

From: [CDPR Alternatives](#)
To: [CDPR dpr22005](#)
Subject: FW: Protect Farmworkers From Highly Toxic Fumigants
Date: Friday, May 26, 2023 11:36:28 AM

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From: chris.omearadietrich@everyactioncustom.com <chris.omearadietrich@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2023 1:48 PM
To: CDPR Alternatives <alternatives@cdpr.ca.gov>
Subject: Protect Farmworkers From Highly Toxic Fumigants

EXTERNAL:

Dear Director Julie Henderson,

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, highlights the dangers to which farmworkers are routinely exposed. I do not understand why your agency is so callous about the health and wellbeing of those who work in our nation's food chain.

It is outrageous that the DPR would allow farmworkers—whose labor was judged “essential” during the pandemic—to be routinely exposed to highly toxic pesticides. The minor changes to amend the state’s earlier proposal are woefully inadequate.

1,3-D cancer. 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 bystanders and nearby households, but also threaten soil and water ecosystems.

In contrast, organic production seeks to build healthy soils that resist plant pathogens, making fumigation unnecessary. Thus, these fumigants pose unreasonable adverse effects on humans and the environment.

Their registrations should be cancelled by the EPA and I have corresponded with my federal legislators asking them to push the EPA for cancellation.

This urgent issue, deserving of deep investigation and immediate attention.

Sincerely,
Ms. Chris OMeara Dietrich
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