

Steve Troxler Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

August 16, 2006

The Honorable Marc Basnight Senate President Pro Tempore Co-Chair Joint Legislative Committee on Governmental Operations

The Honorable James Black Speaker of the House Co-Chair Joint Legislative Committee on Governmental Operations

North Carolina General Assembly Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Dear President Basnight and Speaker Black:

The purpose of this correspondence is to advise you of a recent re-organization within the department. I have decided to combine the Structural Pest Control Division with the Pesticide Section to form the Structural Pest Control & Pesticides Division. Enclosed are organizational charts showing the location of the division within the department and the proposed organization of the new division. Please understand we have proposed to OSP job title changes for selected positions in the new division, but those changes have not been finalized.

There were three main reasons for combining the Pesticide Section (Fund 1090) with the Structural Pest Control Division (Fund 1120):

- 1. Both programs deal with the regulation of pesticide use, through the licensing of persons who apply pesticides, and the enforcement of standards governing the use of pesticides.
- 2. The Structural Pest Control Division was one of our smaller divisions, with only 21 employees. By contrast, the Pesticide Section had 43 employees, but was a section within the Food and Drug Protection Division, which will still be one of our larger divisions even without the Pesticide Section.

By combining the two programs into a single division, we will be able to better utilize and improve the efficiency of administrative and clerical functions in the areas of purchasing, accounting, budgeting and information technology. In addition, there will be intangible benefits derived from having employees in these two programs

working more closely with each other, and sharing their knowledge and experience with each other.

3. Both programs are supported in part by the same EPA grant. Combining the two programs will make grant administration more efficient.

I am excited about this change and I look forward to seeing the combined programs achieve great success. Please contact me if you desire additional information.

Sincerely,

Steven W. Troxler Commissioner

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cc Joy Hicks, General Assembly Fiscal Analyst David Brown, Assistant Director, Office of State Budget & Management