

## Public comments Anonymous

Name/Nombre: Sasha Alvarez

Comments/Comentarios: I am writing to you as a Ventura county resident, student fellow + representative of the UFW, as well as a soon to be graduate of the University of California, Santa Barbara. While I appreciate the steps that the state of California is taking w/ the new alert system proposed by the DPR to notify agricultural workers about pesticide spraying + application, there's a fundamental flaw - a crucial piece of the puzzle is missing rather than providing precise locations, they are trying to make us settle for a one-mile radius where pesticides have been applied. Let me be clear and stand firm in this statement. This is NOT enough, and won't ever be enough. We aren't asking for luxuries here; we're demanding basic rights and that you respect them. What our essential workers deserve + demand is exact location information, not vague approximations. These workers have proven time and time again that they are valuable + essential especially during crisis' like the global COVID-19 pandemic or the natural disasters heightened by the adverse effects of climate change. Last week, I laid it out for you all, but maybe I wasn't clear enough: our request isn't about greed, it's about justice and equality. We are demanding the right to what is already available and what is rightfully ours. Instead of the crumbs from your table, which ironically comes from the food these workers plant, cultivate + harvest, we demand full transparency. Government + private research, including studies conducted by your own department. The DPR highlight the risks associated with pesticide exposure, particularly for vulnerable groups like children + pregnant women. If these risks are well-documented, why aren't we ensuring this crucial information is accessible to those who need it most - the agricultural workers on the front lines. And to those here in opposition to this full transparency, thank you for revealing your true priorities: profit over people. Your actions speak volumes about your complete disregard for the well-being of your agricultural workers. You are favoring secrecy that benefits your bottom line at the expense of our environment + our families. Hiding behind corporate interests, that line your pockets, only exposes your moral bankruptcy. I feel for you and hope you side with humanity on this one. SI SE PUEDE! #UBICACIONEXACTA #PROTECTION-IN-PINPOINTING-PESTICIDES

Name/Nombre: Gloria V. Herrera

Comments/Comentarios: I work on the fields on the 80' I am surprised that until now they still not notified people when they going to spray it is still missing the most essential information that it is that it will help us take precautions: we want notifications now

Name/Nombre: Marysol H. Madrigal - Fresno County

Comments/Comentarios: I have taken my inhalers since I was 8 - and I passed out while running outside my grandparents home in Mendota

I then had to go to Madera childrens hospital and my mom hold my hand as I was given oxygen twice-we spent the night trying to breathe.

The dust-pesticide-transportation pollutions-this is all killing us-but it killed my grandfather died in early 60's-of cancer-he worked in the fields over 30 years-

Don't ignore-our communities-without our families our workers-the world will not eat.

Name/Nombre: Lupe Martinez

Comments/Comentarios:

Hi. My name is DANNY GALbISO, and I live in OROiS CA. I really like the idea of a pesticide notification system to shed light on potential harm from pesticide drift, but it looks to me like your plan will still keep the public in the dark. It won't tell us *where* within a one-mile square the applications will be made. There's a big difference in the threat from pesticides drifting from across the street versus from across town. We would be much more cautious when the spraying is close nearby, but the system you propose will not tell us that. We need to know the exact location of the pesticide application. Please add that to the system.

Thank you.

I DANNY GALbiso live next door to another farm feild that don't care when they spray day or night at all I have astham all the time near orosi calif.

Good Evening, my name is D.G. I am here today to talk about how our communities have the right to know. When pesticides are sprayed in our communities, we experience skin irritation, eye irritation, damage to our respiratory tract and those of us working in the fields risk developing a skin disease. We have the right to the exact location of where pesticides will be sprayed. Please give us the information, but not only that, give us the means to protect our health!

Esther Ramirez  
Cantua Creek

The DPR's Vision for California is to provide pest management that is safe, effective and sustainable for everyone.

Cantua Creek, a small rural community, is surrounded by farmland.

My neighbors have been affected by the spraying of chemicals that leave residue on their cars or the clothes hung out to dry.

A 24-48 hour Notice sent by text would be vital to the residents with issues, like asthma or allergies or who happen to be taking a walk or children playing outdoors

The address and the names of the material would be informative and beneficial

Please consider the importance of the notification of the application of a restricted material(s)

Text would be a great start.

