

PCPA- Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act

Update on DPR's Review of Metolachlor/S-Metolachlor
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PCPA- Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act

Process for DPR to formally review the uses of a pesticide detected in groundwater to determine if continued use can be allowed.

Director's review of Metolachlor/ S-Metolachlor initiated due to detections of MESA and MOXA (degradates) in groundwater.

Hearing/Review Process

Approx. 1 year process that begins with notification of registrant and ends with Director's decision (Notice September 2016, Director's decision July 2017).

Two public hearings (March 28th and May 4th, 2017) before the PREC Subcommittee. DPR, OEHHA, State Board.

Subcommittee reviews data and makes recommendation to Director (Findings and Recommendation June 23rd, 2017).

Subcommittee's Finding

The use of metolachlor/S-metolachlor has not polluted, and does not threaten to pollute, groundwater of the state.

1. All MESA and MOXA levels detected in groundwater fall considerably below health-protective drinking water levels established by OEHHA.
2. Monitoring and modeling results do not indicate that concentrations of MESA or MOXA in groundwater have increased or are likely to increase, therefore they do not threaten to pollute under current labeled use conditions.

Subcommittee's Recommendation

The subcommittee recommended that the Director allow the continued registration, sale, and agricultural use of metolachlor/S-metolachlor products.

1. DPR should continue to monitor for metolachlor/S-metolachlor and its degradates in groundwater and recommended a trigger level for re-view or mitigation.

2. If the parent compounds are ever detected in California groundwater and determined to be the result of legal agricultural use, the detected active ingredient would be subject to subcommittee review under Food and Agricultural Code section 13149(c).

Director's Decision

The Director reviewed and concurred with the PREC subcommittee finding that MESA and MOXA have not polluted and do not threaten to pollute groundwater, and found that continued monitoring is an appropriate approach to protect against future pollution.

All supporting documents will be posted to DPR's Ground Water Program Website by next week.

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/emon/grndwtr/metolachlor.htm>