

October 21, 2014

Dear Governor Patrick,

I am writing to you today regarding the Nstar Pesticide Spraying along the power lines on Cape Cod. I own Sea Horse Farm in Harwich, MA. My farm is chemical free and the horses are fed a natural diet.

Last week on October 14th, without any notice to me or my neighbors, I witnessed a team of 8 men walking abreast down the power lines with backpack blowers (NOT sprayers) blowing pesticides out a 4" pipe in 15 mph winds. The chemicals were not reaching the ground but instead blowing in a dense fog across my horse farm, exposing myself, my boarders and our horses to harmful and lethal chemicals. The stench lingered well into late afternoon!

They were spraying right up to my property line which was within 20 feet of the horses in their paddocks by the upper barn and spraying right next to the horses in their paddocks behind the lower barn. We had to hose off all the horses, dump and scrub their 100 gallon water tubs, and throw away 6 bales of hay that was fed out to the herd. There are 16 horses in 15 paddocks on this farm, that is a lot of water and food wasted because they couldn't follow the rules!!

They sprayers are suppose to be monitored and adhere to the plan and stay within the boundaries, but no one was there to supervise! They are only suppose to be spraying woody species of plants, not native low bush blueberry, cranberry and bearberry. My neighbor owns the land under the power lines, and he and his wife had already cut down and eliminated all the tall growing species and left the low growing natives. But they paid no mind to that and just broadcasted the chemicals across the entire span

One of my boarders was at the farm along with myself that morning. Her mouth was tingling, her right eye started burning and became bloodshot, and she got a bad headache from the exposure to the chemicals. I got a severe migraine from the stench and developed a rash all over my torso, neck and arms, and, I still have it. I am not able to use nor can my body tolerate chemicals of any sort. I only can use products that are hypo-allergenic, fragrance free, perfume free, and organic.

There are numerous horse farms along the power lines on Cape Cod, as well as homes with families, children and pets. Please, I am urging you to put a stop to Nstar's spraying of toxic and lethal chemicals across our beautiful land. Unfortunately I had to live the horror and would not wish this on anyone else to experience!

Sincerely,

Clare L Bergh