



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Administration	839-4934	Public Transit	839-5111
Engineering	839-4934	Public Utilities	839-4954
Inspection and Zoning	839-4947	(Water and Wastewater)	
Buildings and Vehicles	839-4934	Street Maintenance	839-4934
		Traffic Engineering	839-4934

CITY OF EAU CLAIRE — 203 S. FARWELL EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN 54701

September 19, 1984

Mr. Mike McLeod
 USEPA - Region V
 230 S. Dearborn
 Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Mr. McLeod:

We have discovered another possible problem with our municipal water supply that it has an aggressive nature that may be causing lead in the solder or flux to be put in solution in recently plumbed buildings.

The issue of aggressive water may be handled in the focused feasibility study that the EPA contractor would be preparing.

Attached is a letter and Council resolution sent to the Department of Industry Labor and Human Relations (DILHR) requesting an emergency rule be established to ban lead solder and flux in the State Plumbing Code. The DILHR has complied with the City's request and has established the emergency rule and amendment to the State Plumbing Code.

Sincerely,


 Michael T. Cousino, P.E.
 Director of Public Works

MTC:gy

Attachments



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

CITY OF EAU CLAIRE

203 N. FARWELL EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN 54702-5148

September 13, 1984

Mr. Jim Sergent, Director
Bureau of Plumbing
Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations
201 East Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Mr. Sergent:

Attached is a resolution adopted by the Eau Claire City Council at its regularly scheduled meeting of Wednesday, September 12, 1984. In it, the Council urges that the Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations adopt an emergency rule and a permanent amendment to the State Plumbing Code which will eliminate the use of 50/50 lead-content solder and flux in water pipes and to provide that any solder and flux approved for use in water piping shall be lead-free.

We are making this request because of the recent discovery of high lead levels in new buildings in the City of Eau Claire. There is no lead in the water supply. The source of lead is the solder and flux in the plumbing systems.

Adoption of a permanent ban on lead in solder and flux will eliminate this problem in future construction. You may be assured that we are doing everything possible to eliminate the existing problem. We wish to assure that the problem does not continue.

Yours truly,


Eric A. Anderson
City Manager

dc

cc: Eau Claire City Council
Director of Public Works ✓

RESOLUTION

Resolution offered by Council Member John Gallagher.

WHEREAS, the city has discovered lead, in amounts higher than accepted federal and state drinking water standards, in the water of certain recently-constructed buildings within the city, and such lead poses a threat to the health and welfare of the community, and

WHEREAS, a source of such lead contamination appears to be the water pipes within the buildings, and specifically the lead-containing solder and flux used in the joints of such piping, and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has adopted a uniform plumbing code pursuant to Wis. Stats. s. 135.14, of state-wide application, which currently permits the use of "50-50" lead-content solder and flux, and

WHEREAS, since the city is not legally empowered to modify such a provision as contained in the state plumbing code, but any change must be made by the Wisconsin Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations (DILHR);

BE IT RESOLVED that the city does hereby request that DILHR adopt an emergency rule and a permanent amendment to the state plumbing code which will eliminate the use of "50-50" lead-content solder and flux in water pipes, and to provide that any solder and flux approved for use in water piping shall be lead-free.

Adopted,