



# Buda Citizens for Safe Water

Vote NO to Prop A this Nov 7, 2017

INDUSTRIAL WASTE?...NO THANKS!!!

for more info join our facebook group: "Buda Citizens for Safe Water - Vote NO to Prop A"

## We're Celebrating...

the CITY OF BUDA WATER SUPPLY BEING  
FLUORIDE-FREE FOR 2 YEARS!!!

...and here's WHY we want to keep it that way!



Many people don't realize the fluoridation chemicals, that are added to city water supplies, are literally INDUSTRIAL WASTE from phosphate fertilizer and aluminum manufacturing plants.

The chemicals used to fluoridate water largely come from the wet scrubbing systems of the phosphate fertilizer industry, i.e. the by-product scraped directly from chimney smoke stacks after processing fertilizer. It is not purified or altered. It is then sent to be added to our drinking water. These chemicals (90% of which are sodium fluorosilicate and hydro fluorosilicic acid, are classified as hazardous wastes contaminated with various impurities such as lead, arsenic, mercury, cadmium and thallium.

This is exactly what had been used to fluoridate the City of Buda Water Supply until November 12, 2015. The Potash Company was the supplier. Their hydrofluorosilicic acid Material Safety Data Sheet and Industrial product information are on the following pages.

### Did You Know?

There is a difference between calcium fluoride (naturally occurring in the earth and groundwater) and "dental fluoride" (sodium fluoride) and "water additive fluoride" (hydrofluorosilicic acid).

Hydrofluorosilicic acid is a by-product of the phosphate fertilizer industry that the FDA has NOT approved as a drug to prevent cavities and it is so toxic that by law, the EPA guidelines prohibit it from being disposed of in air, landfills, lakes or rivers. It should not be in our city-supplied drinking water either.

Why would we put this toxic and hazardous waste in our drinking water? The union representing scientists at the EPA headquarters in Washington, DC has gone on record as opposing this bizarre form of hazardous waste management.

# IT'S TIME TO DEMYSTIFY WHAT THESE WATER FLUORIDATION CHEMICALS ACTUALLY ARE...

## The City of Buda Fluoride History from the City of Buda Website:

The surface water portion of Buda's water supply had been continuously fluoridated since the City became a Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority customer in 2002. The City's surface water was fluoridated up until November of 2015 when the GBRA stopped fluoridating the supply source at the San Marcos Treatment Plant.

Surface water purchased from the GBRA accounts for approximately 60% of the City's current water supply. The other 40% of Buda's water supply is made up of groundwater from the Edwards Aquifer which contains varying levels of fluoride.

### Material Safety Data Sheet

Revision Issued: 03/01/2013	Supersedes: 10/23/2009	First Issued: 1/20/1996
-----------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------

Section I – Product and Company Identification			
<b>Product Name:</b>	<b>Hydrofluosilicic Acid</b>	<b>PotashCorp MSDS No.:</b>	52
		<b>ERG No.:</b>	154
	1101 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, IL 60062 Phone (800) 241-6908 / (847) 849-4200		
	Suite 500, 122 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue South Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Canada S7K7G3 Phone (800) 667-0403 from Canada (800) 667-3930 from USA  <b>Emergencies (800) 424-9300 (CHEMTREC)</b> Web Site <a href="http://www.potashcorp.com">www.potashcorp.com</a>  Health Emergencies, Contact Your Local Poison Center		
<b>Common Name:</b>	Hydrofluosilicic Acid	<b>Formula:</b>	H <sub>2</sub> SiF <sub>6</sub>
<b>Synonym:</b>	HFSA	<b>Uses:</b>	Industrial

Section II – Composition / Information On Ingredients										
Chemical Name	CAS No.	Exposure Limits								
		OSHA PEL		TLV – TWA		STEL		CEIL		% by Weight
		mg/m <sup>3</sup>	ppm	mg/m <sup>3</sup>	ppm	mg/m <sup>3</sup>	ppm	mg/m <sup>3</sup>	ppm	
Hydrofluosilicic Acid	16961-83-4									24
Fluoride (19%)		2.5		2.5						

\* No exposure limits have been established for Hydrofluosilicic Acid, however, the OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) and ACGIH threshold limit value (TLV) of 2.5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for fluoride for the eight hour time weighted average applies.

