

Chamberlain, Anne

From: Pesticides
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 4:45 PM
To: Chamberlain, Anne
Subject: FW: Comments for Board meeting June 23, 2017
Attachments: Pesticides - Notes to PCB for Friday (June 23) presentation - June 19, 2017.doc

From: Nancy Oden
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 10:51 PM
To: Pesticides
Subject: Comments for Board meeting June 23, 2017

To handler of documents - Attached herewith are two pages which are referencing two separate parts of the June 23 Board meeting. Please insert them into the 'board's folders. Thank you.

- Nancy Oden, Jonesboro, Maine, 434-6228

June 19, 2017

To: Pesticide Control Board and Staff Director

In response to Agenda Item Number 3, June 23, 2017 meeting:

“Overview of Regulations Regarding the Use of Unmanned Aircraft for Pesticide Application.”

My first reaction is:

You’re kidding, right? What could possibly go wrong?! If ever there was a truly dangerous and foolish idea, this is it.

Technology goes awry frequently. An “unmanned aircraft?” You mean a drone.

Some years ago a helicopter full of Velpar herbicide – fully manned – fell out of sky onto the ground and spilled its poisonous load into the River (I believe it was the Pleasant River) here in Washington County.

If that can happen while someone is piloting an aircraft, what do you think can happen if there is no pilot, only someone on the ground with a handheld device? Someone who could be easily distracted, or the “unmanned aircraft” could be moved off course by a strong gust of wind, which we get nearly every day down here due to being near the Atlantic Ocean and its extreme winds.

There’s also the known danger of birds attacking the drone, or the drone killing nesting birds protecting their nests and young. A real example happened not long ago when an Eagle attacked a drone (not around here) and the drone killed the Eagle so both went crashing to the ground. What a mess that would be!

No, this is a terrible idea. Please do not even seriously consider allowing this. If you do this, I will be forced – and I don’t want to do this – to get up a Petition for Rulemaking to stop this impractical, unneeded, dangerous practice.

Thank you for quashing this very bad idea.

- Nancy Oden, Jonesboro, Maine 434-6228, [cleanearth@acadia.net](mailto:cleaneearth@acadia.net)

June 19, 2017

To: Pesticide Control Board & Board Staff Director

Regarding the Pesticide Control Board's Staff Recommendation on Rule-Making listed on the Agenda for your June 23, 2017 meeting::

There are several problems with the recommendations, including giving a pass to whenever and whatever the health department wants to spray when they say there's a danger lurking.

Pesticides do more harm than most diseases, in fact, cause many of them. This is insane – are we still in the 1950's when spraying DDT along the streets was common? No, I'd rather get the flu or virtually any disease than be sprayed with unknown poisons.

Giving a permanent pass to DOT and railroad sprayers to spray poisons only 25 feet from bodies of water is irresponsible and incomprehensible. This means the poisons will almost immediately wash right into the waterway, thus harming the fish and microbiota in said waters.

Why would you allow this harmful poisoning of our waters year after year? It's clearly simply for the convenience of the spray companies, not for the welfare of people or fisheries or wildlife. Please desist from these practices this year and henceforth.

Thank you.

- Nancy Oden, Jonesboro, Maine, 434-6228, cleanearth@acadia.net