



Agenda Date: 4/3/2007  
Agenda Placement: 6C

## NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Whitmer, David - Agricultural Commissioner  
Agricultural Commissioner  
**REPORT BY:** JOHN COOLEGE, DEPUTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION, 253-4357  
**SUBJECT:** Agreement to provide Agricultural Chemical Container Recycling

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Agricultural Commissioner requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with Interstate Ag Plastics to provide a recycling program for agricultural chemical containers.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The requested action will provide for the recycling of clean, agricultural chemical containers at no cost to Napa County growers, pest control businesses, government agencies and golf courses.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?                      No

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

### **BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

The Agricultural Commissioner has conducted 23 agricultural chemical container recycling events since April 1994 at no cost to the recycling participants. The Ag Commissioner has recycled an estimated 104 tons of containers over the years and has been able to divert this material from the normal waste stream.

The non-profit Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC) facilitates the recycling in California and nationwide and is in charge of selecting contractors in regions throughout the country to conduct recycling services. The recycling programs are funded by voluntary assessments to the ACRC by participating pesticide manufacturers. There is no cost to the growers, pest control businesses, golf courses, and public agencies that bring in plastic containers for recycling.

The Ag Commissioner organizes and promotes the local events, and works with the contractor on the day of the event to make sure the pesticide containers brought in are clean prior to acceptance for recycling as per California Code of Regulations. After being accepted, the plastic material is shredded into flakes by the contractor's equipment. The recovered plastic material is then sold by the ACRC to approved plastic manufacturers for use in non-household products such as pesticide containers, field drain pipe, and marine pilings. Great care is taken to ensure this material is not manufactured into any plastic products that the public normally handles or comes in contact with, such as food containers, toys, or park benches.

An agreement with the previous ACRC contractor had been used to facilitate these events. ACRC has recently changed contractors necessitating the need for the new agreement being considered by your Board today. This new proposed agreement has been reached with the new ACRC contractor, Interstate Ag Plastics, to conduct recycling events twice per year. A revised professional services agreement with the new contractor has been created and reviewed by County Counsel. Location of the events have been coordinated with Napa County Public Works and been staged at the County's corporation yard in Yountville. This site is proposed for future events conducted under the new agreement with the next event scheduled for Monday, April 23, 2007.

This program has been enthusiastically supported by the agricultural industry for over 12 years. The Ag Commissioner has worked cooperatively with the County Public Works and Environmental Management Departments to keep the program growing. In addition, during recent ACRC funding shortfalls, the Napa County Farm Bureau and Napa Valley Vintners stepped forward and funded the event in November 2006. This valuable program allows users of pesticides to recycle their containers and keep the material out of the solid waste stream including local landfills and waste collection facilities.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Andrew Carey