

Robert Longstreth

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 regulation, I do not

believe that the changes to the CDPR's Advance Pesticide Notification System are necessary in anticipation of pesticide applications.

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. -Time frames to submit Notice 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.
6. -There are already some of the toughest last regulations operating to protect the employees, the community, and the rest of the public.
7. -The use of such regulation is not a benefit to those who are unaware of applications happening around them but an annoyance. Again, we already have the toughest laws in the states.

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.

Sincerely,

Growers' Choice Inc.

Robert Longstreth