

## Region 7 pre-SFIREG Meeting Notes

On October 18, 2022, Region 7 states met in person for our pre-SFIREG meeting. Those in attendance include: Nebraska – Tim Creger, Tammy Zimmerman, Libby Smith, Herbert Bates; Kansas – Kelly Navinsky-Wenzl, Shawn Plunkett, Sara Liming, Cloey Burdick, Marty Wellington; Iowa – Gretchen Paluch, Laura Castro, Mark Smith; Missouri – Dawn Wall, Kory Hubbard. EPA staff Shawn Hackett, Mike Daniels, Wilfredo Rosado-Chaparro, and Chris Muehlberger were also in attendance.

### State Updates:

**Staffing** – Iowa is the only state in the region that is fully staffed. Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri have anywhere from 1-4 vacant positions in their programs. All the states have new staff that are being trained.

**Legislative** – Iowa recently changed their product registration fee from a sliding scale to \$300 per product. Kansas is reviewing their pesticide laws and regulations for changes that will need to be made for their state plan. Nebraska and Missouri have no legislative issues to report.

### EPA Update:

**Staffing** – There are 3 vacant positions in the region and they too are having trouble filling vacancies.

### FY23 Priorities –

**Migrant Workers** – EPA is reaching out to companies that hire migrant workers to learn more about ways states can provide education and outreach.

**Geographic Initiative** – R7 has selected St. Louis, Missouri for an initiative focusing on IPM and outreach in environmental justice areas. Part of the initiative includes developing PSAs. More details to follow.

**Budget** – Federal government is working under a continuing resolution until December 7, 2022.

### SFIREG Topics

#### C&T Plan approval processes and the feedback from EPA Regions and Headquarters:

One state has received EPA approval and the other three states have received feedback from EPA and are working on them. None of the states have any issues at this time.

#### OP cancellation petition to EPA:

No comments were submitted by R7 states.

## Chlorpyrifos:

R7 states are concerned that there are no provisions for registrants to recall Chlorpyrifos products and no existing stocks provisions. There are significant stocks in the marketplace that are going to be misused.

## **Atrazine Interim Registration Decision:**

All four states submitted comments and here are some of the concerns that were discussed:

1. Proposed changes are unenforceable.
2. How do applicators who have followed the label requirements document this?
3. Where would the record come from?
4. How do SLAs implement decisions that may involve other people?
5. Has the data changed for human exposure from the beginning to now?
6. How do SLAs know that applicators are actually taking the training?

## **Dicamba:**

Two states had a reduced number of 2022 dicamba complaints but feel this is attributed to complaint fatigue. Field staff are reporting there are still significant impacts but folks are not getting the answers they hoped for and two states are still working through a 1-2 year backlog of cases.

## **Diuron:**

No comments or questions from R7 states.

## **Methomyl Fly Bait:**

Missouri has had an occasional misuse complaint regarding this product.

Comment - If this product were changed to an RUP it will require more people to obtain a dealer license. Alternatively, rather than obtaining a dealer license stores may opt to quit selling it.

## **ESA and Pesticide evaluations, Labels, and Bulletins Live2:**

No comments or questions from R7 states.

## **Additional Items for SFIREG Meeting:**

1. Equipment manufactures need to be aware of recordkeeping requirements on labels.
2. Who is responsible for providing WPS Handler Training of a mixer/loader whose only duty is to fill airplanes? The person is employed by a pesticide dealer (that is not a certified applicator) who provides the pesticides for customers and contracts with an aerial applicator to make the applications.

3. The number of active ingredient “reviews” is becoming problematic for states to keep up.