



600 E Boulevard Ave., Dept. 602
Bismarck, ND 58505-0020
Equal Opportunity in Employment and Services

Testimony of Judy Carlson, Program Coordinator
Joint meeting with the Senate and House Agriculture Committees
To receive a report from the Agriculture Commissioner on pesticide container disposal
and the commodity groups.
Brynhild Haugland Room
January 9, 2009

Chairman Johnson and Chairman Flakoll, and members of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees, I am Judy Carlson, a Program Coordinator at the department of agriculture. I am here today to present our legislative report on Project Safe Send, our pesticide disposal and container recycling program.

This biennium, we facilitated 32 collection events throughout the state; 1,014 participants brought in 402,467 pounds of unusable waste pesticides. When we last testified before your committees in 2007, we reported that during the 2005-2007 biennium we also held 32 collection events with 880 participants that brought in 343,608 pounds of waste pesticides.

The amount of pesticides collected demonstrates the continued need for this program and the concern of North Dakota agricultural producers for the environment. PSS makes it economically feasible for individuals to get rid of their unusable pesticides.

Container recycling is conducted by the Ag Container Research Council (ACRC), a non-profit organization comprised of pesticide manufacturers. In 2008 the ACRC hired a new contractor, Container Services Network (CSN). Although the pounds recycled are lower than previous years, we will continue to work with CSN to help them provide a user friendly program in conjunction with PSS pesticide collections.

The funding for PSS is included in the department of agriculture's budget (HB 1009). Funding for this program is from pesticide registration fees that are deposited into the Environment and Rangeland Protection (EARP) Fund.

Attached to this testimony are copies of our legislative report on Project Safe Send. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.