



**"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY"**

# **Sewerage & Water Board of NEW ORLEANS**

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To: News Media  
From: Sewerage and Water Board  
Re: Fluoride in Drinking Water  
Contact: Robert Jackson, 269-7978 or Brenda Thornton, 269-7819  
Release: Immediately

## **S&WB Again Unable to Add Fluoride to Water**

The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans is running out of fluoride and will not be able to add any to the water supply Thursday because a new supply cannot be found.

The Board resumed adding fluoride to the treatment process on August 1, 2007, nearly two years after it had stopped its use because of a nationwide shortage. At that time approximately 4,000 gallons of fluoride was purchased, but that supply is now running out.

It is possible that the Board could often experience periods like this without fluoride until an annual contract can be entered into. Whenever fluoride is not available for the water system, the public will be notified.

Dental and medical studies have consistently shown that the addition of fluoride at recommended levels contributes greatly to the dental health of a population and it has been the policy of the Board to perform this treatment since June of 1974, when fluoride addition began in Orleans Parish.