

# West Berkeley Alliance for Clean Air and Safe Jobs

Director Henderson,

On behalf of the West Berkeley Alliance for Clean Air and Safe Jobs, I am writing to address the fact that the new pesticide notification system lacks the most crucial and effective component, the notification of the **exact** location of the pesticide spraying. A one-square-mile radius notification does **not** provide sufficient information for the most impacted community members to take proactive measures to protect themselves, e.g. adjusting schedules and walking routes, ventilating and taking shelter, closing windows or moving indoors, assessing wind drift as well as other environmental factors.

Farmworkers are our very important essential workers. They are the most exposed to harmful pesticide sprays. With more specific location information they can take extra safety precautions and perform additional safety measures if they know which fields have been sprayed. This vital information aids in faster emergency preparedness in case of exposure due to pesticide drift.

By not providing more detailed, specific pesticide spray information, those most impacted are left at high risk of exposure which impacts their health and their livelihood. Since pesticides drift with the wind, knowing exactly where they are being sprayed is crucial.

The West Berkeley Alliance also strongly encourages you to change the name "Spray Days" to "Pesticide Notification System". The pesticides used are restricted chemicals, many of which are carcinogenic. The name "Spray Days" downplays the severity of the harmful effects of these chemicals, the need for community members to take safety precautions, and the fact that these pesticides are sprayed year-round.

We welcome you seriously considering integrating new languages into the notification system making it more accessible to all impacted community members.

The West Berkeley Alliance urges you to take the right and moral action by providing more precise information in the notification system thus ensuring the safety and well-being of all impacted communities.

Sincerely,

Janice Schroeder

Core Member

westberkeleyalliance@yahoo.com



July 24, 2024

Dept. of Pesticide Regulation  
1001 I Street, P.O. Box 4015  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4015

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