



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

AL GREEN  
9TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
HOUSTON, TEXAS

February 17, 2017

The Honorable Greg Walden  
Chairman  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone Jr.  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2322A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Request for Hearing on Prevalence of Chromium-6 in Houston-area Drinking Water**

Dear Chairman Walden and Ranking Member Pallone,

I am writing to request that the House Committee on Energy and Commerce hold a hearing and investigate the prevalence of chromium-6 in drinking water in Houston, Texas. The ingestion of Chromium-6 at even low levels has caused increased incidences of cancer in laboratory studies. Given recent reports of elevated levels of chromium-6 in the water supplies found in Houston and other parts of the country, I believe this is an urgent matter.

According to research done by the Environmental Working Group (EWG), in analyzing federal drinking water data, they have estimated that potentially over 200 million Americans around the country may be exposed to drinking water with unsafe levels of chromium-6 present. More specifically, Houston, Texas ranks third in the country in terms of chromium-6 content.

Regardless of our views on the role the federal government should have in imposing standards on drinking water, I believe it is incumbent on us as Members of Congress to ensure that we are

protecting our constituents. I thank you for your consideration to investigate and hold hearings on this important topic.

Please do not hesitate to contact my Chief of Staff, Gregg Orton at [Gregg.orton@mail.house.gov](mailto:Gregg.orton@mail.house.gov), or my office at (202) 225-7508).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in green ink, consisting of stylized initials and a surname, is enclosed within a hand-drawn green oval. The signature appears to be "Gregg Orton".