

[EXTERNAL] comment from 9/6/18 Decision Making Committee

Karen Perkins to: Tanya.Drlik

09/16/2018 11:07 PM

Cc
: Andrew M Sutherland, Susan Junfish

To Tanya and the Decision Making Committee:

This is a summary of the comment I made at the 9/6/18 meeting.

I spoke about my concerns about the county's use of Roundup, particularly in light of the recent Johnson vs. Monsanto lawsuit in which the jury found Monsanto had acted with "malice and oppression" and awarded Mr. Johnson \$289 million dollars for it's product, Roundup, having been a "substantial factor" in causing Mr. Johnson's cancer. I expressed concern not only for myself and all residents of Contra Costa County from being exposed to Roundup, but also for the workers who apply it. I said that even if one didn't consider the human suffering and repercussions, the county should care about possible financial consequences and liability.

I also mentioned that Roundup's active ingredient, glyphosate, is on the Proposition 65 List as "Known to the State of California to Cause Cancer", and that it is the most widely and heavily used herbicide in the history of the world. We have all been exposed to it for decades, in schools, parks, shopping centers, businesses and walking trails. Although Mr. Johnson was a Benicia Public School groundskeeper who applied Roundup often, independent studies have determined that long term, chronic exposures of small doses accumulate in our bodies. Charts have shown that the skyrocketing epidemic of cancer correlates with the increasing usage of Roundup.

I also mentioned that, after the juries decision, the City of Benicia went Roundup-free as did the City of Novato.

Most of Marin County is Roundup-free. I am also forwarding a Press Release from the City of Benicia and the statement made by it's Mayor. Thank you for all you're doing around this issue.

Sincerely,

Karen Perkins
Parents for a Safer Environment, Steering Committee