04/07/2016 Caltrans emails answers to questions POW sent on 03/10/2016

From: "Haus, Robert@DOT" < robert.haus@dot.ca.gov>

Date: Apr 7, 2016 3:39 PM

Subject: RE: Broadcast spraying on Hwy.84 Questions

To: "patty mayall"

Dear Ms. Mayall,

Here are the answers to your questions.

1. What protocol, or standard operating procedure, does Caltrans follow when planning for spot and broadcast spraying?

Spot spraying is intended to prevent re-growth of woody noxious shrubs and weeds and to reduce unnecessary spraying and cost when only target weed is applied. Broadcast spraying is used to control fire strip to prevent roadside fires jumping into private and public properties.

2. Along Hwy. 84, where exactly was spot-spraying and broadcast spraying already applied, and where is it still planned for application?

Around Post Miles 12.1, 12.2 East bound side only. Currently application is halted, and we currently have no plans for future broadcast spraying.

3. What chemicals have been used / are planned for use, and in what quantities?

Capstone at 7 pints/ac and Accord at 96 oz/ac

4. Who was responsible for giving the spraying instructions to the employees who did the broadcast herbicide application on March 2nd?

Landscape Supervisor

I am familiar with the process, required by law, that public works agencies must follow before any applications of herbicides. I hope that Caltrans is keeping these records, and if so, then please answer these crucial questions.

Caltrans knew the chemicals planned for use (Caltrans Notice Feb. 10th), therefore, the exact quantities and exact areas would also be known before application, IF Caltrans is following the required record keeping. A qualified person would know the difference of quantities for spot versus broadcast spraying. Many of us believe that this "mistake" could have been avoided.

These are toxic chemicals being applied near our water sources and within our watershed. On March 2nd, there were no notifications posted to warn motorists, bicyclists, residents, and anyone using the road that day and the following days. It is disturbing that the protection of the public's health does not seem to be a priority with regards to exposure to these toxic chemicals. At Caltrans' Open House meeting in La Honda on Nov.2nd, it was "promised" that on-road notification message boards would be provided for future broadcast spraying, but that did not happen.

CMS signs were present, one at the 84/35 intersection, the other at the 84/1 intersection.

Let us know if you require any additional information.

Robert Haus Public Information Branch Chief Caltrans District 4 Oakland, CA