



California Notice 2025-01

TO: Pesticide Registrants and Other Stakeholders

SUBJECT: Final Decision to Renew Pesticide Product Registrations For 2025

The Director of the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), under Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations (3 CCR) section 6255, files this notice of final decision to renew pesticide product registrations for the 2025 calendar year with the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to be posted for a period of thirty (30) days for public inspection.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR RENEWAL

Pesticide product registrations expire on December 31 of the year in which they are issued. Annual renewal of pesticide registrations is a non-discretionary action that must be taken if a registrant submits a completed renewal application and fee within one month of the December 31 expiration date (Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) section 12817; 3 CCR sections 6215-6216). A completed renewal application includes a certification by the registrant stating that it submitted any factual or scientific evidence of an adverse effect or risk of the pesticide to human health or the environment to DPR (3 CCR sections 6210 and 6215). Upon receipt of a complete and timely renewal application, DPR is required to renew each pesticide product registration, regardless of reevaluation status, within sixty days, except if the Director separately cancelled the pesticide product registration after hearing (FAC sections 12816, 12825, and 12827; 3 CCR section 6215).

When DPR renews a pesticide product registration that is not already under reevaluation under 3 CCR section 6220, the Director shall make a written finding that he or she has not received and/or completed its review of sufficient information necessitating reevaluation at that time (3 CCR section 6215; *Californians for Alternatives to Toxics v. Department of Pesticide Regulation (CATs v. DPR)* (2006) 136 Cal. App. 4th 1049, 1066).

As part of DPR's program of continuous evaluation, DPR solicits and investigates information generally to identify and evaluate any potential significant adverse environmental impact stemming from use of a registered pesticide product. DPR's investigation of information, including any information submitted during the renewal comment period, and any possible subsequent decision regarding reevaluation or cancellation of a registered pesticide product, is not tied to the sixty-day time frame of annual renewal (*CATs v. DPR* (2006) 136 Cal. App. 4th at 1066).

COMMENTS RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF PROPOSED DECISION

On November 7, 2024, DPR issued California Notice 2024-21 proposing the decision to renew pesticide product registrations for the 2025 calendar year including pesticide products containing paraquat dichloride (paraquat). DPR solicited public comments and consultation until December 9, 2024.

During the comment period, DPR received two comments: one from the Center for Biological Diversity with references to studies and public literature; and a second from members of the California Legislature (Senators Stern and Cortese and Assemblymembers Friedman, Arambula, Bennett, Kalra, and Connelly) requesting that DPR suspend the use of paraquat beginning in 2025 instead of renewing its use. DPR provided a written response to the Legislative request on December 30, 2024.

Beginning in 2022, DPR received comments annually in response to proposed decisions to renew paraquat products. In 2022, DPR received comments from the Center for Biological Diversity, Parkinson's Disease researchers and practitioners, and the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research requesting that DPR begin reevaluation, suspension, and/or cancellation proceedings for pesticide products containing paraquat. DPR received a similar comment in 2023 from Jonathan Evans of the Center for Biological Diversity requesting that DPR begin reevaluation, suspension, and/or cancellation proceedings for paraquat. Both the 2022 and the 2023 letters contained references to studies and public literature supporting their request.

On November 6, 2024, the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) initiated a reevaluation of pesticide products containing the active ingredient paraquat dichloride as required by the California State Legislature in Assembly Bill (AB) 1963. Due to the non-discretionary nature of the initiation of the paraquat dichloride reevaluation, no public comment period was provided.

After evaluation of the human health and environmental data submitted with public comments on paraquat renewal, DPR drafted preliminary human health and environmental reports. The reports are available on DPR's Web site at

- [Preliminary Report on the Potential Ecological Risks from Paraquat Exposure](https://cdpr.ca.gov/docs/registration/reevaluation/chemicals/paraquat_preliminary_ecological_report.pdf)
<cdpr.ca.gov/docs/registration/reevaluation/chemicals/paraquat_preliminary_ecological_report.pdf>
- [Preliminary Report of the Potential Human Health Outcomes Resulting from Paraquat Exposure](https://cdpr.ca.gov/docs/registration/reevaluation/chemicals/paraquat_preliminary_human_health_report.pdf)
<cdpr.ca.gov/docs/registration/reevaluation/chemicals/paraquat_preliminary_human_health_report.pdf>

DPR is accepting public comments on these reports until February 13, 2025. These preliminary reports do not constitute a determination of whether additional restrictions on the use of paraquat are necessary as a result of the reevaluation. DPR will issue a determination on the need for any potential restrictions on paraquat use in the future. DPR is also requesting input on critical uses of paraquat and currently available, effective alternatives. DPR will consider studies and public

literature relative to paraquat that were submitted by the Center for Biological Diversity as a part of 2024 renewal cycle as a part of the current reevaluation.

DPR's decision regarding suspension, and/or cancellation of any or all products containing paraquat will follow the procedures outlined in FAC sections 12824, 12825, and 12826, and 3 CCR sections 6220-6226. Such a decision may be made at any time and is not linked in any way to the 60-day annual renewal period for the pesticide registrations that are subject to this final renewal decision.

DIRECTOR'S FINDING

The Director finds that for all pesticides proposed for renewal for the 2025 calendar year that are not currently in reevaluation, sufficient information has not been received necessitating the initiation of a separate reevaluation or cancellation, and/or DPR has not completed its review of available information to reach an informed separate decision regarding reevaluation or cancellation.

The Director's decision to renew the Certificates of Registration for pesticide products registered in California for the 2024 calendar year is therefore adopted under FAC section 12817.

Original signed by

01/02/2025

Tulio Macedo, Chief
Pesticide Registration Branch
916-324-3527

Date