From: CDPR Alternatives
To: CDPR dpr22005
Subject: FW: FULLY Protect ALL Farmworkers From Highly Toxic Fumigants
Date: Friday, May 26, 2023 11:11:31 AM

-----Original Message-----
From: jcfarris27@everyactioncustom.com <jcfarris27@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 20, 2023 9:38 AM
To: CDPR Alternatives <alternatives@cdpr.ca.gov>
Subject: FULLY Protect ALL Farmworkers From Highly Toxic Fumigants

EXTERNAL:

Dear Director Julie Henderson,

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) DEADLY proposal to UNCONSCIONABLY remove existing limits on the use of 1,3-dichloropropene (1,3-D), UNCONSCIONABLY allowing Californians to breathe much more DISASTROUS 1,3-D than other state toxicologists say is safe, BLATANTLY highlights the ENORMOUS dangers to which ALL farmworkers are ALREADY routinely exposed. It is MORE THAN outrageous that the DPR would allow farmworkers—whose labor was judged "essential" during the pandemic—to be routinely exposed to highly toxic pesticides, which could EASILY be replaced by organic practices. The minor changes to amend the state's earlier proposal are WOEFULLY INADEQUATE!

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! In addition, 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 EXTREMELY severe health threats to ALL farmworkers and bystanders, but also CATASTROPHICALLY threaten LIFE-SUSTAINING soil and water ecosystems. In contrast, organic production seeks to build healthy soils that NATURALLY resist plant pathogens, making DISASTROUS fumigation COMPLETELY unnecessary. Thus, these fumigants pose IMMENSELY unreasonable adverse effects on ALL humans and the environment. Their registrations should be CANCELLED IMMEDIATELY!

Thank you for your attention to this urgent issue.

Sincerely,
Ms. Jean Farris
2411 Vine St Orlando, FL 32806-2540
jcfarris27@gmail.com