

## **PRESS RELEASE**

# **FLUORIDATION**

**Beginning February 1, 2008, the Atlantic City Municipal Utilities Authority will resume fluoridation of its water supply. This will only affect water delivered to the City of Atlantic City.**

In 1952, the Atlantic City government approved the addition of fluoride to the City's water supply. Since the initial start-up, Atlantic City's water supply has been continuously fluoridated until several years ago. At that time, the Atlantic City MUA felt that due to changes in technology and safety, Atlantic City would be best served by replacing its aging fluoridation equipment with a new system, and acquired engineering plans and bid for the replacement and renovation of the MUA's fluoride system. The resulting bids were approximately double the amount that the MUA had planned to spend. The MUA felt that this was not acceptable, and began looking for alternatives. During that period of time, the existing equipment failed, and the MUA stopped fluoridating the Atlantic City water supply. The MUA put out a public notice at that time, and informed pediatricians that fluoridation had stopped. Subsequently, the MUA utilized its own forces to install new fluoridation equipment at the water treatment plant. The overall cost was approximately half of the original estimate (or 25% of the amount of bids received).

This equipment is now installed and operational. The MUA will begin fluoridating water to Atlantic City on February 1, 2008. The MUA has provided notification to the medical community.