

From: [Christopher Webb](#)
To: [CDPR dpr22005](#)
Subject: Hearing on 1,3-D Regulation
Date: Wednesday, January 18, 2023 3:20:30 PM

EXTERNAL:

Greetings California Department of Pesticide Regulation,

I am a teacher in Pajaro Valley Unified School District at Renaissance Continuation School. My school is surrounded by farm fields and predominantly underprivileged students and students of color. In the past Ohlone Elementary School has come up as a site with water quality issues and Renaissance was the one school in the district with even worse water quality. Seeing how air quality monitors at Ohlone Elementary have reported unsafe levels of 1,3-D annually for over a decade, I worry about what an air monitor at RHS would support and I am highly concerned about the regulatory status quo. I have known colleagues and students at RHS who have had cancer during my time at RHS.

It would appear to me that there is environmental racism at play or at the very least that CA pesticide regulation is driven primarily by Dow chemical. If CA DPR is not to become a local example of corrupt government, their regulatory actions must reflect sincere commitment to protecting human health, which is purportedly a key part of CA DPR's mission. To do this, the standard for safe air should not be set by Dow, but by an impartial body informed by science, such as OEHHA. Similarly, the cap on pesticide allowances should be reduced, not eliminated. The interest of farmworkers (and their right to a safe working place/ clean air) near areas with 1,3-D must also be considered and reflected in strengthened regulations. Dow and other corporate interests cannot continue to take priority over the health of the public & of farmworkers, some of whom are my students.

I would've come to share my comments in person today, but I am short on sick days. Should this hearing fail to be followed with positive regulatory reform, I'll be sure to attend in-person in the future and make CA DPR's capture by corporate interests a part of my instruction related to negative externalities and other concepts in my Economics class. Please, do the right thing. I want to be proud of my state and this regulatory status quo for pesticides is shameful.

Thank you,

Christopher Webb
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