

COUNCIL RESOLUTION #143 OF 2018

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND STATE LEGISLATURE TO REQUIRE FULL DISCLOSURE OF ANALYTICAL RESULTS FROM THE TESTING OF MICROCYSTINS IN RAW AND FINISHED WATER FROM PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SOURCES

By Councilor_____

October 11, 2018

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn and the Town of Owasco use Owasco Lake as a source of drinking water for 40,000 people; and

WHEREAS, for the past three years cyanotoxins from blue-green algae or cyanobacteria have been detected in the raw water drawn from Owasco Lake at the water filtration plant and in 2016 the cyanotoxins were detected in the City of Auburn treated water; and

WHEREAS, the City of Auburn works in partnership with the Cayuga County Health Department and the NYS Department of Health to test the raw water intake and finished water produced at the City's water filtration plant for microcystins produced from the harmful algal blooms; and

WHEREAS, in previous years, results of such tests were reported back to the City with all analytical data found above zero; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 the NYS DOH first determined that it would only disclose microcystin water test results that record a result above .3 parts per billion (ppb) and later in the season changed course to disclose results above .15ppb with results recorded between .15ppb through .3ppb listed with an asterisk (*) which signifies the State Department of Health believes test results below .3ppb are statistically unreliable; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 the NYS DOH first determined that it would only disclose microcystin water test results that record a result above .3 parts per billion (ppb) and late in the season changed course to disclose results detected above below .3ppb with an asterisk (*); and

WHEREAS, the Auburn City Council is eager for the New York State Department of Health (DOH) to report results of all analytical findings regarding testing for microcystins in public water supplies and such reporting should be consistent year to year within a standardized sampling and analytical protocol determined well before harmful algal blooms appear for the season.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Auburn City Council does hereby request the full disclosure of all analytical findings regarding microcystins in raw and finished drinking water in New York State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Auburn City Council requests that the New York State Department of Health (DOH) adopt a standardized sampling and analytical protocol to detect microcystins in drinking water in the State of New York that would include publicly posting any detection of microcystins above zero; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Auburn City Council requests that The New York State Department of Health (DOH) adopt a maximum contaminant level of microcystin in public drinking water supplied in New York State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk forward certified copies of this Resolution to the Governor, the Commissioner of the DOH, the Commissioner of the DEC and members of our State Legislative delegation.

Seconded by Councilor: _____

	Ayes	Noes
Councilor McCormick		
Councilor Giannettino		
Councilor Cuddy		
Councilor Carabajal		
Mayor Quill		
Carried and Adopted		