

## Department of Pesticide Regulation Environmental Justice Advisory Committee Development: Summary of Public Feedback

On April 4, 2025, the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) released draft documents for public input and tribal consultation to inform development of the new Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC). To facilitate discussion and hear public feedback, in May 2025, DPR hosted four in-person workshops: May 7 in Oxnard, May 8 in Shafter, May 13 in Middletown, and May 14 in El Centro. The department also held a virtual workshop on May 15. These workshops provided an overview of the development of the EJAC and its associated committee guiding documents: Draft Scope of Work, Draft Scoring Criteria, Draft Charter, and Transparency Memo.

Public feedback collected during this period, including verbal feedback at the workshops and written comments, was used to inform changes incorporated into the final Scope of Work, final Scoring Criteria, and EJAC application process. Feedback received on other materials, including feedback on the Draft Charter, will be consolidated and shared with the EJAC once convened.

All public feedback can be found online at DPR's [EJAC public feedback portal](#). Verbal comments received during the workshops were summarized by DPR staff, are not attributed to any individual, and may reflect general commentary or ideas shared. The following is a generalized summary of requests, ideas, suggestions, and recommendations related to the EJAC that DPR received in the May 2025 workshops and through written feedback, organized by topic.

### Topics

- Committee Logistics
  - Requests for more than two annual meetings
  - Include process on how public comment and input will be incorporated into final decisions
  - Include a DPR scientific advisor at EJAC meetings
- Committee Composition
  - Requests to include the statutory maximum number of members
  - Include someone with technical/clinical expertise
  - Include representatives that have experience in the healthcare field such as nurses
  - Include representatives focused on farmworker health
  - Include agricultural workers
- Committee Application and Selection
  - Include disqualification criteria
  - Clarify types of expertise that will be accepted
  - Consider years of experience working on environmental justice

- Clarify candidates' expertise related to environmental issues to include knowledge of pesticide related issues
- Create a "fillable" example of a letter of recommendation
- Quantify how many letters of recommendation will be accepted
- Expand definition of individuals or organizations who may nominate committee members
- Request additional letter from a non-nominating organization for "work products" accomplished
- Require community input on member selection process
- Roles and Responsibilities
  - DPR should review any recommendations related to external agencies to confirm alignment with statutory authority, budget constraints, and administration priorities
  - Onboarding of EJAC members should include an overview of DPR and how DPR interacts with other key organizations and partners (for example, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, County Agricultural Commissioners)
  - Onboarding of EJAC members should include an introduction to the pesticide statutory and regulatory framework in California
- Potential EJAC Topics for Consideration
  - SprayDays
  - Sustainable Pest Management
  - Pesticide Prioritization Process
  - Research and scientific studies
  - Develop guidance for medical providers on identifying pesticide illnesses
  - Develop a mechanism to assist with pesticide incident reports to County Agricultural Commissioners