

## July 14, 2011 community meeting at Triangle Grange, Blachly, OR

### Comments/ Questions/ Concerns/ Suggestions / Issues that were:

- ❖ Spoken & noted on the flip chart during the meeting
  - ❖ Collected through anonymous comment cards, and post it notes
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- Of the 13,000 chemicals used in Oregon do any of them claim to be safe for human consumption?
- What kind of historical study can be done to evaluate cancer occurrences in our watershed compared to the national average?
- No poison is a safe amount
- I don't want to be told how much poison is a safe amount
- How many "parts per million" are considered safe, and who decides?
- "Levels of concern" phrase: what does that mean?
- What does "toxic" mean?
- Comment: We are a global unit. Things have changed considerably over time. Pesticides in our bodies is scary.
- Question: How will you differentiate between those who grew up here and have stayed here their entire lives –vs. - those who are new to the area? Are there more pesticides in people who have lived here longest?
- When I moved here I started noticing changes in my body. When I was exposed in 2007 I looked at factsheets to learn more about the chemicals that were sprayed. Wind/drift/fog/evaporation – these are conditions that can make these chemicals more toxic.
- Children have this stuff in their bodies.
- 5 family members died of cancer. How do people believe that these pesticides are not harmful? Given the amounts applied, odds are that people will be harmed.
- Synergistic interactions between chemical?
- I moved here in the '70s and thought it was pristine. It's a fallacy that you need herbicides on forestry land. People are scared and sick.
- Since the '70s, I have seen birth defects, spontaneous abortions.

- I live in Eugene, and am scared to move to the country. I'm sensitive to chemicals, and so are my sons. When Roundup is used in my neighborhood, I can smell it strongly. After 1 event, my son had a reaction, had nosebleeds, difficulty breathing. The Neighbor had used Roundup. I tried calling several agencies - at local health.
- Are symptoms in Triangle Lake area being documented?
- What study has shown that pesticides haven't sequestered in fatty tissue?
- 20 years ago, US/Canada (International Joint Commission - IJC) treaty study on impact of toxic substances. Eat fish from Great Lakes, get brain failure. Science can't study the real ways that toxics affect the body – synergistic effects. No safe levels. Not a scientific fact.
- I used to be a forestry contractor in the past and saw 1<sup>st</sup> hand the effects of pesticides on people. They affect people in different ways. Want to see the issue of synergy put into EPA risk evaluations.
- Imazapyr in school well: When we compare to threshold, can we in good conscience say it's OK for us & our children to drink?
- People trying to de-aggregate 2 chemicals out of a big chemical mix. The bottom line is that as the petro chemical industry has risen, so has cancer.
- MCLs/thresholds are not protective
- Why are not the effects of any and all chemicals released into the environment tested long before they are released and used, not just the desired effect on the subject but on the whole environment and people and animals and the future?
- Have degrade rates been studied in cool wet climates like ours?
- Are there any figures available on the damage done by spraying pesticides to non-target plants, soil organisms, fish, humans, other animals?
- If we get air from China, how can you control the air?
- Have herbicides been studied in cool, wet climates with minimal degradation from sunshine? If so, how much longer does it take for these to completely degrade?
- Bio-accumulation of pesticides\* in fish & amphibians (\*Atrazine, 2,4,D, glyphosate)
- I'm a sustenance hunter and have seen many animals gone in the clear cut areas. Animal tissue is a good source of data.
- Have to turn in animal parts – a good source of data

- Are there any studies of the effects of spray run-off after rain? Watershed studies
- As part of this study will you require the timber companies to provide the chemicals names they actually have sprayed (and will spray) in the local watershed (i.e. more detail than currently required pre-spraying?)
- What happens next when tests show elevated levels of pesticides occur after aerial spraying?
- Have there been similar studies like this in Oregon's forested regions? What have been the results?
- Jae said she saw the test data for urine samples that were analyzed by Dr. Barr. Was the entire sampling and testing procedure outlined? And was it scientifically valid?
- Jae Douglas stated that: "we know that 2 pesticides were found in people's urine." Question: Mr. Owen refused to release the information behind the urine samples at the April 30<sup>th</sup> Board of Forestry meeting. Do you have access to the testing protocol, sampling methods, dates taken, how stored, transported, chain of custody security, analytical methods, testing accuracy, etc.? Until all those details are released—we don't "know" if the data is accurate or not.
- I want to see a website dedicated to this investigation so we can track progress and be confident that something is being done.
- How will you choose the 4 other people?
- How do you assure that the people doing the spray won't hold back this summer both in location and amount of spray? Will the summers spray be truly representative of a typical year?
- Will you be stopping aerial spray in the local area until the results are in?
- Can you name the actual chemicals you're testing for-not just the brand names? And perhaps their "families?"
- How do you know the spraying won't decrease temporarily during the pre-spring testing and pre-summer testing and then return to "business as usual" after testing?
- Has PARC seen the data protocols, chain of evidence information from Dr. Barr? Will this be made public before any investigation proceeds?
- People who have been working on this issue and people who are impacted **MUST** be included on the planning committee (that is human rights)
- What are the criteria for choosing study participants?
- How can you test us in a "pre-spray" condition when spraying has been occurring for years?

