

PM10 from Aerial Spraying Increases Hospitalization and Death

What is PM10

PM10 is a notation used to describe air pollution from particles of diameter 10 micrometers or less. The particles could be plastic, dust, ash, a deadly chemical, or micro-encapsulated artificial pheromone. PM10 is considered particulate pollution and is a cause of fatality in human beings.

The Statistics of Spraying 5 Million People

Around the country, air sampling stations measure the amount of PM10 in the air. As an example, on an average day in Watsonville, California, the density of PM10 is 19 micrograms per cubic meter.

In court filings, statements, and letters released by the CDFA, the public has been falsely assured that aerial spraying of CheckMate would create only minor, negligible amounts of PM10 in the air. However, they've made a tremendous error.

Based upon measurements misinterpreted by the CDFA, the new calculations by Knepp and Haferman show that a single application of CheckMate would increase the density of PM10 to 141 micrograms per cubic meter - about 7 times more dangerous particulate pollution! Over the lifetime of the particles, winds will concentrate the PM10 in certain places increasing the exposure still more.

In an average group of 5 million people, there are normally about 15,000 deaths per year from pneumonia and cardiovascular disease. By adding the deadly burden of aerial CheckMate spraying, Dr. Knepp has calculated that 1480 more of these kinds of deaths would occur within 2-3 days after each spraying. Similarly the average 17,000 admissions to hospital from pneumonia will increase by 4600. PM10 explains the correlation between the aerial spraying and the health complaints in Monterey and Santa Cruz.

CDFA intends to spray about 700 square miles, up to 5 nights a month, 9 months a year, for up to 10 or more years. The number of additional deaths will be increased accordingly. These calculations are based on long-term medical studies involving the effects of PM10 in many large U.S. cities. Similar statistical studies in the past resulted in the recognition of coal miner's disease, the effects of asbestos, and of tobacco where not all the exposed population is immediately affected.

The Hardest Hit

Children, elders, and people with chronic illness will be LBAM spray's first targets for disease and fatality. Those very elements of society whom decent people try hardest to protect because of their heightened vulnerability are set to become the commonest victims of this intolerable aerial spraying.

PM10HospitalizationAndDeath.doc

References:

On pneumonia hospitalization and death statistics:

http://www.umm.edu/patiented/articles/how_serious_pneumonia_000064_4.htm

Relationship between PM10 and hospitalization due to pneumonia, Harvard School of Public Health Publication:

<http://www.ehponline.org/docs/2000/108p1071-1077zanobetti/abstract.html>

On cardiovascular disease statistics:

<http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=4478>

Relationship between PM10 exposure and death due to combined pneumonia and cardiovascular disease, New England J Medicine, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine:

<https://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/abstract/343/24/1742>

Knepp and Haferman, all the math:

<http://www.lbamspray.com/Reports/KneppAndHafermanLetterwithAttachments.pdf>

Useful Web sites to learn more:

www.stopthespray.org

www.lbamspray.com

www.1hope.org