

Bob Mollette

3rd Ward Councilman

1705 Franklin Blvd.
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

Phone: 740-353-0099
email: mollette@mollette.info
website: www.mollette.info

Correspondence#: 06-053

August 7, 2006

Jim Kalb, Mayor
728 Second Street
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

Re: **City Water Supply Deposits and Encrustations in Piping System**

I recently documented in my correspondence #06-052, dated July 13, 2006, concerns expressed by your constituents living in the 3rd Ward. This letter stated a homeowner's health concern issue and requested an inquiry into why our water distribution system contained a large amount of encrusted deposits. This concern was supported by a representative existing section of pipe replaced during construction along Scioto Trail. I provided this small section of pipe to you for inspection, investigation, and requested analysis. This letter also recognized the anxiety expressed by your constituents concerning the major investment into a new water treatment process (MIEX System) while our current distribution system may be old, degraded, or encrusted.

I sincerely appreciate the response, dated July 21, 2006, by Mr. Sam Sutherland; Public Utilities Director of Water. At this time, I am requesting additional information to resolve these concerns raised by your constituents living in the 3rd Ward.

It was noted by the Public Utilities Director "*that any waterline that age is subject to these encrustations*" and "*the waterlines mentioned.....were well over 100 years old.*" It was also stated "*our system is sampled in at least forty different locations monthly to make sure we are providing safe drinking water to our customers.*" I am requesting a laboratory analysis to be performed of the encrustation, in the pipe sample supplied to you, in an effort to resolve the health hazard concerns and understand why the accumulation of these deposits are considered a normal or safe growth within our water supply distribution system. Our water customers concerns are based solely on the *visual* image of a residual deposit accumulated within their aged piping system, which delivers drinking water to their household. These concerns warrant an appropriate response to resolve. Also, I am requesting the existing removed pipe sample, which was submitted to you, be returned after an analysis is complete.

It was noted by the Public Utilities Director that "*in the last ten years we have invested at least ten million dollars in improvements to the distribution system. The same attention now needs to be directed towards the Filtration Plant and the MIEX System is a part of this.*" I am requesting additional information to assure your constituents the City has a **plan** to maintain and improve our aged treatment plant and old water distribution system to supply adequate and safe drinking water to our homeowners and our customers.

Contact me should you need any additional information or comments.

Respectfully,



Bob Mollette, 3rd Ward Council

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cc: 3rd Ward Representative
Sam Sutherland, Director of Public Utilities Waterworks
Council (5)
Jo Ann Aeh, Clerk (Record)