

Project 87 Ozone Formation Potential and VOCs from Pesticide Application

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We have USDA funding to assess the actual ozone formation potential (OFP), in the field, of solvents used to apply insecticides. Ozone is a leading air pollutant of concern in California (and in more than 20 states) yet it is not directly emitted -- rather, it forms from chemical reactions in the lower atmosphere. Lacking sufficient information about this process, costly regulations have been implemented, and are continuing to be imposed, that have not produced improvements in air quality. We are addressing the OFP from various agricultural sources to provide, for the first time, a measure of their actual contribution to regional air quality.