From: Brian Oakey
To: Janis Perry

Subject: Fwd: {External}Please Protect Idahoans from Pesticides

Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 11:22:33 AM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Darcy Sharp darcy_sharp@hotmail.com
Date: September 22, 2020 at 11:12:58 AM MDT
To: Brian Oakey <Brian.Oakey@ISDA.IDAHO.GOV>

Subject: {External}Please Protect Idahoans from Pesticides

Dear Mr. Oakey,

I appreciate this opportunity to submit comments on the proposed rule 02.03.03 – RULES GOVERNING PESTICIDE AND CHEMIGATION USE AND APPLICATION.

I support ISDA in taking steps to expand the definition of hazard areas to protect Idahoans from highly hazardous pesticides. However, the rule must expressly protect hazard areas from highly toxic pesticides, which is not currently the case. I strongly believe language should be added to include protections for schools, hospitals, towns, and cities from pesticides linked to neurological and developmental diseases, cancer and early death. Specifically, hazard areas should be protected from the class of organophosphate pesticides and paraquat.

I strongly feel that ISDA should increase support of natural permaculture methods that do not use pesticides and herbicides at all. The State should support more farmers with small, local operations that work with nature to control pests and weeds instead of using poisons. Producing local foods at the urban/rural interface is an important way to reduce pollution and help families feed themselves with less reliance on shipping produce from around the world. As urban farming and local food production increases, it will be even more important to protect people from toxic substances.

Thank you for working to protect our most sensitive populations, including schools, hospitals and rural towns. Please create stronger language to protect hazard areas from the most harmful pesticides.

Very Truly Yours,

Darcy Sharp

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