWSD. It is shameful; it is an atrocity. Over 38 percent of Detroit residents live in poverty. Given the high water rates, many families must choose between paying the water bill and buying groceries. If you should be cracking down on anyone, it is the corporations and/or wealthy individuals who owe sizable amounts on water bills, unpaid taxes, etc.

We ask you to declare a moratorium on shutoffs to residential buildings along with the restoration of water service to those who experienced shutoffs. Nobody should have their water shut off unless it can be clearly demonstrated that they could comfortably pay their bill. We don't need a 15-day moratorium if all it means is the shutoffs resume after that. We are concerned that there is evidence that the shutoffs are still continuing during the "moratorium". We need to put a stop to this insane policy!

We ask that you take immediate action. See to it that everyone has the water they need. Remember, the whole world is watching.

Sincerely,

Randy Block and Kelly Smith, Co-Convenors

Gray Panthers of Metro Detroit

Posted by Unknown at 10:43 AM No comments:

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Originally published in the April, 2015 Metro Detroit Grey Panthers Newsletter

Posted by Unknown at 10:37 AM No comments:

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Thursday, May 21, 2015

Letter requesting a meeting with GLWA

May 4, 2015

To: Great Lakes Water Authority

We, Great Lakes Water Protection Committee, would like to meet with GLWA to discuss the issues we have raised in public comment. We should find a mutually convenient time for such a meeting. When can we meet with you?

Thank you,

Irene Welch

Carolyn Dougherty

Susan McDonald

Cindy Darrah

Posted by Unknown at 10:42 AM 1 comment

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- ▼ April (9)
 - Loadin

Friday, April 24, 2015

Why Treating Water with Chlorine is Dangerous

Why Treating Water with Chlorine is *Dangerous*

Once chlorine is released from its stable form into the environment it reacts with organic compounds to create *organo-chlorines*. Elohatic and aromitic organics, all become chlorinated. In chemistry these are known as benzine rings (what the structure looks like.) These change the organic compounds to *dioxins, PCB's, furans, and others*. We know these are among the most dangerous compounds known to man; they affect people, animals, wildlife, and the environment, including water.

The *evidence* links organo-chlorines to a broad spectrum of large-scale *health damages* including: *developmental abnormalities, pregnancy failures, endometriosis, cancer, sex hormone changes, birth defects, cognitive deficits, thyroid changes, heart disease, declining sperm counts, semen quality, and immune suppression. The inherent properties of organo-chlorines make them more toxic, more fat soluble and oil soluble making them accumulate in human bodies, and fish and animal bodies.* They are hazardous once they are released into the environment, air, water, earth.

Some of these changes occur at very low doses – equal to levels found in the environment. In the year 2000 only 5% of water treatment used chlorine in the United States. *Guess what*, the Detroit Water and Waste Water Treatment plants are *still using chlorine* to disinfect water, and in its waste treatment *in 2015!!*

The Solution

We need to use other methods than chlorine for disinfection at DWSD, for obvious reasons. Even though it is legal to use chlorine it is at the bottom of the list of choices. There are healthy alternatives being used all over the United States and in the world. These include combinations of *carbon filtration* with UV, and/or *ozonation* which are the state of the art technologies commonly used across the United States. This would mean money being spent to upgrade the DWSD. But it would be money well-spent, instead of misspent.

Because chlorine is so dangerous, another consideration is a *hazardous chlorine spill during transportation*, as currently, chlorine is transported by train. We have been extremely lucky, that there has been no such incident. Chlorine gas in the air kills.

References: *PANDORA'S POISON*, Chlorine, Health, and a New Environmental Strategy, by Joe Thornton, 2000. MIT Press. Joe Thornton is a biologist and Research Fellow at Columbia University Center for Environmental Research and Conservation.

The NY Times published an article, "Making Chemistry Green", by R. Halden and R. S. Lawrence on Nov. 9, 2014 referencing Thornton's work. See: <http://www.nytimes.com/.../opinion/making-chemistry.html>.

Wednesday

Posted by Unknown at 11:12 AM

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No comments:

Protection Committee

Friday, April 24, 2015

HOW YOU CAN LOWER WATER COSTS?

