

From: chris.omearadietrich@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Chris OMeara Dietrich](#)
To: [CDPR dpr22005](#)
Subject: Stop the Use of Highly Toxic Fumigants in Food Production to Protect Farmworkers, Farm Communities, Soil and Water
Date: Tuesday, January 3, 2023 11:07:25 AM

EXTERNAL:

Dear Director Julie Henderson,

I read today of the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) proposal to remove existing limits on the use of 1,3-dichloropropene (1,3-D), allowing Californians to breathe much more 1,3-D than other state toxicologists say is safe--highlighting the dangers to which farmworkers and farm communities are routinely exposed. I personally feel that we are bombed daily with chemicals in every aspect of our lives and that renders any amount of toxic exposure too much. Just because we don't suddenly topple over doesn't mean our bodies, land, air and water are not affected.

We do not need soil fumigants, we need common sense stands against chemicals that harm people, soil, air and water.

1,3-D is a pre-plant soil fumigant registered for use on soils to control nematodes. It is allowed on all crops and is often used with chloropicrin, another highly toxic fumigant, to increase its herbicidal and fungicidal properties.

1,3-D causes cancer. The National Institutes of Health's PubChem states, "Occupational exposure is likely to be through inhalation and via the skin. Irritation of the eyes and the upper respiratory mucosa appears promptly after exposure. Dermal exposure caused severe skin irritations. Inhalation may result in serious signs and symptoms of poisoning with lower exposures resulting in depression of the central nervous system and irritation of the respiratory system. Some poisoning incidents have occurred in which persons were hospitalized with signs and symptoms of irritation of the mucous membrane, chest discomfort, headache, nausea, vomiting, dizziness and, occasionally, loss of consciousness and decreased libido." Chloropicrin is extremely irritating to lungs, eyes, and skin. Inhalation may lead to pulmonary edema, possibly resulting in death.

These and other soil fumigants not only pose severe health threats to farmworkers and bystanders, but also threaten soil and water ecosystems. In contrast, organic production seeks to build healthy soils that resist plant pathogens, making fumigation unnecessary. People in our state are being poisoned by the stubbornness of our government clinging to business as usual for agribusinesses in California. This must stop.

I strongly protest against this move by your agency. California once led in chemical protection--this is no longer a valid statement since chemicals enter our soil, air, water, and bodies each year in vast quantities. I ask that you please stand for common sense to reduce chemicals in our food chain and agriculture and ban chemicals that are harmful to people, land and water.

Your attention to this urgent issue is needed.

Sincerely,
Ms. Chris OMeara Dietrich
2827 Broken Oak Ct San Jose, CA 95148-2202
chris.omearadietrich@yahoo.com