Date: November 30, 2007

Subject: Sunset- Ozone Gas

Chair: Andrea M. Caroe

Recommendation

The NOSB hereby recommends to the NOP the following:

Rulemaking Action: X

Guidance Statement: 

Other: 

Statement of the Recommendation (including Recount of Vote):

To renew ozone gas to §205.601(a)(5) Synthetic substances allowed for use in organic crop production.
(a) as algaecide, disinfectants, sanitizers, including irrigation system cleaners
(5) Ozone gas- for use as an irrigation system cleaner only.

NOSB Vote: Motion: G. Davis Second: T. Ellor

Board vote: Yes - 15 No - 0 Abstain - 0 Absent - 0

Rationale Supporting Recommendation (including consistency with OFPA and NOP):
Some use of material reported. No new information presented to warrant removal.

Sunset Material Vote

Response by the NOP:
Crops Committee Recommendation for §205.601                September 12, 2007

I. List: 205.601 Synthetic substances allowed for use in organic crop production

II. Category Use

(a) As algicide, disinfectants, and sanitizers, including irrigation system cleaners.

III. Committee Summary: Ozone gas was added to the National List (Federal Register Vol. 68, No. 211 10/31/2003) under the above listed category with the annotation; ‘for use as an irrigation system cleaner only’. Used in this way, this material would typically be generated on the farm with equipment designed to produce O₃ gas from atmospheric oxygen and inject it into the irrigation water stream. Being a strong oxidizer, the O₃ kills algae and bacteria and helps to keep irrigation lines clean of accumulations of these organisms, before reverting to the harmless, natural O₂ form. Used this way, ozone gas is considered safe and an environmentally sound practice. In checking with a variety of certifiers, some interest was found for keeping the material and no strong feelings were expressed for removing from the List. The Crops Committee welcomes any new or other information that would call this material into question for continuation on the National List.

IV. Committee Recommendation:
Recommendation based upon comments received- 205.601(a)

The Crops Committee recommends renewal in the use category:

(a) As algicide, disinfectants, and sanitizers, including irrigation system cleaners.
(5) Ozone gas- for use as an irrigation system cleaner only.

Moved: Ellor              Second: Delgado
Committee vote:   Yes: 6   No: 0   Absent: 1              Board vote: