



September 3, 2009

Gregg L. Grunenfelder, Assistant Secretary
Department of Health PIRT Chairman
Pesticide Incident Reporting & Tracking Review Panel
P.O. Box 47820
Olympia, WA 98504-784620

Dear Mr. Grunenfelder:

I received your July 30, 2009, letter and I have considered your request to appoint an alternate representative to Karen Ripley on the Pesticide Incident Reporting and Tracking Review (PIRT) Panel. While I strongly support the mission of PIRT, I must decline to appoint a Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) alternate at this time. I recently directed my managers to evaluate staff involvement in all external committees in light of unprecedented staff reductions this year. As a result, I've had to make some difficult decisions, including diminishing DNR participation with PIRT.

I will continue to evaluate and redirect resources where I believe DNR needs to stay engaged. Please contact me if a lack of a DNR alternate on the PIRT becomes an issue, and I will work with you on a solution.

Sincerely,



Peter Goldmark
Commissioner of Public Lands

cc: Lenny Young, Department Supervisor
Bridget Moran, Deputy Supervisor, Aquatics & Agency Resources
Chuck Turley, Deputy Supervisor, Regulatory Programs
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Assistant Secretary
DOH Environmental Health Programs

