



Steve Troxler  
Commissioner

## North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

January 22, 2009

Dr. Jerry Parks,  
Director, Albemarle Regional Health Services  
711 Roanoke Avenue  
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

Dear Dr. Parks:

In moving forward to implement of the recommendations of the 2008 Governor's Interagency Taskforce, we are soliciting recommendations for membership on the Interagency Pesticide Workgroup to achieve the following objectives:

- Improve coordination and communication among agencies and groups involved with pesticide regulation and safety,
- Continuous evaluation of the need for additional enhancements or changes in regulations using data from the state's health surveillance and pesticide compliance monitoring systems, and
- Creation of an annual report to the North Carolina Pesticide Board and the Governor.

As you well know, this workgroup will also address the need to integrate emerging technology, current science and best practices with regard to pesticide use and related health issues. As noted in the recommendations from the Governor's Interagency Taskforce, it is imperative for North Carolina to stay current with science and best practices in regard to the safe, effective use of pesticides and protecting the public's health, safety and welfare.

Inasmuch as the Taskforce Report recognized that input from Local Public Health is essential to its success, and I am asking that you consider continuing the service you began on the Taskforce and join the workgroup. I have named Mr. James Burnette, Jr., Director of the Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division, to chair the workgroup. Please notify Mr. Burnette of your willingness to serve on the workgroup by **February 6, 2009** to assure adequate time for him to notify appointees and schedule an initial orientation meeting. You may send this information to him by e-mail at [james.burnette@ncagr.gov](mailto:james.burnette@ncagr.gov), or by mail at:

Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division  
1090 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1090

Please accept my gratitude for your continued support and participation in this important endeavor to further strengthen our laws and regulations governing the safe use of pesticides and protection of North Carolina's agricultural workers. I know that you share my steadfast commitment to our state's agricultural programs and services, and I look forward to our joint venture in assessing select recommendations from the Governor's Interagency Task Force. If you have questions, please direct them to Mr. Jim Burnette at [919] 733-3556 or at the e-mail address noted above.

Sincerely,



Steven W. Troxler  
Commissioner

cc: Leah Devlin, State Health Director