

Bringing you HOPE -
Helping Our Peninsula's Environment

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By Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

We respectfully request information under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. Section 552, on behalf of Helping Our Peninsula's Environment (HOPE) for records relating to, constituting, discussing, concerning, or mentioning the **list of names of all the inert ingredients, potential ingredients (due to chemical reactions) and unlabeled ingredients in the pesticides with the brand name "Checkmate"** specifically including the LBAM-F and OLR-F versions.

We also request the records –

1. of all studies used to reach the Conclusion / Finding #5 on the US-EPA Quarantine Exemption letter for Checkmate of July 24, 2007. (File symbol 07-DA-07) We need copies of the actual studies EPA relied upon.
2. of all original documents where the information listing inerts in Checkmate was derived and mistakenly emailed to the Santa Cruz Sentinel which then published the list of inerts on Sept 28, 2007.

HOPE requests that you waive any fees associated with this request as provided by the Freedom of Information Act. HOPE is a non-profit, 501(c) 3 tax-exempt organization which uses research, public education, and the law to protect endangered wildlife and their habitats and the human quality of life of the Monterey Peninsula in California.

HOPE routinely disseminates information about the Monterey Peninsula to the general public in many ways, including through press releases, the Peninsula Environmental News (PEN) Newsletter, fliers, action alerts, and news stories.

HOPE will analyze the requested documents to help the public understand the facts and potential impacts on biota related to the ingredients of the pesticides.

No commercial benefit will accrue to Helping Our Peninsula's Environment from the release of the requested information.

We request that the information we seek be provided in electronic format, and would prefer to receive it by email. You may email the records to "info 7 at 1hope dot org". If the files exceed a few megabytes in size please put them on a CD-ROM.

URGENT - We ask that this request receive expedited processing because of the urgent and compelling need to know any harm these chemicals could cause because of the threatened impending use of the Checkmate in aerial spray over a community of people and endangered wildlife. HOPE is taking the lead to inform the public of actual or potential harm.

Founded in 1998, and known for helping with hundreds of environmental and democracy successes, H.O.P.E. is a non-profit, tax deductible, public interest group protecting our Monterey Peninsula's natural land, air, and water ecosystems and public participation in government, using science, law, education, news alerts and advocacy.

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As required by the Freedom of Information Act, we expect a reply within ten working days but as described above, we need them immediately. If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact me. Our telephone number is above at which I can be contacted during the hours of 9-5 PST if necessary, to discuss any aspect of my request.

Thank you sincerely,

David Dilworth, Executive Director