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PESTICIDE REGISTRATION AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE (PREC) CHARTER

Revised at the 11/16/2018 Committee Meeting

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) hereby issues this Charter to outline the authority, purpose, and other aspects of the Pesticide Registration and Evaluation Committee (PREC), established in accordance with Title 3 California Code of Regulations (3 CCR) section 6252.

Mission/Purpose

The purpose of the PREC is to foster communication and understanding on pesticide issues among the parties represented on the committee and DPR. This interagency committee provides advice and guidance to DPR on the proposed registration, renewal, and reevaluation of pesticide products. The PREC may also provide advice to DPR on proposed regulatory development and reform initiatives, evolving public policy and program implementation issues, environmental monitoring data related to pesticide use, and science issues associated with evaluating and reducing risks from the use of pesticides. With the participation of knowledgeable parties that have jurisdiction over pesticides or resources that may be affected by the use of pesticides, DPR expects to develop practical, protective approaches to addressing many pesticide issues.

Authority

The PREC was established in the public interest and supports DPR in performing its duties and responsibilities under the Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) and its corresponding regulations. Specifically, the PREC fulfills a critical interagency consultation role mandated by FAC sections 13165 and 14103, and the pesticide regulatory program, including 3 CCR section 6252, which the Resources Agency certified as meeting the requirements of a certified regulatory program in section 21080.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Objective and Scope of Activity

The PREC provides a forum for public agencies to communicate with and provide feedback to DPR regarding proposed registrations, proposed regulations, policy, and implementation issues. The PREC may be consulted on environmental, technical, scientific, policy, regulatory, and economic matters.

Bimonthly, or more often as necessary, the PREC will hold meetings, analyze issues, review and compile information, produce reports, make recommendations, and undertake other activities necessary to meet its responsibilities. Comments, evaluations, and recommendations of the

PREC and the response of DPR shall be available for public review. Meetings will be open to the public (unless an exemption is applicable).

In addition to the groundwater subcommittee convened pursuant to FAC section 13150, the chairperson of the PREC may form other subcommittees when appropriate and after consultation with committee members. Participation in a subcommittee will not necessarily be reserved for PREC members and may include experts who themselves are not appointed members of the PREC or who may be employees of non-represented public agencies.

Functions

- Related to general purpose:
 - Facilitate the exchange of ideas and information among the interested parties on a breadth of issues, especially scientific and technical issues, concerning the pesticide regulatory program with the aim of advising the Director of DPR on key decisions or courses of action.
 - Provide an adequate and balanced forum for consultation to fulfill DPR's obligations under FAC section 14103 and its CEQA-certified regulatory program.
 - Provide advice to DPR on proposed regulations or standards pursuant to 3 CCR section 6110.
- Related to the registration of pesticides:
 - Consult with the Director of DPR on the registration, renewal of registration, and reevaluation of pesticides as required by 3 CCR section 6252.
 - Advise the Director of DPR, pursuant to FAC section 13165, on the granting of a certificate of interim registration, including the following issues: (a) that the pesticide is needed and will be a significant component of a pest management system; (b) that the interim use of the pesticide is not expected to cause any significant adverse effects or threaten to pollute the ground water of the state; and (c) that the weight of evidence supports a scientific judgment in favor of interim registration.
- Related to the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of pesticides:
 - Upon request by DPR, provide technical analysis and advice on environmental monitoring procedures and data analysis related to pesticides and pesticide use.
 - As a mandated subcommittee (FAC section 13150), preside over a hearing and making findings and recommendations to the Director of DPR on the potential of an active ingredient, other specified ingredient, or degradation product of a pesticide to pollute groundwater from continued legal agricultural use.

Composition

The Director of the Department of Pesticide Regulation or his or her designee shall serve as chairperson of the PREC. In addition to the chairperson, the PREC shall consist of the following members:

- A representative from each of the other boards, offices and departments in the California Environmental Protection Agency:
 - Air Resources Board
 - Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
 - Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
 - State Water Resources Control Board
 - Department of Toxic Substances Control
- A representative from each of the following state agencies:
 - Department of Food and Agriculture
 - University of California
 - Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - Department of Industrial Relations
 - Department of Public Health
 - Structural Pest Control Board in the Department of Consumer Affairs
- A representative from each of the following federal agencies:
 - U.S. Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Research Service
 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
- The President of the County Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association or his or her designee;
- A representative of any other public agency that the DPR Director deems appropriate after consultation with the existing PREC membership.

Meetings

The PREC shall meet every other month, or more frequently, at the call of the DPR Director if special circumstances require a more timely session. Staff from DPR will provide administrative and process support to the PREC.

Duration

The PREC will be needed on a continuing basis. Representative agencies are to inform DPR's committee chair when a member or alternate is no longer available to serve and provide the name of a replacement in writing, within 30 days of the change.

The PREC charter will remain in effect until revised. The PREC may be periodically evaluated for its effectiveness in fulfilling its mission and functions. Subsequent to such reviews, revisions to this charter may be proposed to the PREC for comment and approval.