

RESOLUTION NUMBER 24-2025

**A RESOLUTION TO CEASE THE ADDITION OF FLUORIDE INTO THE
CLEVELAND COUNTY WATER SYSTEM PWS ID: 01-23-055**

WHEREAS, Cleveland County Water (CCW) is a Sanitary District and local government authorized and formed under the laws of the State of North Carolina and in accordance with NCGS 130A-47; and,

WHEREAS, CCW operates and maintains a public water supply and distribution system for the purpose of promoting the public health and welfare in accordance with NCGS 130A-55 Corporate Powers; said public water supply system is operated under NC Public Water Supply ID 01-23-055; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Upper Cleveland County Sanitary District (now Cleveland County Water) approved a Resolution to introduce the addition of fluoride on September 13, 1983, which was paid for by a Preventative Dentistry Grant for 100% for fluoridation and laboratory equipment, installation, engineering fees, training, and fluoride chemical for one year from date of startup; and,

WHEREAS, due to equipment failures on the current fluoride feed system over the years, numerous repairs and expenses have been made and the continuity of the fluoride feed system has been intermittent since it is an optional chemical additive. Due to the delivery of chemical loads, ongoing maintenance and safety of the existing fluoride feed system and other chemical feeds systems, staff has worked to develop new bulk chemical tank designs for the existing water treatment plant and analyzed needs for a future water treatment plant; and,

WHEREAS, community members have expressed concerns regarding potential adverse health effects associated with fluoride consumption, and numerous safety hazards exist for the WTP operators working on the fluoride feed system and the handling of fluoride; and,

WHEREAS, the availability of fluoride in other forms, such as toothpaste and mouthwash, provides individuals with alternative options for fluoride use, and in addition, the Cleveland County Health Department recently purchased a Mobile Pediatric Dental Unit, which will be used for citizens of Cleveland County and provide an option for residents for ongoing dental care; and,

WHEREAS, the cessation of water fluoridation will result in cost savings for the District by eliminating the purchase, transport, storage, and regulation of fluoride chemical, will result in avoided costs for repairs to the existing fluoride feed system, will result in avoided costs for construction of new and improved fluoride feed components and bulk chemical tank projects at the current and any

future water treatment plants, and will result in significant safety improvements for the operators of Cleveland County Water; and,

WHEREAS, the Cleveland County Water Board of Commissioners believes that it is in the best interest of the District and its customers that the Cleveland County Water Treatment Plant permanently cease the introduction of fluoride into the public water supply system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CLEVELAND COUNTY WATER, CLEVELAND COUNTY, NC:

Section 1. Cleveland County Water will cease the addition of fluoride to the public drinking water supply effective September 1, 2025, or sooner if the available fluoride on hand is exhausted prior to this date; and shall permanently cease the introduction of fluoride into the public water supply at all Cleveland County Water owned and operated facilities.

Section 2. The General Manager and Water Treatment Plant Superintendent/ORC are responsible for providing notification to the Cleveland County Health Director of this decision and providing the Health Director with a copy of this Resolution in accordance with 15A NCAC 18C .1406.

Section 3. The General Manager and Water Treatment Plant Superintendent/ORC are responsible for providing notification to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Oral Health Section of this decision in accordance with 15A NCAC 18C .1406.

Section 3. The decision to cease fluoridation formally rescinds any previous resolution and/or decision to add fluoride to the public water supply system provided by Cleveland County Water, formerly known as Cleveland County Sanitary District and formally known as Upper Cleveland County Sanitary District.

Section 4. This resolution shall become effective upon its adoption and approval.

Adopted and Approved this 8th day of July 2025.



Amy Elliott Bridges, Secretary
Cleveland County Water



Donald O. Melton, Chairman
Cleveland County Water



UPPER CLEVELAND COUNTY SANITARY DISTRICT

Box 96

LAWNDALE, N. C. 28090

The Board of Upper Cleveland County Sanitary District met at the Upper Cleveland Rescue Building September 13, 1983 at 7:30 p.m.

A group representing an area of 3.6 miles on Highway 226 were present. This area consist of 56 names and future development of the Hicks property.

Campbell Wallace presented the re-evaluation of lines- showing lines which have been released and added.

A resolution concerning fluoridation of the water supply was introduced and read as follows:

Be it resolved that The Board of Commissioners of Upper Cleveland County Sanitary District hereby makes formal application to the North Carolina Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Services, to adjust the fluoride content of the water supply of Upper Cleveland County Sanitary District. Introduced, Read, Passed, and Adopted this 13th day of September, 1983.

A motion that the resolution be adopted was made by Marshall McCraw and seconded by Everett Lutz, and approved by all.

The Preventive Dentistry Grant will pay 100% for fluoridation and laboratory equipment, installation, engineering fees, training, and fluoride chemical for one year from date of start-up. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.