



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PO Box 47890 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7890

Tel: (360) 236-4501 • FAX: (360) 586-7424 • TDD Relay Service: 1-800-833-6388

July 1, 2009

TO: Pesticide Incident Reporting and Tracking (PIRT) Review
Panel Members and Alternates

FROM: Mary C. Selecky, Secretary *M.C. Selecky*

SUBJECT: 2008 PIRT Report

In accordance with RCW 70.104.090, I request your review and approval of the department's 2008 PIRT Report. I appreciate the hard work PIRT Panel members put into drafting the 2008 report. I believe the document is a positive reflection of the work done in Washington to coordinate activities, ensuring protection of workers and the public from the effects of pesticide misuse.

In reviewing and editing the draft report proposed by the PIRT Panel, the department has made two substantive changes as highlighted for your attention below:

- In the draft Executive Summary under "Panel Activities and Issues for 2008," it was noted that in 2008 "PIRT also considered the implications of the funding cuts proposed in the Governor's 2009-2011 budget." In the final report, this statement is eliminated. The Governor released her draft 2009-2011 budget on December 18, 2008. Since the last meeting of the PIRT Panel in 2008 was held on November 20, 2008, it is not accurate to state that PIRT considered the proposed budget in 2008. It is paramount the report be based on factual and accurate information.
- In the draft Executive Summary under "Current Issues," there was a lengthy commentary on the impacts that the Governor's proposed 2009-2011 budget would have on state agencies, educational institutions, and the Washington Poison Control Center. In addition, there was commentary on proposed legislation to eliminate certain boards and commissions, including PIRT. In the final report these commentaries have been eliminated. While I respect the perspectives that individual agencies and institutions may have on the Governor's proposed budget or certain legislative proposals, I cannot support using the department's report to express those perspectives.

Again, I appreciate the work that went into drafting the 2008 PIRT Report and respectfully ask the PIRT members and agencies they represent to approve the final version of the report produced by the department. Thank you for your consideration and your ongoing efforts.

Attachment

cc: Peter Goldmark, Department of Natural Resources
Jay Manning, Department of Ecology
Dan Newhouse, Department of Agriculture
Judy Schurke, Department of Labor & Industries
Phil Anderson, Department of Fish & Wildlife
Keith Phillips, Governor's Policy Office