Section III – Hazard Identification			
<b>Potential Acute Health Effects:</b>	Hydrofluosilicic acid is extremely corrosive to the skin, eyes or mucous membrane through direct contact, inhalation or ingestion. Handle with extreme caution.		
<b>Eyes and Skin:</b>	May cause irritation or burns in all parts of the body. Eye contact may cause severe damage, including ulceration of the cornea and blindness if not adequately flushed.		
<b>Inhalation:</b>	May cause irritation or burns in all parts of the body, including nose, throat and respiratory system. Symptoms of overexposure may include ulceration of the nose and throat, coughing, salivation, headache, fatigue, dizziness, nausea, shock and pulmonary edema (fluid buildup in the lungs causing great difficulty in breathing). May lead to coma or death.		
<b>Ingestion:</b>	May cause tissue destruction of the digestive tract, ulceration of mucous membranes, intense thirst, abdominal pains, vomiting, shock, convulsions and death.		
<b>Potential Chronic Health Effects:</b>	Long-term exposure may cause chronic irritation of the nose, throat and bronchial passages. Chronic fluoride poisoning may result in bone changes (fluorosis) or calcium metabolism disorders.		
<b>CARCINOGENICITY LISTS</b>	<b>IARC Monograph:</b>	No	<b>NTP:</b> No
			<b>OSHA:</b> No

Section IV – First Aid Measures	
<b>Eyes:</b>	Immediately flush eyes (holding eyelids apart) with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention.
<b>Skin:</b>	Immediately flush skin with plenty of water while removing contaminated clothing. Get medical attention if irritation develops or persists.
<b>Ingestion:</b>	Do not induce vomiting. Drink large amounts of water (or milk if available) to dilute the acid. Prevention of absorption of the fluoride ion following ingestion can be obtained by giving milk, chewable calcium carbonate tablets or milk of magnesia to conscious victims. Get medical attention immediately.
<b>Inhalation:</b>	Remove to fresh air. If breathing has stopped, give artificial respiration. If breathing with difficulty, give oxygen. Observe for possible delayed reaction. Treat bronchospasm with inhaled beta 2 agonist and oral or parenteral corticosteroids.

**BELOW IS THE POTASH CORP. INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT SHEET. YOU CAN SEE IN THE TYPICAL ANALYSIS OF THEIR HYDROFLUOSILICIC ACID (THE CHEMICAL THAT WAS ADDED TO FLUORIDATE THE BUDA WATER SUPPLY) THERE IS ARSENIC AND LEAD IN IT.....**

**November 2015 Election- 1,814 San Marcos Residents by 61% Vote to Forbid the City from Adding the Fluoride to the Municipal Water Supply**

Once the residents of San Marcos became aware of what these fluoridation chemicals were, they were educated to make a better choice for safe and healthy water for their families and community, to stop adding the industrial waste. On November 12, 2015, The Guadalupe Blanco River Authority (GBRA), operator of the City of San Marcos Water Treatment Plant, terminated the practice of adding fluoride to the drinking water treated at the plant.



**INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS**

Product Name: **Hydrofluosilicic Acid (HFSA)**

**23% H<sub>2</sub>SiF<sub>6</sub>**

Grade: **Industrial**

Order Code: **HFSA**

MSDS No.: **52**

Source: Aurora

Alternate Names: Fluosilicic Acid, FSA

page 1 of 1

TYPICAL ANALYSIS	TYPICAL	GUARANTEED
HFSA, as H <sub>2</sub> SiF <sub>6</sub>	24.1	23.0 min.
H <sub>2</sub> SiF <sub>6</sub> , as F	19.1	
Heavy Metals, as lead (Pb)	<0.02%	
Phosphates, as P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.2	
Lead, as Pb	1.0 ppm	
Iron, as Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	70 ppm	
Iodide, as I	16 ppm	
Arsenic, as As	6.0 ppm	

PHYSICAL DATA	TYPICAL	GUARANTEE
Appearance	Water White to Straw Yellow, Pungent Odor	
Specific Gravity @ 75°F	1.23	
Weight, lbs/gal @ 75°F	10.3	

The evidence in support of NOT fluoridating is compelling, and has 3 key elements:

1. Significant Health and Hazard Concerns of Hydrofluorosilicic Acid
2. Lack of Medical Efficacy of Hydrofluorosilicic Acid
3. Budgetary

## 1. Significant Health and Hazard Concerns of Hydrofluorosilicic Acid

***Hydrofluorosilicic acid is hazardous to both water customers and City employees who handle it.***

### ***For Water Customers:***

- Infant formula prepared with fluoridated water increased the risk of fluorosis (Center for Disease Control and Prevention CDC and American Dental Association ADA, 2006)
- In 1997, the EPA estimated that Americans were ingesting nearly five times more fluoride than in 1971-from food and drinks alone. (Smith G. 2001)
- In 2004, 41% of 12-15 year old children in the U.S. had dental fluorosis, a condition caused by too much fluoride in the body, compared with 10% of children in 1950. (CDC 2004)
- Fluoride overdose to non-nursing infants (Fairbanks, Alaska Fluoride Task Force 2011) A formula fed baby consuming fluoridated water (0.6-1.2 ppms) can get up to 300 times more fluoride than a breast fed baby.
- Fluoride accumulates in the body. Healthy adult kidneys excrete 50-60% of fluoride ingested each day. The remainder accumulated in the body, largely in calcifying tissues such as in the bones and pineal gland. (Luke 2001, 1997)
- Infants and children excrete less fluoride from their kidneys and take up to 80% of ingested fluoride into their bones. (Ekstrand 1994) The highest doses of fluoride are going to bottle fed babies.
- "It's apparent that fluorides have the ability to interfere with the functions of the brain." (National Research Council, 2006)
- Affects the thyroid gland and is believed to lower the intelligence of children (National Academy of Sciences, 2006)
- Fluoride is a neurotoxicant. It adversely effects children's neurodevelopment and can cause IQ loss. (Choi, et al, Harvard Study, 2012) A baby is more susceptible to permanent brain damage as fluoride readily crosses the placenta to a baby's developing brain.



- Subsets of the population are more vulnerable to fluoride's toxic effects, including: infants, the elderly, and those with diabetes mellitus. Also vulnerable are those who suffer from malnutrition (e.g., calcium, magnesium, vitamin C, vitamin D and iodine deficiencies and protein-poor diets) and those who have diabetes insipidus. (Teotia 1998; Chen 1997; Seow 1994; Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry ATSDR, 1993; Lin 1991; Marier & Rose 1977; Klein 1975; Greenberg 1974; Massler & Schour 1952)
- Black and Hispanic children have higher rates and severity of dental fluorosis, discolored malformed teeth which can be stained brown or black and have pits in the enamel. They are being disproportionately harmed by fluoridation. (Martinez-Mier 2010; CDC 2005; Williams & Zerner 1990)
- The EPA states exposure to excessive consumption of fluoride over a lifetime may lead to increased likelihood of bone fractures, pain and tenderness in adults.
- Link between water fluoridation and blood lead in children (Roger Masters, PhD of Dartmouth College and Myron Coplan) Fluoride chemicals, combined with other water additives, pull health-damaging lead from plumbing systems into drinking water. (University of North Carolina 2005)
- 500-700% increased risk for osteosarcoma, a serious bone cancer, in males under the age of 20 who ingested fluoridated water (Bassin Study, Harvard University, 2001; NAS, 1977; Caffey, 1955)
- It has been linked to an epidemic of thyroid disease in the United States and other fluoridated countries. (U.S. National Research Council, 2006; Department of Health and Human Services DHHS, 1991)
- "Increasing numbers of people with carpal-tunnel arthritic-like pains, osteoporosis may be due to the mass fluoridation of drinking water". (EPA 2003 Annual Report)

