

POLICY OF THE MAINE BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL

The Medical Advisory Committee

Background

The Maine Board of Pesticides Control recognizes the potential impact of some pesticides on human health, as well as the importance of protecting the beneficial uses of most pesticides when used carefully by responsible applicators. In order to separate potentially harmful chemicals from the essentially safe ones, the Board needs expert advisors, knowledgeable in the field of human health research or clinical practice, who can add their assessments to the economic and benefit recommendations of others prior to the Board initiating and ruling on pesticide restrictions.

These persons will be established as a volunteer Medical Advisory Committee to the Board of Pesticides Control.

Membership

The MAC will be composed of three standing members and *ad hoc* members. One standing member will be the Board member appointed with medical expertise. This member will also chair the committee. The other two standing members will be the State Toxicologist or their designee, from the Environmental Toxicology Program at the Maine Centers for Disease Control and the Medical Director of the Northern New England Poison Center. In addition, up to six members may be chosen *ad hoc* with expertise specific to the issue at hand. The Board will solicit and review resumes for positions on the MAC.

The Board should appoint as members persons whose disciplines in aggregate are suitable for identifying and evaluating health hazards or risks. Members are not required to be physicians, but should be qualified professionals in a related health care or medical research discipline.

Term

Ad hoc MAC members will be appointed by the Board for the duration of specific reviews.

Meetings

The Committee will meet on an as needed basis at the invitation of the MAC chairman.

Compensation

The MAC is voluntary and no compensation for services is available. However, all reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed, subject the approval of the staff director, in a manner consistent with State Travel Policy.