Department of Pesticide Regulation

Brian R. Leahy
Director

Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor

September 23, 2016

Ms. Pat McFadden
Sipcam Agro USA, Inc.
2525 Meridian Parkway, Suite 350
Durham, North Carolina 27713

Dear Ms. McFadden:

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) detected residues of two degradation products of the active ingredients metolachlor and S-metolachlor in ground water. DPR detected residues of ethanesulfonic acid and oxanilic acid in 62 wells at concentrations ranging from 0.05 to 20.2 parts per billion (ppb). There were eight groups of adjacent detections located in San Joaquin, Solano, and Stanislaus Counties in areas of either corn, bean, or processing tomato production. DPR investigated these detections and determined that they are due to legal agricultural use of pesticide products containing metolachlor or S-metolachlor.

DPR currently registers 17 agricultural use products containing metolachlor or S-metolachlor for sale and use in California, including your product:

- Stalwart Herbicide, EPA Reg. No. 60063-24-AA

Pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) section 13149(c), if DPR does not receive a written request for a hearing within 30 days from the date of this letter, DPR shall cancel the registrations of all agricultural use products containing metolachlor and S-metolachlor.

If a metolachlor or S-metolachlor registrant requests a hearing, the hearing will occur within 180 days of the initial request. Pursuant to FAC section 13150, if a registrant requests a hearing, it is required to submit a report and documented evidence to support the continued registration, sale, and use of pesticide products containing the active ingredients metolachlor/S-metolachlor. A registrant may inform DPR that it intends to rely upon a report and documented evidence submitted by another party. The report and documented evidence should be submitted to DPR 30 days before the scheduled hearing date in hard copy and in portable document format (PDF) on a compact disc (CD) to facilitate review by the subcommittee and posting to DPR's Web site.

The registrant(s), or its designated agent(s), will be given time at the hearing to provide oral testimony and answer the subcommittee's questions about the registrant's report and any other material that the registrant submits to DPR. The public will also be given time to provide oral testimony to the subcommittee.

Further details regarding DPR's findings are included in the following documents enclosed with this letter:

(1) Notice of Metolachlor/S-Metolachlor Degradation Product Residue Detections in California Ground Water and Registrant Opportunity to Request a Hearing

(2) Legal Agricultural Use Determination for Metolachlor/S-Metolachlor Degradate Detections in California

The written hearing request and requests for additional information should be directed to Ms. Ann Hanger, Pesticide Registration Branch, at the address above. You may contact Ms. Hanger at 916-324-3535 or <ann.hanger@cdpr.ca.gov>.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Brian Leahy
Director
916-445-4000

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Polly Frenkel, DPR Chief Counsel (w/Enclosures)
Ms. Ann Prichard, DPR Environmental Program Manager II (w/Enclosures)
Ms. Ann Hanger, DPR Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist) (w/Enclosures)