### **Did You Know?**

*One of the most respected reports on fluoridation was published in 2006 by **The National Academy of Sciences**. It found fluoride can affect the thyroid gland and potentially lower the intelligence of children.*

*"EPA's drinking water standards are supposed to protect all persons against anticipated adverse health effects of the contaminant in question," explained Kathleen Thiessen - one of the scientists who worked on the 400-page study. "And we concluded after three years worth of work that the drinking water standard for fluoride was not protected and cannot be assumed to be safe for humans."*

*Thiessen said the EPA was warned about potential fluoride health dangers by one of its own chemists more than a decade ago. Dr. William Hirzy testified before a Senate subcommittee in 2000. He was representing the views of EPA scientists and staff who analyze hazards in the environment.*

*"In 1997, we voted to oppose fluoridation, and our opposition has grown stronger as more adverse data on the practice has come in," said Hirzy.*

*"The CDC and others say whatever beneficial effect there is from fluoride is from topical use. It's not from swallowing it. It never has been from swallowing it" said Thiessen.*

- May cause non-IQ neurotoxic effects such as visual-spatial organization (Rocha-Amador 2009; Li 2004; Calderon 2000) and fetal brain damage (Yu 1996; Dong 1993; Du 1992; Han 1989)
- Accumulates in the pineal gland to very high levels (Luke 2001)
- Exposure to non-water sources of fluoride has significantly increased since the water fluoridation program first began. (NRC 2006) These include food and beverages processed with fluoridated water, fluoridated dental products, mechanically deboned meat, tea and pesticide residues on food.
- Reduces melatonin production and leads to an earlier onset of puberty (Luke 1997; Schlesinger 1956)
- Causes arthritic symptoms (DHHS 1991; Czerwinski 1988; Carnow 1981; Teotia 1976; Franke 1975; Singh 1963)
- Damages the outer protective layer of bones (Newburgh-Kingston 1945-55)
- Increased hip fractures in the elderly (Gutteridge 2002; Bayley 1990; Orcel 1990; Riggs 1990 and Schnitzler 1990; Hedlund 1989; O'Duffy 1986; Dambacher 1986; Gerster 1983; Inkovaara 1975)
- Reproductive problems (Ghosh 2002; Zakrzewska 2002; Elbetieha 2000; Zhao 1995; Chinoy 1994; Kumar 1994; Narayana 1994a,b; Chinoy 1991; Susheela 1991; Chinoy 1989; Kour 1980)
- Symptoms such as fatigue, headaches, rashes, and stomach and gastrointestinal tract problems which disappear when they avoid fluoride in their water and diet. (Moolenburgh 1987; Waldbott 1978; Shea 1967) Frequently the symptoms reappear when they are unwittingly exposed to fluoride again. (Spittle, 2008)

***For City of Buda Employees:***

According to the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), hydrofluorosilicic acid is:

- Extremely corrosive to skin and eyes
- May cause burns in all parts of the body.
- Long-term exposure may cause bone changes

According to the City of San Marcos 2011 Drinking Water Quality Report:

- The fluoride additive source is “Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories”.

According to Potash Corp’s (the City’s industrial fluoride supplier) product sheet:

- Their hydrofluosilicic acid has lead and arsenic in it.

Exposing Water Operators and the Environment is an unnecessary hazardous risk:

- Hydrofluorosilicic Acid burns through cement and steel pipes during accidents that have occurred at an injection site.



