

**STATE FIFRA ISSUES RESEARCH & EVALUATION GROUP (SFIREG)  
 JOINT MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ISSUES (EQI) AND  
 PESTICIDE OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT (POM) COMMITTEES AGENDA  
 Virtual  
 April 12-13, 2021**

**OECA Updates**

- New OECA liaison to AAPCO and SFIREG
  - Kelly Engle is replacing Anthony Matusik as the OECA liaison for AAPCO and SFIREG. Currently serves as the PIRT Coordinator, which has allowed her to interact with many of you.
- PIRT
  - Please email Kelly Engle at [engle.kelly@epa.gov](mailto:engle.kelly@epa.gov) if your state is interested in hosting a virtual PIRT in 2021 and/or an in-person or virtual PIRT in 2022.

Virtual Basic	North Carolina Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services	Virtual	April 19-22, 2021
Tribal	Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Tulsa, Oklahoma	May 17-19, 2022
Enforcement and Use	Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources	Northampton, Massachusetts	2022
Basic	Georgia Department of Agriculture	Savannah, Georgia	Tentatively Scheduled for August 1-5, 2021
Enforcement	Office of Indiana State	Indiana	2022

- Inspection Flexibilities
  - COVID-19 Inspection Commitment Letter (April 7, 2021): Signed by Lawrence Starfield, Acting OECA Assistant Administrator
    - Previous version of this letter was released on July 22, 2020 and provided flexibilities through March 2021.
  - This memo describes additional flexibilities and recommended processes to assist in meeting inspection commitments during the COVID-19 public health emergency.
  - The updated letter has been streamlined and addresses various comments to include:

- **extending the flexibilities to September 2021**, when we will re-evaluate whether further extension is necessary;
    - clarifying the request for documentation of adjustments;
    - clarifying who partner agencies should work with in the regions;
    - adding a statement that OECA may provide additional guidance for implementation, if needed; and
    - modifying the SRF paragraph to simply state that we will work with partner agencies for reviews taking place in FY2021 and beyond.
  - Offsite compliance monitoring activities can be conducted and can count towards inspection commitments for FY20
  - These should not be documented as inspections in EOY 5700 forms as they are not inspections. They should include information about offsite compliance monitoring in the workplan or in an attached narrative.
- Increase in Pesticide Establishments
  - In 2020, EPA saw a large increase (364%) in new pesticide establishment number registrations
  - 3,230 new pesticide establishments registered with EPA for new pesticide establishment numbers in 2020.
  - Typically, only 800 (average over five years) new pesticide establishments register with EPA each year.
  - New Pesticide Establishment Number requests are submitted on EPA Form 3540-8
  - Form 3540-8 goes to the specific EPA Regional office where the new pesticide establishment is located (i.e. establishment in New York, goes to Region 2)
  - OECA HQ handles all foreign establishment reports
  - OECA streamlined the National List of Active EPA-Registered Foreign and Domestic Pesticide and/or Device-Producing Establishments
  - Data stream was developed for real-time updates
  - The list that was updated annually is now updated daily
  - New table format is more user friendly
  - Users had issues downloading and interpreting previous csv file
  - <https://www.epa.gov/compliance/national-list-active-epa-registered-foreign-and-domestic-pesticide-and-or-device-producing>