

Elizabeth Ashe Snow
792 Southern Bay Road
Penobscot, Maine 04476
September 24, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

I have recently had the very good experience of getting rid of a significant number of very old and discontinued pesticides once used on my parent's potato/dairy farm in Piscataquis County through the Obsolete Pesticides Collection Program. It is a very good environmental program as it removes these pesticides permanently from the old farm and it also takes the burden of disposal off the landowner.

By keeping this program funded on a yearly basis there is at no time any feeling of worry about what to do with carcinogenic substances that have been banned for years. The support of the BPC and the DEP employees is wonderful. There is no concern that I, as an owner, will be fined or have to go and get a bank loan in order to dispose of this stuff properly. This is significant in itself as many landowners would be forced to just toss it or bury it on the property somewhere because of the cost factor, keeping it in the environment.

I called the Board of Pesticides Control and was sent a listing form to fill out with the explanation that the collection would take place in late May 2007 and was fully funded. The old barn where all these chemicals were kept had started to fall down gradually and it was imperative that these chemicals be moved from this location. I had waited for a year due to lack of funding and was getting highly concerned that I might not be able to safely enter the old barn and get this material packed and out before the barn fell on it. With the information provided to me through this program I was able to properly pack and safely transport an entire pickup load of many glass gallon bottles, paper bags & rusty cans of pesticide. With two plastic packing drums provided by the Pesticides Control Board I was also able to safely transport two very old full 5-gallon cans of pesticide which had been banned for years.

The DEP also cooperated in providing mercury collection this fall on site and helped me get the final collection of obsolete materials and pesticides out of the old barn and house and down to Bangor to the BPC collection site. Having been a farm for the last 200 years there were items stored for vet use in the

house cellar way that probably would have been more deadly to the animal in the long run than the disease. All of this material has been removed properly and has been safely transported to the collection site in Bangor.

I cannot stress enough the need to continue to fund this worthwhile program, it directly benefits the people of this state and our environment. There is no worry on my part about how to handle the chemicals, there is also no worry about being fined or having to pay huge sums of money to get these materials properly taken care of. There needs to be more publicity about this great program so others will be comfortable in participating in the cleanup.

My thanks and praise goes to the personnel of the BPC and the DEP in this state for a job well done.

Elizabeth Ashe Snow