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MAINE BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL POLICY RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ERAC)

Adopted June 25, 1999
Amended September 29, 2000
Amended March 28, 2014

Background

The Maine BPC recognizes the potential impact of some pesticides on the environment from their federally approved label uses. Evaluation of risks specific to Maine situations and conditions is critical to reducing potential adverse effects on the environment. The Board needs impartial scientists, knowledgeable in the fields of biology, environmental toxicology, environmental chemistry, and ecology, who can provide expert assessments of environmental risks and provide guidance and recommendations to the Board.

Establishing an Environmental Risk Advisory Committee

The Board will select scientists with the appropriate expertise to serve voluntarily on the Board's Environmental Risk Advisory Committee (ERAC) on an ad hoc basis when the Board deems it is necessary to seek outside scientific expertise. The Board will provide a clear charge to the ERAC regarding the purpose and scope of the committee's work.

Membership

The ERAC will be chaired by a Board member. Additional committee members will be determined by the Board based on the current issue. The Board should appoint persons whose disciplines in aggregate are suitable for evaluating potential adverse environmental effects, and, where appropriate, for recommending courses of action to mitigate potential adverse effects.

Term

The committee will serve until it has issued a final report to the Board.

Meetings

The Committee will meet on an as needed basis at the invitation of the ERAC chair.

Compensation

The ERAC is voluntary and no compensation for services is available. However, all reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed, subject to the approval of the staff director, in a manner consistent with State Travel Policy.