



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
PESTICIDE INCIDENT REPORTING AND TRACKING REVIEW PANEL  
P.O. Box 47820  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7820

August 10, 2009

The Honorable Christine O. Gregoire  
Governor of the State of Washington  
Post Office Box 40002  
Olympia, Washington 98504-0002

Dear Governor Gregoire:

On behalf of the Pesticide Incident Reporting and Tracking Review (PIRT) Panel, I am writing to request your action to appoint a practicing toxicologist to the PIRT Panel as specified under RCW 70.104.080.

At the PIRT Panel's most recent meeting, held on July 16, 2009, a majority of Panel members expressed their on-going concern with the continued vacancy of the toxicologist position. Recent advice from the Attorney General's office stated that the needed quorum for PIRT to conduct business is six members – a majority of the eleven positions specified in law that makes up the Panel. This majority of the eleven positions applies whether or not the positions are filled. In these tight budget times the Panel is concerned that obtaining a quorum for their regular meetings may become challenging and this is made even more problematic with one of the positions remaining unfilled. In addition, the Panel feels that the toxicologist position adds to the overall effectiveness of the Panel and is an important area of expertise to have represented on the Panel.

The PIRT Panel acknowledges your desire to review the number of Boards and Commissions that exist across state government and to perhaps take action to reduce the number of such entities in the future. However, as long as the PIRT Panel continues to exist in statute we respectfully request your action to fill the vacant toxicologist position.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. The PIRT Panel stands ready to assist your office in any way possible to fill this important vacancy.

Sincerely,

Gregg L. Grunenfelder, Assistant Secretary  
Department of Health  
PIRT Chairman