Gibson-Thomas ENGINEERING

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October 28, 2026

Borough of Tarentum
318 E Second Avenue
Tarentum, PA 15084

RE: Fluoride Removal

Attn: Dwight Boddorf – Borough Manager

Dear Mr. Boddorf

Gibson-Thomas Engineering Co has been asked to provide a letter of support regarding the removal of the water system's fluoridation program. Historically the Borough's water treatment system has included the addition of fluoride. This was done to promote dental health, primarily in the youth of the community. With advances in availability of fluoride, it is no longer necessary for the water system to provide this chemical in potable water.

The makeup of fluoride, for addition to the treatment system, is one of the most dangerous chemicals the operators deal with. In the very diluted concentrations, as found in the potable water, the fluoride does provide some benefit. However, the concentrated acid that the operators handle, prior to dilution in the system, is extremely hazardous. Small spills and skin contact can result in severe chemical burns.

It is our opinion that this danger does not outweigh the benefits of fluoride addition. We would propose that the Borough cease the addition of fluoride to the potable water system.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question or concerns.

Very truly yours,
Gibson-Thomas Engineering Co., Inc.



Peter Buss PE
Project Manager