- Will we be informed when aerial spraying occurs?
- Will local honey be tested?
- Will they (the timber companies) decide just to not spray?
- Suggestion for methodology: biosample fat tissue.
- The executive order is for agencies to incorporate environmental justice – Will you include vulnerable populations in the process, and in the decision making? To participate in a meaningful way?
- Is 40 people enough for this investigation? Will this be taken seriously?
- Are 2,4,D & Atrazine used only in forestry applications?
- 2,4,D & Atrazine are commonly used
- Are there any chemicals you will be testing for in food and water whose metabolites could be mistaken for 2,4,D & Atrazine ? How will we determine where intake is (air, water, food)? Rule out sources and look at others?
- No “MCL” for urine? Will use NHANES as comparison
- Urge that at least 1 community member be involved at each stage from planning to conduct monitoring. Vulnerable population has a right. This will increase community buy-in & trust
- Urge that we do air monitoring. People think exposure is from air. Air exposure is the most risky pathway
- Request: That information along the way is reported and shared with the community
- Which agency in this investigation decides where resources go?
- Who can make resources go to air & urine?
- We want to make sure air is tested, want to keep investigations short.
- Is this going to include finding Imazapyr in the school’s water? USDA tested, same finding. No one has done anything?
- Going to take a whole group for this.
- Methodology: Make ODA & ODF cooperating agencies, but not decision making – there is a conflict of interest.

- To ensure confidence in this project: have a website with regular updates (weekly), minutes from meetings, what actions are being taken, post all notes from this meeting, link to video on YouTube.
- (to: Dale Mitchell) How did the investigation into the agency you oversee (PARC) turn out? Was it a favorable outcome?
- Why are the fed and state agencies allowing the continued use of these and other pesticides when most of us don't want any exposure?
- No independent oversight for use of these chemicals. They shouldn't be keeping their own logs.
- For the EPA:
  - 1) Atrazine is an endocrine disruptor (work of Tyrone Hayes et al.)
  - 2) Evidence for 1) continues to accumulate, especially with regard to the mechanism, which is indirect.
  - 3) Will EPA make a serious & careful re-evaluation of Atrazine?
- Property rights: chemical trespass is criminal trespass.
- We have rights, for example, not to be poisoned by toxic chemicals. Please put our health 1<sup>st</sup>...not timber!
- Saturating area with Roundup, near many homes - including many with children. How is that legal?
- From an ethical standpoint, getting sprayed without our consent is a violation of the Nuremburg code. Make Weyerhaeuser prove that it is safe!
- Precautionary Principle
- I am a private landowner and think your protocol sucks. We are an intelligent audience, and know what the issues are. You should read Bitter Fog – written about pesticide applications in the '70s. I never have to spray on my lands. The issue is forestry practices and the Forestry Practices Act. If you don't address that then nothing will change.
- Notifications that we pay for are vague. We want to know what is going to be sprayed, when and where. We are getting sick and we are frustrated.
- Suggestion: Put dye back in sprays, then you could see the drift when and where it happens.
- We're being told that if chemicals are used per the label, everything is fine. Most of these chemicals are not being field tested, and are banned in Europe. Studies are done by the chemical companies.
- Application records: laws should change, rules need to change, statutes need to change, structural flaws need to be addressed.

