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Dear Director Henderson:

As a member of the agricultural community, I work hard to ensure my pest management practices protect my community, my workers, my farm and the environment. I have confidence in the federal, state and local oversight of pesticide use enforcement. Considering these rules and regulations, I do not believe that the changes to the CDPR's Advance Pesticide Notification System are necessary in anticipation of pesticide applications and believe these changes will be detrimental to sustainable farming going forward in California.

Should the Department continue to move forward with this project, I ask the Department to consider the following items:

1. Notification should be limited to pesticide products that are already subject to Notices of Intent
 2. Timeframes to submit Notices of Intent to County Agricultural Commissioners should remain as it is in current practice
 3. Public notifications should only include what information is absolutely necessary: product applied, intended date and time of application, and general geographical location (base, meridian, township, range, and section)
 4. Personally identifying information, such as acreage treated or exact location, should not be included—this is critical to grower, applicator and employee safety
 5. Because of the high probability that advanced notice will trigger appeals of NOIs and stall applications, the Department should prepare for these administrative burdens, act quickly to protect the right to farm, and for extended liability for crop loss.
- As this system is implemented, I encourage the Department to engage early and often with the agricultural community to be sure that negative consequences are managed.

Any delays in fumigation for our business will greatly disrupt the supply chain of walnuts, not to mention having devastating effects on the quality of the walnuts we shell and pack. The life cycle of these pests is very short and any delay could cause massive infestation problems with potential delays, quality issues, and returns from customers.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kajioka July 26th, 2024

Grower and Packer Kevin Kajioka
General Manager, Turlock Walnut Company, Inc.

