



Mary-Ann Warmerdam
Director

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Governor

Parlier Technical Advisory Group Meeting minutes – June 6, 2005

In Attendance:

Randy Segawa – Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), Environmental Monitoring
Veda Federighi – DPR External Affairs
Jay Schreider – DPR Medical Toxicology
Michael Dong – DPR Worker Health and Safety
Pat Matteson – DPR Pest Management
Pam Wofford – DPR Environmental Monitoring
Lynn Baker – Air Resources Board
John Faust – Office Environmental Health Hazards Assessment
Dmitri Smith – Integrated Waste Management Board
Doug Edwards – Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner's Office
Helene Margolis – Department of Health Services
Charlie Goodman – California Department of Food and Agriculture
Evan Shipp – San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
Gary Van Sickle – California Tree Fruit Agreement
Tim Tyner – UC San Francisco VAPHER
David Grantz – UC Kearney Agricultural Center
Kent Pinkerton – UC Davis Center for Health and Environment
Lori Berger – California Minor Crops Council

Absent:

Tobi Jones – Department of Pesticide Regulation
Jim Marxen – Department of Toxic Substance Control
Rey Leon – Latino Issues Forum
Bob Schlag – Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

Ground Rules: Following introductions, the ground rules for the Technical Advisor Group (TAG) were discussed. The TAG will be responsible for scientific issues, review of documents and methodology. The TAG will meet at least once a month until sampling begins and then meetings will occur less often. The TAG will provide input and review of the final report. It was agreed that in the future, conference call charges will be covered by the members calling in. Helene Margolis agreed to look into using the Dept. of Health Services phone link. It was also agreed that the TAG members will attend at least a few future local advisors group (LAG) meetings in Parlier.

Background – The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) was designated to be the lead agency in establishing a statewide Environmental Justice (EJ) program. The Agency has initiated 6 projects to be carried out by various departments. All of the projects contain certain elements; major public participation, a focus on children's health effects, a precautionary approach to be determined, and a cumulative impacts consideration. The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) was selected to conduct a study to monitor possible exposure to



pesticides in ambient air. The DPR will report quarterly to an external EJ committee. To subscribe to the DPR server go to <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/listserv/listdesc.htm>.

Parlier was selected for monitoring after assessing 83 communities on 14 different criteria based on; appropriateness as an EJ site, availability of other cumulative impact information, and pesticide use in the area. The study will include other air pollutant data, well monitoring data, and possibly the results of a children's asthma study and an animal exposure study.

DPR pilot project

The project will monitor two to four 24-hour periods a week at 2 to 4 locations in Parlier. Monitoring is planned to start in late summer or early fall and be conducted for 12 months. OEHHA and DPR will look at the results to assess the risk.

Objectives – 1) Are residents of the community exposed to pesticides in the air, 2) which pesticides are people exposed to and in what amounts, and 3) do measured pesticide air levels exceed levels of concern to human health, particularly children. The monitoring plan will allow for subchronic and chronic risk assessment but not acute exposure. TAG members were encouraged to e-mail Randy (rsegawa@cdpr.ca.gov) with suggestions for revision of the objectives.

ARB laboratory has committed to analyze one canister sample for some metals and VOCs and one particulate filter for some metals from one site every six days during the pilot project. There was discussion over monitoring dust particulates and the pros and cons of what may be possible. The group felt it was important to attempt to monitor particulates and to separate out the <PM_{2.5} and >PM_{2.5} particulates. The possibility of analyzing filters for particulate pesticide concentrations was also discussed. David Grantz volunteered Kearney as a possible location for UCD's animal particulate study.

It was agreed that an air dispersion model will be used with the measured concentrations to estimate air concentrations throughout the Parlier area. The use of the model means that certain meteorological data will need to be collected. In addition, the Fresno County Agricultural Commissioners office is in the process of mapping the fields in the study area as GIS data so the pesticide use in the area can be mapped out to field level rather than section.

The pesticides to be monitored were discussed. The present plan is to monitor 25 to 30 pesticides. There was some concern over how many of the pesticides of highest use in Parlier are not on the analysis list. It was also discussed if we should consider putting sites in another town, such as Huron, to address the cotton pesticides that are not used around Parlier. Parlier is surrounded mainly by grapes, peaches, nectarines, and plums. DPR's proposed pesticides are based on 2003 use data. Group members were unsure if other pesticides may have higher use in 2004 or 2005, but higher use of Asana may be possible.

The group decided to defer the discussion of the number and location of sampling sites until next meeting when a detailed map of Parlier should be available. The map is to show the proximity of key crops to the town. It was noted that at least 2 sites should be used since the crops are different between the western and eastern side of town. The group also felt it was important to have the input of the Local Advisory Group (LAG).