

# Californians for Pesticide Reform

Dear Ms. Lauren Otani,

I hope that this email finds you well. On behalf of the Californians for Pesticide Reform (CPR), I write to you today to provide a written comment regarding the newly implemented statewide notification system on pesticide use.

I am currently a resident of Tulare County, and my name is Jesus Verduzco. It is important for me to use my voice to advocate on behalf of the farm working communities who work the agricultural fields of this county. Our communities have been historically oppressed and political representation is lacking. I do not believe that it is our fault, or the fault of farm workers, that they find themselves in a place that requires them to accept the risk of pesticide poisoning. The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) is responsible for ensuring that pesticides do not impact any people disproportionately. Farmworkers, and Tulare County residents, need to know the exact location of the farms where pesticides are applied so that we can make important decisions that will protect our health. Is this an issue of money or political will? As pesticide drift, and negative health outcomes associated with pesticide use continue to disproportionately impact underrepresented populations, we will continue to suffer from skin and eye irritation, nausea, headaches, and other illnesses. My overarching comment is that the underrepresented communities living in the agriculturally wealthy regions of California demand to know the exact location of pesticide use in order to properly protect our health.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jesus J. Verduzco

Grants and Communications Manager

Californians for Pesticide Reform | CPR

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