

Office of Indiana State Chemist

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Policy Statement 01-1231

Establishment of Direct Voice Communication with the Supervising Certifed Applicator

I. Introduction

355 IAC 4-2 sets forth the regulation with respect to direct supervision of non-certified pesticide applicators. This includes the requirement that the registered technician (non-certified applicator) be able to establish direct voice communication with the off-site supervising certified applicator while the use of the pesticide is in progress. The following explanation should assist in clarifying the legal responsibilities of certified supervisors that use registered technicians to make pesticide applications.

II. When & How to Establish Direct Voice Communication

Direct voice communication does not need to be continuous. Direct voice communication would be established when the registered technician has questions concerning use of a pesticide or if emergency situations would arise such as spills, fires or poisonings. Communication can be established by two-way radio, cell phone, land line phone or any other communication device that would allow the supervising certified applicator to effectively communicate with the registered technician during the use of the pesticide or the emergency.

III. Timeliness of the Establishment of Direct Voice Communication

For non-emergency situations direct voice communication with the supervising certified applicator shall be established within 30 minutes of inquiry by the registered technician. For emergency situations such as spills, fire or poisonings direct voice communication with the supervising certified applicator shall be established no later than five minutes after the initial inquiry is made by the registered technician.