EXTERNAL:

CA DPR,

I am a public school teacher in the Watsonville area and many of my student work in the fields. My commute, regardless of route taken, takes me past agricultural fields. As a result, I am especially concerned about a regulatory status quo that seems to serve Dow Chemical more than the general public & the mission of CA DPR. It is past to to reform. Aside from joining much of the developed world in banning 1,3 D, we should at least use the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's standard for safe use in terms of air pollution, .04 parts per billion. Maintaining the current standard of .56 parts per billion, makes CA DPR appear to be a regulatory body captured by industry and complicit in a status quo of environmental racism.

I find it hard to believe that, if more privileged groups in our society bearing the health impacts of present pesticide regulation, the present regulations would be maintained or weakened. The active air monitors in the state and in my own school district (eg. Ohlone Elementary) have shown the PVUSD community, which is predominantly Latino, have been subjected to a harmful amount of pesticide-related air pollution on an annual basis for over a decade. CA DPR has a duty to protect the public and maintenance of a regulatory standard set by private industry, means abdicating CA DPR's duty to the public.

Thank you,

Christopher Webb Social Studies Teacher Renaissance High School Pajaro Valley Unified School District