Detroit Water and Sewerage (DWSD) spent a lot of money on capital improvements, first by obtaining grants from the federal government and later by floating bonds for projects of no use in water and waste water treatment. This spree resulted in 6 billion dollars of debt. For example, one billion dollars were wasted on abandoned Rouge river tunnel; hence, our water rates are three times the national average.

The emergency manager (threatened) wanted to sell DWSD, but there were no buyers. By bankruptcy mediation, a plan was developed to create a regional authority, which will pay 50 million dollars a year to Detroit and will run the regional water department.

There has to be a responsible new technical director to get away from borrowing sprees. There should be responsible watchdogs. The required outcome should be water rates around the national average and state of the art water and wastewater treatment.

Great Lakes Water Protection Committee

GLW Protection Committee
glwprotectioncommittee@gmail.com
(313) 832-3117

For more detail, please read, daily, our On-Line OAKLAND/MACOMB PRESS letters to GLWA and DWSD, through next Sunday's addition. Also, look for a Great Lakes Water Protection Committee Blog; we invite your participation.

Preliminary Demands in Response to Bulk Storage Collapse into Detroit River

In the aftermath of the collapse of the Detroit Bulk Storage facility into the Detroit River, it is important to learn from the failures and blind spots at the root of this incident. These issues span topics related to emergency response protocols/systems, water quality testing, the proximity of toxic facilities on waterways and a host of other issues. Each level of government has a role to play in making sure that concerns are addressed systematically. We acknowledge this is not the first time a community has been poisoned, but at risk for their lives and safety, and require addressing as in the Flint Water Crisis which remains unresolved.

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5. Require that Coast Guard and Army Corps of Engineers to report to state environmental agencies when a shoreline collapse of any kind, especially at industrial facilities, occurs.

Open Letter to the New Great Lakes Water Protection Board (Regional Authority)

Robert Dado (Oakland Co.)
(Macomb Co.)
Gary Brown (Detroit)

etc.

We are writing to express our concern that the new Regional Authority become aware of some systemic, ongoing problems with the Water and Waste Water Treatment systems, which in our view must be addressed by your body in order to truly protect our great lakes water for the region.

We are a group of citizens who vote. We know that rates keep going up every year. We know we have an old system. We know we must meet certain EPA standards against pollution. Unfortunately, we are afraid that these issues won't truly be addressed. Why are we afraid/very concerned? For one thing, because the new authority has no real water/sewage treatment expertise aboard. We have accountants, lawyers, policemen, politicians etc. But, to our knowledge, we have no one, or no body in charge which knows the state of the art/science of water/sewage treatment.

Instead, once again, as in the recent past, we have folks on board who depend on contractors and directors with *minimal* knowledge. Millions of dollars are spent in a patchwork quilt of "solutions" in a wasteful trial-and-error approach which continues to load taxpayer citizens with debt, and results in *polluted* waters: both the drinking water and the waste water emitted into the Detroit River.

We want the new authority to address the following issues:

1. *Use of chlorine* for drinking water which is hazardous to health (studies show high rates of bladder and pancreatic cancer using chlorine for this). *Chlorine* also creates *hazardous by-products* which are returned into the river. *Transporting chlorine is also hazardous for the population.*

2. *DWSD laboratories* are headed by people with less than appropriate education for the job; such as supervisors who are high school grads supervising Ph.D.'s.

(*The laboratories can generate money, if they become certified. The labs could actually do work for outside companies.*)

3. *Chemists* are slated to be eliminated, while operators are to be 'turned into chemists'. This is ridiculous and unwise for a system as large as ours and which is as old as ours.

4. *Our waste could generate money by turning it into fertilizer.*

5. *Data gathering* for the plants are a joke. No *real or reliable* data is being collected.

6. *Constant Use of contractors* raises the price of the (piece-meal) projects they do. This also *reduces transparency*, and promotes *mis-managment and possible corruption.*

7. *Our water/sewage costs are 2 1/2 x's times the national average.* Roughly half of this is *debt.* This is because we have no overall plan and because our *technology is woefully outdated.*

(We had finally instituted *ozonation as part of water purification*, but our 'no-expertise' personnel

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