

FIRE WATER

Australia's Industrial Fluoridation Disgrace

Exposing the systematic industrial waste poisoning of Australian drinking water supplies

Mystery Man – Interview Transcript

Interview conducted by
Jaya Chela Drolma

Transcribed by
Rosemarie Zalec

September 2010

[00:00:33]

Jaya: We are approaching the grounds of Incitec Pivot – a leading global chemicals company, based in Geelong Australia. As you can see, the grounds are lush and green – quite benign really, perhaps this is due to the fact that Incitec specialises in fertilizer manufacturing, as the yellow sign to our left shows. This is the front entrance. Keep in mind for later, that this is an *industrial* chemical plant. My driver meanwhile has been filling me on something the locals refer to as “air shed.” Until now, I’d been unfamiliar with this term. **[00:01:19]** Just to the end of this road, more to this phenomena shall be revealed. Employee offices are to our right; and as we travel up the street towards the ocean, just over the water one can begin to see ALCOA in the distance. ALCOA is an aluminium smelting factory, a process of which fluoride is a major bi-product. The “air shed” atmospheric discharge from ALCOA’s operation is of major concern to many Geelong residents.

[00:02:00] People are breathing in fluoride fumes and also having toxic pollution particles wash into their rainwater tanks. So, back to Pivot. We’re now at the rear of the factory. As you can see things are not so ‘pretty’ any more. It’s a dirty area, just as one *would* expect from an industrial chemical manufacturer. It’s hard to make out through the grime, but you can *just see* Pivot’s fertilizer symbol on the centre tank. Pivot, of course, is Australia’s leading supplier of Fluorosilicic acid. **[00:02:37]** This is a highly corrosive and toxic Schedule 7 poison, which is used to fluoridate drinking water across Australia. You will note the safety data sheet from Incitec Pivot says, quote, “an acid and an S7 poison. It is corrosive and toxic.” Unquote. Charming stuff. But just around the corner from *those* dirty buildings are decidedly newer facilities – “because the land is your life.” Once again we are reminded that this is a fertilizer industrial plant, catering to the *farming* community, not to formula-fed *babies*, nor any other consumer of public drinking water.

[00:03:21] As we travel along... over there... those oversize golf balls... they house a variety of chemicals. It is generally shocking to most people when they first discover that fluoridation chemicals added to their drinking water are untreated toxic industrial waste products, which have never been proven safe for long-term human ingestion. Fluorosilicic acid is recovered from the smoke stack scrubbers during the production of phosphate fertilizer and sold around

Australia, primarily by Incitec Pivot. [00:03:57] Now we will hear from a former Incitec employee who has been directly damaged by fluorosilicic acid. He agreed to be interviewed only on the condition he remained obscured for the camera. As a relatively new employee, and not adequately trained to manage fluorosilicic acid, an accident occurred where he was directly doused with the high-grade poison. Notice, that the text of Incitec's Material Safety Data Sheet reads, quote, "if skin contact occurs, immediately remove contaminated clothing. Flush skin under running water for fifteen minutes. Apply calcium gluconate gel to the affected area. Contact the Poisons Information Centre." End of quote. If this stuff spills, highways are shut down. This isn't child's play. Not knowing where to go to shower, he had to drive fifteen minutes home with the poison still on him. This is *his* account; and, these are *his* views on mandatory water fluoridation.

[00:05:13]

Mystery Man: I wasn't told... about the emergency... showers. They were all covered up. I actually had to jump into the car and go home and have a shower.

[00:05:23]

Jaya: You mentioned that you went to a doctor and got some medical tests done?

Mystery Man: Yep.

Jaya: What did those results provide you with; and why did you actually go and get medical testing?

[00:05:34]

Mystery Man: After doing a bit of research, I found out that the phosphate and the fluoride I was working with has a lot of heavy metals; [in] particular... particularly mercury and lead and they came back with results that I have got higher levels of mercury; and I've never been a big seafood eater. I explained my situation at PIVOT and the doctor definitely said that that would have a large playing part in it.

[00:05:59]

Jaya: What, working at INCITEC?

Mystery Man: Yeah – being exposed to such chemicals all the time.

Jaya: So what could that possibly mean for you in the future for your health?

Mystery Man: Ah, it's not a good thing. Like, mercury's not good at all.

[00:06:11]

Jaya: How does the mercury effect the body?

Mystery Man: Oh it plays havoc with everything. Your nerve endings, the way the brain functions... yeah.

[00:06:19]

Jaya: Why do you think fluoride is dangerous and should not be added to water?

[00:06:24]

Mystery Man: Ah... It's a poison, yeah, it's a poison; and I've done some research and countries that use it compared to countries that don't use it... there's no benefit. Teeth decay – that's the only reason they put it in our water.

[00:06:38]

Jaya: And you were mentioning that you felt it was corrosive. Could you give me a first-hand... what you feel about that statement?

[00:06:45]

Mystery Man: Um, just from what I've seen at work. Like with... they had to spend huge amounts of money on, like, you know, the best metals, stainless steel, titanium, what not, and it just corrodes everything – over a long enough period. Just eat through everything.

[00:07:01]

Jaya: Do you think people in Geelong should have a choice whether or not fluoride would be added to their drinking water?

[00:07:08]

Mystery Man: Definitely.

Jaya: How does it make you feel that they're forcing fluoride?

[00:07:13]

Mystery Man: It's, um, genocide – it's so wrong against the people – like, water it's something we need everyday. We shouldn't have to be poisoned by drinking it.

[00:07:23]

Jaya: Is there anything else you would like to say to others out there who may be concerned about this issue?

[00:07:28]

Mystery Man: Um yeah... Get out and do your own research and ask questions, 'cause no one seems to be asking them.

[00:07:34]

Jaya: What would you say to governments that are still fluoridating around the world?

Mystery Man: Ah, they need to pull their finger out. Start listening to the people.

[00:07:42]

Jaya: What if they don't want to listen to the people and they're going to do it anyway?

[00:07:47]

Mystery Man: Ah, that's... that's a hard one. 'Cause they don't seem to listen much any way.

[00:07:53]