



# **US Environmental Protection Agency Office of Pesticide Programs**

## **Pesticide Regulatory Education Program's (PREP) FIFRA Section 18 Emergency Exemption Program Training Resource**

### **Introduction**

June 2013

## **PREP's Online Training of the FIFRA Section 18 Emergency Exemption Program: Transcript for Introduction Module**

### **Slide 1**

Welcome to the Pesticide Regulatory Education Program's (PREP) training on the requirements and use of the Section 18 Emergency Exemption Program.

### **Slide 2**

This training was developed with funding support from PREP and was developed by a team of people from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency), and State Lead Agencies (SLAs) working under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

### **Slide 3**

The national pesticide program is a multi-faceted program that involves a collaborative working relationship between federal, state and tribal agencies, with a very broad regulated community and millions of stakeholders. A cornerstone of the pesticide program is the pesticide product registration requirement. All pesticides must be registered with EPA, and subsequently with the states, before they can be sold or distributed in this country. There are some exemptions to this product registration requirement, particularly when emergency situations arise.

This training tool will focus on the emergency exemptions from registration authorized under Section 18 of FIFRA, the Section 18 application requirements, and an overview of the EPA review process. It will also explore and provide information regarding other options available to address significant pest problems when they arise. It is important to note that this training will not cover differences or requirements in individual state programs.

### **Slide 4**

The primary goal of this training is to assist requesting state and federal agencies in determining situations where it is appropriate to request a Section 18, and when doing so, to submit a complete and adequate Section 18 application to facilitate a timely and effective review by EPA. Other stakeholders in this process may also find this tool helpful to better understand the purposes and processes of the Section 18 program.

It is important to note, however, that FIFRA and its implementing regulations include specific requirements applicable to emergency exemptions. The EPA considers this training document to be an instructional aid that does not change legal requirements or establish new guidance, but instead compiles interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions and reiterates existing EPA policies. Should there be any conflict between this training document and the applicable statutory and regulatory provisions, the contents of the statute and regulations will govern the Agency's review and evaluation of requests for emergency exemptions.

## **Slide 5**

Before we get started, let's take a look at what this training will cover.

Module 1 will take you through a decision tree that begins with a critical pest outbreak, and discusses the roles of different people/organizations and the options available to address the pest problem.

Module 2 will go over important information for the four different types of emergency exemptions, the conditions that critical pest situations must meet in order to be considered an "emergency", and information necessary for EPA to make the required safety findings under FIFRA as well as the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA).

Module 3 will detail information needed to demonstrate significant economic loss from a critical pest situation to support a Specific exemption request.

Module 4 will provide a summary of what a robust Section 18 application contains.

Module 5 will look at EPA's review and decision process once a Section 18 application package arrives at EPA.

Module 6 will summarize the reporting and recordkeeping requirements after the Section 18 has been approved.

Module 7 will discuss "repeat" Section 18 emergency exemptions and the "recertification" process.

Finally, Module 8 provides you an opportunity to review the major concepts from this training course through a series of interactive exercises.