## **2. Lack of Medical Efficacy of Hydrofluorosilicic Acid**

***Hydrofluorosilicic acid has not been proven to prevent tooth decay and has been proven to have harmful health effects:***

- There has never been a single randomized clinical trial to demonstrate fluoridation's effectiveness or safety. Despite the fact that fluoride has been added to community water supplies for over 60 years, "there have been no randomized trials of water fluoridation." (Cheng 2007)
- In 2000, the British Government's "York Review" could not give a single fluoridation trial a Grade A classification – despite 50 years of research. (McDonagh 2000) The U.S. Food and Drug Administration FDA continues to classify fluoride as an "unapproved new drug."
- Fluoride is not an essential nutrient. No disease, not even tooth decay is caused by "fluoride deficiency." (NRC 2006; Institute of Medicine 1997; NRC 1993)
- Where fluoridation has been discontinued in communities from Canada to the former East Germany, Cuba and Finland, dental decay has not increased but has generally continued to decrease. (Maupome 2001; Kunzel 2000; Seppa 2000; Kunzel & Fischer 2000, 1997)

## **3. Budgetary**

***In light of the significant health and hazard concerns of hydrofluorosilicic acid, the lack of medical efficacy and the cost of fluoridation, this is an easy choice for the City of Buda and it's residents NOT to fluoridate:***

- Fluoride is NOT required to be added to the water.
- Supplemental fluoride is a personal health care choice.
- Eliminating additional fluoride in the water protects the City from class action lawsuits. Seattle has been notified that its potential legal liability in a class action lawsuit is estimated at \$50,000 per child afflicted with fluoride damage. Another class action lawsuit is currently being organized against the City of Austin, Texas. In April 2013, with the "Safe Drinking Water Disclosure Act"- H.B. 72 - the state of Utah is holding the companies that "fluoridate" Utah's drinking water accountable for pouring huge amounts of other toxic chemicals in the water along with the fluoridation chemicals. Nestle and Gerber have been sued over fluoride-fortified food products.
- According to Texas Rule §290.42(j), all chemicals added to drinking water as part of the water treatment process, must "conform to" National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) Standard 60 requirements. NSF official, Stan Hazen, admitted under oath that toxicological studies were not being done or available. (see letter from James Robert Deal to the McKinney, Texas City Council)

- The League of United Latin American Citizens LULAC, the oldest Hispanic civil rights organization has adopted a resolution opposing the practice of water fluoridation. Current data shows that water fluoridation disproportionately harms low income and minority communities. In response to this data, a growing number of civil rights advocates have called for a moratorium on fluoridation programs. This includes Andrew Young, the former Mayor of Atlanta and Ambassador to the United Nations, and Reverend Bernice King, the daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King. Water fluoridation has thus become an issue of health and environmental justice.
- The following are communities who have removed fluoride since 1990. There are over 3000 health and environmental professionals who have signed a statement to end fluoridation. Places that have stopped adding fluoride to the water supply include: Lago Vista, Texas 2011, College Station, Texas 2011, University of Texas, Austin fluoride-free water fountains, 2012. Since 2010, over 70 communities have rejected the practice, including Portland, Oregon (approximately 2,424,955 people live in the Portland metropolitan ), Calgary, Alberta, pop. 1.3 million people, and Albuquerque, New Mexico, pop. 500,000, and have voted to end their fluoridation programs. Most developed countries do not fluoridate their water. In western Europe, 97% of the population has water without a single drop of “fluoride” added to it.

***Let's “Breathe Easy Here” and make the choice***

***this November 7, 2017***

***to***

***Vote NO to Proposition A***

***to have Buda hydrofluorosilicic acid “Fluoride-Free”***

***so Everyone can Say “It’s Better here in Buda!”***

***We have Safe, Healthy Water!***



**Join our Facebook Group:**

**“Buda Citizens for Safe Water-  
Vote NO to Prop A”**



**for more information please feel free to contact:**

michael meuth 512-523-5711 or  
jennifer reed-allen 512-781-8838 or  
kathleen o'connell 512-550-7788



