October 1, 2013

Linda Irokawa-Otani, Regulations Coordinator
Department of Pesticide Regulation
1001 I Street, P.O. Box 4015
Sacramento, CA 95812-4015

Re: Support for DPR Regulation No. 13-002 (Designation of Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticide Products)

Dear Ms. Irokawa-Otani:

The County of Ventura Board of Supervisors supports the Department of Pesticide Regulation’s proposed regulation to designate all second generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) as California-restricted materials.

In the Santa Monica Mountains, there have been numerous deaths of carnivores such as bobcats, coyotes, and mountain lions that have been attributed to anticoagulant poisoning. There are also indications that raptors have become the unintended secondary targets of anticoagulant rodenticides. The DPR’s proposed regulation addresses the important issue of requiring safer and responsible application of anticoagulant rodenticides. The Ventura County Board of Supervisors believes that the new requirement will have a profound effect on reducing the poisoning of secondary non-target species.

We encourage efforts to reduce the use of these poisons that work their way up the food chain and are very harmful to wildlife. As a step towards addressing this threat to area wildlife, the County of Ventura began avoiding the practice of using anticoagulant rodenticides on County golf courses, parks, landscaping, and minimizing its use at other County-owned properties and facilities. We see restricting the use of SGARs to only certified applicators as a responsible practice that will reduce hazardous exposure to non-target wildlife. We support the proposed changes in the designation of SCARs.

Sincerely,

Peter C. Foy, Chair, 4th District