

## Alicia Pacheco

Hello, my name is Alicia Pacheco. I would like to comment on the DPR Draft 2024 Strategic Plan. I see many faults in this draft and discrepancies with the DPR's current actions and what they want to achieve in the future. In the draft it was stated that the DPR wishes to "strengthen relationships with California Native American Tribes by expanding culturally relevant, meaningful engagement and government-to-government consultation." The pesticide Telone, 1,3-dichloropropene, is the third-most used pesticide in the Monterey Bay Region. About 90% of its use in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties is in the Pajaro and Salinas Valleys. Three quarters of the Monterey Bay Region's Latinos and two thirds of Indigenous people live in these areas. How can the DPR improve their relation with California Native American Tribes if they are environmentally racist? According to the EPA, Telone is classified as a Group B2, probable human, carcinogen by both inhalation and oral routes of exposure. Telone has been in Toxic Category II, which is the second highest of four categories. It has been shown to be of moderate acute toxicity by both oral and dermal routes and has mutagenic properties. Why would we want this to be used in our community? We don't. The DPR also mentioned in their Strategic Plan that they would "evaluate regulations governing pesticide use around schools and take appropriate action to improve processes that support safe pest management around schools." When will this happen, because in the draft, there was no set date. How long will it take for kids in our community to be put as a priority? And not just the children but farmworkers as well. The pesticide Telone is a risk to farmworkers if they are not using the proper equipment. It is used as a liquid in soil which is then volatilized, some of it moves up into the atmosphere. Handlers are exposed during and after use. Even residents around treated fields are exposed to volatilized Telone because it enters the atmosphere throughout the two week period following the application. The dietary risk of Telone is solely from drinking 1,3-dichloropropene residues in groundwater. Farmworkers who are exposed to volatilized Telone bring it home to their families. Or residents close enough to be exposed are affected as well. These are current issues that the DPR has shown that their Draft 2024 Strategic Plan is filled with broken promises. Do better.