

Is Mold In Commercial Grade Zeolite Hazardous to Your Health?

Over the years, customers have been calling ZEO Health and asking, “How come I can pay less for another brand and get the same amount as your Zeolite Pure powder?” In response, we emphasize the outstanding purity and quality of our zeolite when compared to all other zeolite supplements. We have always spent extra time and money to have our zeolite shipped from our purest overseas mine, cleaned, micronized, and processed so that we can deliver the highest quality products to our customers. In contrast, the competition just packs it in a container at the local commercial mine. But recently, another issue concerning the competition’s zeolite has come to my attention. What I found out is frankly disturbing, and I feel it is my duty to inform you of the possible hazards and risks of ingesting these commercial grade zeolite supplements.

About Commercial Grade Zeolite

The containers for many other brands of zeolite powder are much smaller than our Zeolite Pure’s container, yet the weight of zeolite in each bottle is around the same or more. It is already known that these companies use commercial grade zeolite from their mine resources and do not spend the money to have it cleaned, properly dried and micronized to what we feel is a proper level for ingestion. Commercial zeolite is used for industrial purposes, such as in cat litter, concrete filler, and pool filtration, and is often loaded with heavy metals and other contaminants that were located in the ground near the zeolite deposit (due to the

lack of regulation and possible toxin dumping during the industrial revolution in the United States). It is simply milled (or crushed down) at the mine, which essentially jeopardizes the entire structure of the zeolite and can be potentially dangerous to ingest. When zeolite is milled, and not micronized, the particle size is bigger. This makes it feel sandy and gritty in your mouth, but also takes up less room in a container because it is heavier and not as fluffy as micronized zeolite. Additionally, milled zeolite is not as effective as micronized zeolite because a majority of it is not small enough to leave the digestive tract and circulate through the entire body, like micronized zeolite can. So what you get in many cheaper zeolite products is contaminated, less effective, and potentially dangerous commercial grade zeolite.

Purity of Cheaper Zeolite Products

I purchased a couple containers of popular zeolite powder brands to fully investigate why the containers would be half the size of our Zeolite Pure, but contained the same weight in zeolite. I sent them out to an independent mineral lab for testing. A couple weeks later, I received the shocking results. The two products each tested at only 48% and 49% purity for clinoptilolite (zeolite). Before the results, I could never have guessed that the purity would be so low! What made up the remaining 52% to 53% of this zeolite? Materials, such as amorphous, feldspar, mica, illite, and smectite. These elements are left over volcanics, and are essentially dirt. And while it's normal that some are found in clinoptilolite deposits, it's not normal that more than half of a zeolite supplement

is comprised of this mixture of substances. Knowing this, the cost for these products seems way too high for half the container being filled with wasted dirt that has no real value.

Zeolite and Moisture

I initially thought that my investigation into these commercial grade zeolite products would start and stop with purity; however, after I opened these containers, I was brought into a totally different direction. I could smell the distinct musky smell of mold. It was so strong, that I decided to send these products out to an independent food lab for testing. This lab tests for all the same types of mold that any of the other food products that we consume are tested for. What came back from the lab was appalling to me. The two samples of zeolite contained documented mold growth. How is it possible that a mineral like zeolite can harbor mold? The answer is easy- moisture issues.

Moisture is added to zeolite during the mining process for practical reasons. Damp powders are easier to capture, manage, transport, store, and package. In order to best handle the zeolite, it needs to be wet and heavy or the mine might lose too much of it to winds and handling.