- If tests show that levels are greater than the threshold, but can't link the chemicals to any health effects, then what can each agency do? Health – what are potential theoretical risks? ATSDR can issue a Public Health Advisory to EPA & others. Forestry: Can't take action beyond meeting water standards. Agriculture: PARC can make recommendations for change.
- What avenues are available for change? Detections vs. thresholds. I live in the most NW part of this area – where is ODFW in all of this?
- There should be a law that requires people notify neighbors
- Department of Forestry: Issues scanned 4 years ago showed the biggest one is monitoring pesticides from forestry applications & impacts on the environment, wildlife, & humans. Forestry has no money for monitoring, and is working with DEQ via PSMP (Pesticide Stewardship Management Program). We have found pesticides have exceeded aquatic thresholds, no human thresholds exceeded. Working with users to modify application practices – best management practices to reduce impacts.
- The International Joint Commission recommended to BAN, not regulate. The carbon-chlorine bond is not found in the body naturally – they are persistent compounds, stable, and build up in fat tissue
- Need the Precautionary Principle!
- Do we believe that health & environmental protection should be reinstated into the Oregon Forest Practices Act? Was never included in? Is the FPA the right avenue? What about other policy options?
- Chemical trespass – not enforced. Need support of agencies in policy change –
- Limits of agencies' authority
- Hope we can learn! Collect data and pressure the Governor for more funding
- Notifications: linked to revenue?
- Getting information on what's been sprayed is impossible. We want this information available online.
- Why we are still letting them poison our children?
- You've used the term "we" as in "we've" seen evidence...who is "we"? Has PARC seen the evidence & the protocols? If so, why has this not been made public?
- PARC was established in '78. We have been railing against pesticide exposure since '75. What took you so long?

- As Jae mentioned, we live in a chemical reality. Knowing what we know, why not limit exposure? We must not be guinea pigs for corporate greed.
- It's called Bioterrorism!
- Why is PARC more sympathetic to the timber industry than to health concerns of people living in forest lands?
- Thank you for coming – with “cautious optimism”. We have tried for several years (7) to get this kind of response.
- We will be closely watching you - & will point out what we think is bogus.
- Universities are funded by industry – their factsheets are different than NCAPs (Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides).
- I have been waiting for this for so long
- PARC meetings are very insular
- Institutional trust. This community has a low level of institutional trust.
- I live on Fish Creek and have had my water tested. No detects. How can we trust ODA & ODF to do this study? ODA has no protocol to investigate. 6 wells tested clean, but still detected in our bodies and our children's bodies.
- I don't think any of us need to be exposed – we don't need to be tested because we already know we are being poisoned.
- We are here to help YOU; there is not a lot you can tell us.
- People who are getting financial gain – this is temporary.
- You talk about things that are unknowable. I KNOW we have been exposed.
- We found herbicides in people despite the best efforts of all agencies. There is a conflict of interest
- Why don't you (PARC & others) believe us?
- Science is only as good as what's there. See tonight as a testimonial of a system that has gotten worse and worse. This is a symptom of something huge – the tip of the iceberg. People with money have influence – we don't. How can we not question the system that is allowing this?
- This is an extreme failure of the public trust
- Getting mixed messages from agencies

- What amounts of pesticides are sold in Oregon? Is there a limit to the amount that can be sprayed in the environment? As weeds become resistant does the amount of pesticide increase?
- How do I get my shallow well water tested for pesticides?
- How can we get our urine tested if we live further down river?
- How do local rates of pesticides in urine compare to a control group – say residents of Eugene or Portland where aerial spraying is not so common? Thanks.
- What is being done about the school's water being positive for Imazapyr?
- We are not the only community experiencing this. What can the other communities do to get our attention?
- Once you determine how people are being exposed, will we close that pathway?
- We have tested soil (3 locations), a seasonal creek, a pond, our drinking water and nothing was found. Only air was not tested. It's obvious to me it's in the air/fog/re-volatilization. How will you address that?
- I have chosen to hold off having children due to 2,4 D and Atrazine in our urine. It's in the air, in the drift catchers. Are you interested in what we find? Our data? We're not waiting anymore for someone else to collect the data, we are paying for it ourselves
- Imazapyr is in the school's water – are you interested in our information? Get scientists and industry involved.
- How do we afford to get tested?
- We have all been poisoned – just stop using the chemicals!
- Did Weyerhaeuser spray Atrazine & 2,4,D on 4/8 & 4/19 near Triangle Lake?
- We asked PARC for this information – why is it taking so long to get this?
- Is there anywhere we can go to report? Yes: PEST, the state surveillance program. Have you seen a doctor? Can also call the Poison Control Center
- The study about the “chemical revolution/ green revolution” is not feeding people, but is destroying the environment. Short-term profits vs. long term harm.
- We want clarification on what happened on 4/8 & 4/19. We asked for the spray information in April, and haven't gotten info. How do private citizens get this?
- You need an investigation to prove there's a problem?