

Introduced by: Council Member
Middlebrook
Date: August 14, 2007
Action: Passed
Vote: 6-0

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Resolution #07-29

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE INCLUSION OF METHYLMECURY HUMAN HEALTH CRITERIA AS A PRIORITY IN THE STATE OF ALASKA TRIENNIAL WATER QUALITY REVIEW

WHEREAS, mercury is highly toxic and can cause severe health effects in people of all ages. The most common route of exposure includes the consumption of contaminated fish and other wild food. Exposure can cause neurological effects. Mercury accumulates in the muscle and tissue of organism, exposure to this heavy metal cannot be limited through cooking or removal of fatty tissue;

WHEREAS, Alaska contains numerous deposits of mercury scattered throughout the southwestern part of the state and several large abandoned mercury mines. These mines include the Red Devil, Cinnabar Creek, and Red Top mercury mines. Most of these deposits are concentrated in the southwestern region of the state, with the majority located in the Kuskokwim river basin, an area is also known for its gold deposits;

WHEREAS, Alaska's Voluntary Mercury Hair Bio-monitoring Program show that among those tested all women who exceeded the limit requiring follow-up testing were from the Yukon-Kuskokwim River Delta and the Aleutian Islands;

WHEREAS, a comprehensive baseline study at this time is vital for all future studies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Bethel Supports the inclusion of Methylmercury Human Health Criteria as a priority in the State of Alaska DEC Water Quality Standards Triennial Water Quality Review.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Bethel supports Fish consumption values and Human health criteria for carcinogens as second and third priorities.

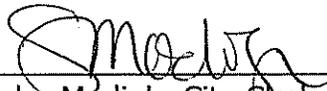
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PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14th DAY OF AUGUST, 2007, BY A VOTE of 6 IN FAVOR AND 0 IN OPPOSITION.



Daniel C. Leinberger, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sandra Modigh, City Clerk