



Julie Henderson
Director

February 25, 2022

Ms. Jane Sellen, Co-Director
Californians for Pesticide Reform

Ms. Anne Katten, MPH
Pesticide and Work Health and Safety Specialist
California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation

Ms. Margaret Reeves, Senior Scientist
Pesticide Action Network North America

Via email: jane@pesticidereform.org
akatten@crlaf.org
mreeves@panna.org

Dear Jane, Anne, and Margaret:

Thank you for meeting with our executive team on February 10 to discuss various issues including Pesticide Use Near Schoolsites regulations. As was shared during our meeting, all of the actions included in your February 4 letter would require regulation. The Department, along with the county agricultural commissioners (CACs), is committed to protecting children and schoolsites from pesticide exposure and the enforcement of the Pesticide Use Near Schoolsites regulations. DPR is actively working on identifying immediate actions in close coordination with CACs to enhance the tools available for tracking compliance with the Pesticide Use Near Schoolsites regulations. This includes increasing outreach to growers and applicators.

The Department has issued guidance to CACs for distribution at permitting times, and during Spray Safe and grower meeting events to increase compliance. We also will evaluate regulatory options to clarify field application reporting. In addition, we are selecting for follow up a few schools that appear from the PUR data you shared to potentially have been most impacted by nearby pesticide applications. Our objective is to better understand whether the applications reported during the 6am-to-6pm school day cover fields partially or entirely within the schoolsite regulation buffer zone, and if partially, whether the application to the partially covered field took place before, during or after the school day.

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We look forward to continuing to collaborate on this with you and your respective organizations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julissa de Gonzalez".

Julissa de Gonzalez
Director of Legislation and Policy
916-445-3976