Zeolite Sources

Many supplement companies do not have access to the highest quality clinoptilolite mines for their zeolite products. We have also discovered that many companies do an inadequate job of cleaning and drying their zeolite which without this important process absorbs moisture easily,

significantly increasing its weight and the chance for mold growth. We feel that proper cleaning and drying should be basic standards for any zeolite supplement company because without these procedures properly applied while processing the zeolite the moisture in the zeolite is the perfect breeding ground for mold spores to flourish. Now mold might not now be a big concern in some commercial applications because the USA Federal safety standards to date do not regulate mold growth in ingestible zeolite products. Because of this lack of standards it cannot be legally claimed that mold growth spore counts are actually unhealthy for human consumption. We feel that this could be a real problem if you are making a supplement for people to ingest! Please know that we look forward to the day when mold growth in ingestible zeolite products are Federally regulated. So besides using heavy, gritty, milled zeolite, moisture is another reason why the product containers of the other companies are much smaller, yet the weight is still comparable to our Zeolite Pure powder. It's heavier simply because of the water content in the zeolite, the larger particle size, and dirt, giving the false appearance that you are paying less for the same amount.

ZEO HEALTH MOLD TEST

ZEO Health Prides Itself on High Standards!
ZEO Health has always had a long history with establishing the highest standards for creating the best quality supplements possible. We pioneered the zeolite supplement industry over 15 years ago, and since this time we have continually worked to improve our zeolite as technology progresses.

While we have always invested the time and money in having our zeolite imported from our purest source, cleaned, dried, micronized, and manufactured in a GMP certified facility, we have also continuously looked for technological advances that would improve our zeolite. Much of this improvement has to do with finer micronization and the removal of moisture from the zeolite. The moisture content of zeolite can make up to 50% of the total zeolite weight. In an average zeolite supplement that is not put through the strict processes ZEO Health abides by, a consumer might have receive 20% to 50% less clinoptilolite zeolite per gram because of the low purity and high moisture levels. A couple years ago, we were able to micronize our zeolite down further to a fine powder. It is an expensive process and rarely ever done by any other zeolite company. Yet, we put our zeolite through this process, without raising the cost of our supplements, solely to deliver the best products to our customers. During micronization, moisture is extracted from the zeolite, which will help to eliminate the chance of mold developing in the product. On a two-ton manufacturing run, we expect to lose a full ton of weight due to moisture. We feel that many manufacturers would rather skip this step because they are losing a lot of weight in the zeolite, which is how they measure and sell their products. That coupled with the price of the process, and you can understand why many zeolite manufacturers may skip this step. ZEO Health's zeolite goes straight from the mine to the purification and micronization process. From there the zeolite is taken to our climate controlled warehouse for storage or directly to manufacturing. Our high standards keep our manufacturing lines tight and

controlled to protect against any possible contaminants or moisture issues. To further ensure quality, we always have our zeolite tested for mold and make sure that the results always come back negative to supply our customers with only the highest quality zeolite!

Volume vs. Weight

My investigations into other companies' zeolite powders have uncovered two major facts: 1. Many companies use milled commercial grade zeolite, and 2. It contains mold. The product may be the same weight as our Zeolite Pure and a bit cheaper, but you are actually getting a lot less zeolite for your money with these other products. Weight has proven to be a false indicator when it comes to the amount of zeolite in each container. This is why our container is much larger, yet the same weight as other brands. The amount of zeolite by weight can easily be manipulated by the amount of moisture in the zeolite. Our zeolite might be the same weight as the competitor's, but you're really getting less zeolite in each container with other companies. Consumers who compare price vs. weight on zeolite containers with no idea what the moisture content is are being misled. We feel that they are risking their health and wellbeing on possibly purchasing mold contaminated commercial zeolite just to save a few bucks! In our case, ZEO Health has a history of improving our zeolite with each technological development. We have always worked towards increasing purity, while decreasing moisture content, to really deliver a premium product. Our lab results stating 0% mold content have proved this time and again. These increased quality improvements often come

with a drop in weight, although there is have been an increase in actual amount of zeolite. Since this moisture issue has come to light, we do not think judging the contents of our powder based on weight is a true representation of what customers are actually getting. It is for this reason that ZEO Health has decided to move towards using volume measurements for our powder products, as it best reflects that amount of zeolite the consumer is really receiving. Altering our standards from weight to volume will ultimately be a more truthful representation of our product's contents. And please always remember, you should be wary of any zeolite that comes straight from a commercial mine and/or doesn't go through an extensive purification, drying and micronization process.