

TOPLINE MESSAGES

Proposed Regulation of Ambient Air Level of 0.005 mg/m³ for Methyl Bromide

June 21, 2019

Overview of the Issue

TOPLINE - Regulating the Acceptable Ambient Level (AAL) of Methyl Bromide to 0.005 mg/m³ will protect communities by lowering their exposure to a toxic chemical that has detrimental health impacts on the entire body.

Methyl bromide is a dangerous, toxic chemical. The public health benefits of a regulated AAL will greatly outweigh any burdens that might be placed on a handful of industries.

An AAL of 0.005 mg/m³ is best for affected communities. This level lowers residents' exposure to methyl bromide, and the potential negative health impacts will decrease significantly.

The residents in these communities deserve the peace of mind and health security that will come from this reduction of Methyl Bromide in their systems.

Health Outcomes

TOPLINE - Requiring an AAL of the methyl bromide compound to 0.005 mg/m will protect residents living near these facilities from the negative health impacts caused by Methyl Bromide.

Residents living near these facilities are exposed to Methyl Bromide 24 hours a day and it negatively affects their health. It is in the air, the ground, and the water. Any exposure to Methyl Bromide can be harmful to health.

Children are more susceptible to health risks associated with Methyl Bromide.

Studies have shown that exposure to Methyl Bromide **impacts the entire body**; it can cause lung problems, neurological issues, liver damage, and other harmful impacts.

These studies were conducted by scientists from across the country and were approved by the Secretaries' Science Advisory Board in February 2019.

Community residents must live with exposure to Methyl Bromide every day. Current industry practices do not stop exposure of the communities to methyl bromide.

Reducing the possible exposure of Methyl Bromide by regulating the AAL to 0.005 mg/m³ will ensure a healthier and safer community, and protect the health of our families and children.

Outcomes

TOPLINE -This regulation will ensure that companies apply controls to ensure the AAL of methyl bromide is 0.005 mg/m³. This reduction will greatly benefit the surrounding community residents' health by lowering their exposure to this compound.

These companies will have to reduce the amount of methyl bromide they use or install controls to meet the AAL numbers.

This chemical compound has already been banned in many jurisdictions across the United States and across the world. The AAL will help bring North Carolina in line with many other states and the majority of the country in reducing the use of methyl bromide.

KEY CONTACTS

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