



August 14, 2027

Karen Morrison, Director
California Department of Pesticide Regulation
P.O. Box 4015
Sacramento, CA 95812-4015

Cc:
Governor Gavin Newsom
Yaa Garcia, Secretary for Environmental Protection

Dear Director Morrison --

On behalf of the Parkinson Association of Northern California, I want to express my sincere appreciation to you and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation which led to the voluntary cancellation of all paraquat-containing pesticide product registrations in California.

This action is especially meaningful to me. As the executive director of an organization that provides hands-on services and education to people with Parkinson's disease and their families, I see every day the profound physical, emotional and financial effects of this disease. I am also a former employee of an agricultural trade association, so I understand the challenges growers face and the important role pest-management tools play in California agriculture.

These experiences have taught me that protecting agricultural productivity and protecting human health must go hand in hand. Farm workers, pesticide applicators, farming families and rural communities deserve confidence that the products used in their workplaces and neighborhoods have been rigorously evaluated and that credible health concerns are taken seriously.

DPR's reevaluation of paraquat and its request for updated scientific information demonstrated responsible regulatory leadership. The resulting voluntary cancellation of the product registrations is an important step toward reducing exposure and supporting the transition to safer, more sustainable pest-management practices.

Thank you for your commitment to science, transparency and the health of Californians. Please extend my organization's appreciation to the scientists, staff members and other professionals at DPR whose careful work contributed to this significant outcome.

Sincerely,

Jan Whitney
Executive Director
Parkinson Association of Northern California