

Cosmetic Pesticide Ban Ontario still working on the final details

Promised by Premier McGuinty during the last election, the finalized regulations for the banning of certain pesticides and the restriction of others for non-essential uses (cosmetic applications) is expected to be issued soon from cabinet.

Industry groups launched a significant campaign aimed at getting Cabinet to consider further important aspects of the draft regulations: Adoption of valid scientific based criteria for the determination of the pesticide products affected. Incorporating a phase-in period of 3 years as originally indicated by the government so that significant economic impact for manufacturing, distributors and retailers is allowed to be managed properly. Industry is also requesting that the government provide more clarity and related to the second point above, implementation time for the newly identified “restricted pesticides” with regard to how they are stored, displayed and made available to the public.

While the definition of “Spring 2009” has not been provided, if a phase-in period is not included, industry could soon find itself with a significant issue having to dispose of inventories of legal Federally Registered pesticides now banned in the Province of Ontario.