



Department of Pesticide Regulation



Brian R. Leahy
Director

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

November 7, 2013

PML 13-02

TO: County Agricultural Commissioners

SUBJECT: UPDATE OF ISSUES RELATED TO CONTINUING EDUCATION AND LICENSING

Introduction

In this letter, Department of Pesticide Regulation's (DPR) licensing program will provide an update on the proposed continuing education (CE) regulations and answer recent questions related to the CE and licensing program.

Status of the Proposed Continuing Education Regulations

As you know, Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) recently proposed to amend sections 6512 and 6513 of Title 3, California Code of Regulations. The proposed regulations would:

- Require additional information of sponsors when submitting CE applications to DPR for approval.
- Set forth criteria for obtaining approval for online and correspondence CE courses.
- Require CE sponsors and license and certificate holders to retain additional information in their records.
- Require CE sponsors to give license and certificate holders a record of course or program completion.

Status

The new regulations, developed through the Agricultural Pest Control Advisory Committee have been submitted to Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review. OAL has the option to approve, change, or reject entirely, the proposed regulation language. Therefore, what the final regulations will be or when OAL will act on the proposed regulations is uncertain. The proposed regulations can be reviewed on DPR's Laws/Regulations Web site. See the "proposed text" PDF file at:

<<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/legbills/rulepkgs/13-001/13-001.htm>>.

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15-Day Requirement for CE Approval

Regarding the current 15 business day requirement for DPR approval of submitted CE courses, DPR typically takes much less than 15 days to approve a course. We understand that CACs and other sponsors may need a quicker turnaround and will try to accommodate these requests.

Fee Waiver for CAC Sponsored Courses

The fee for sponsorship of a CE course by CACs has historically been waived. This has not been publicized, but is warranted when considering the unique relationship DPR has with the counties. Since DPR funds pesticide use enforcement (and CE leads to better compliance) and other county activities, it does not make sense to charge CACs \$45 per course.

CAC Staff License Renewal Question

The final issue relates to license renewal of CACs and county staff. CACs and their staff should fill out the *County Agricultural Commissioner's Staff Continuing Education Record* and send it to DPR, along with the license renewal form and the *County Agricultural Commissioner Staff Waiver Request form (PR-PML-001A-WR)*.

The CAC Continuing Education form can be found at:

<<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/forms/pr-pml-179.pdf>>.

The CAC Staff Waiver Request form can be found at:

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/forms/pr-pml-001a-wr.pdf>

Contacts

If there are any additional questions, please contact Mr. Tom Babb at (916) 445-1707 or <tbabb@cdpr.ca.gov>; or Laurie Brajkovich at (916) 445-9903 or <lbrajovich@cdpr.ca.gov> of my staff. They would be happy to discuss any of these in more detail over the phone or by email.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Nan Gorder, Ph.D, Branch Chief
Pest Management and Licensing Branch
(916) 445-4038

See next page.

cc: Mr. George Farnsworth, Environmental Program Manager II, Enforcement Branch

Mr. Tom Babb, Environmental Program Manager I, Pest Management and Licensing Branch

Ms. Laurie Brajkovich, Senior Environmental Scientist, Pest Management and Licensing Branch

Mr. Joe Marade, Agricultural Commissioner Liaison, Pesticide Programs Division