Thank you

Name/Nombre: Shafter Resident, Committee For A Better Shafter

Comments/Comentarios: Exact location notification is indeed necessary so we know where the site application is at so we can avoid stepping into contaminated soil and bringing it into our home or risk unwanted drift. There are times that it is applied in front of homes so one would assume the homeowners can see it and are aware so as to not venture outside or near the site but if you don't live in that particular neighborhood and walk along the site like I did, you are putting yourself at risk without knowing it. I was walking along E Los Angeles Ave here in Shafter, which if you don't know, has no sidewalks or safe space to walk so joggers and walkers either have to go into the road or into the dirt. That time it was starting to get hot so I decided to walk in the orchards for shade and to avoid any morning traffic. While in there I smelled something vaguely sweet and familiar but it was also affecting my breathing and caused some muscle spasms. I remembered smelling this once from my dad's work clothes, he is a field worker, when he would work in pesticide spraying and sure enough I saw an application tank pass by the rows in front of me. I had no choice but to run back to the road to avoid getting hit or sprayed. There were no signs outside warning of trucks entering or spraying.

We have a community garden behind Sequoia Elementary along Fresno Ave in Shafter and many

have seen planes spraying so close to the almond orchards, which are a considerable distance from us, that drift still makes contact with us while we are out there trying to maintain a pesticide-free garden. When one of our members asked what was being sprayed the foreman ignored him before eventually telling him it was sugar water. Whether it was true or not we have older persons and families coming out to grow clean food and take some time to do healthy activities for the good of their health and their families health. But how can we when not even the air we breathe is healthy and many of us are developing breathing problems or our children are being born with breathing problems? A healthy community stems from a healthy environment. Statewide notification with exact location of site application is a must and must be a necessity, not a suggestion.

Name/Nombre: Ivan Ortiz

Comments/Comentarios: If you're from the Valley, you know how important agriculture is to our communities. It provides jobs and opportunities for farmworkers and their families. However, an aspect that affects households and communities that live in close proximity to agricultural fields is the application of pesticides; pesticides that have caused health impacts to families and farmworkers alike. The planned community announcement system does not take into account the fact that pesticides can spread farther than the planned one mile radius notification, and providing only the general area undermines the purpose of these alerts. What happens if pesticide is applied near the boundary of the one mile area? What about the people who live on the other side of that boundary? Knowing exactly where pesticide is being applied is important for residents to plan accordingly for their health, and safety. When harmful gasses are being sprayed into the air, our gas companies notify us with the exact location or at the minimum cross streets where the leak is located. Why can't DPR, an agency who's mission is to protect the environment and people from pesticide-use, do the same? My ask is for the planned notification system to provide exact location of where the application is occurring.

Statewide Notification of Agricultural Use of Restricted Materials (DPR Regulation No. 23-003)

Notificación a Nivel Estatal sobre el Uso Agrícola de Pesticidas Restringidos (Reglamentación No. 23-003 del DPR)

Public comments/ Comentarios públicos

Name/Nombre:

Sasha Alvarez

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I am writing to you as a Ventura county resident, student fellow + representative of the UFW, as well as a soon to be graduate of the University of California, Santa Barbara. While I appreciate the steps that the state of California is taking w/ the new alert system proposed by the DPR to notify agricultural workers about pesticide spraying + application, there's a fundamental flaw - a crucial piece of the puzzle is missing. Rather than providing precise locations, they are trying to make us settle for a one-mile radius where pesticides have been applied. Let me be clear and stand firm in this statement: This is NOT enough, and won't ever be enough. We aren't asking for luxuries here; we're demanding basic rights and that you respect them. What our essential workers deserve + demand is exact location information, not vague approximations. These workers have proven time and time again, that they are valuable + essential<sup>es</sup> - especially during crisis' like the global COVID-19 Pandemic or the natural disasters heightened by the adverse effects of climate change. Last week, I layed it out

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#UBICACIÓN EXACTA

#PROTECTION-IN-PINPOINTING-PESTICIDES

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DOOR TO ANOTHER FARM FEED  
+ HAT DON'T CARE WHEN THEY  
SPRAY DAY OR NIGHT + AT ALL  
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**DPR Public Hearing on Statewide Notifications System, Shafter Youth Center, Public Comments, July 23, 2024**

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7/23/24

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