Message

From: McNally, Robert [Mcnally.Robert@epa.gov]
Sent: 7/15/2020 5:41:08 PM
To: Mendelsohn, Mike [Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov]
CC: Overstreet, Anne [overstreet.anne@epa.gov]; Moyer, Adam [moyer.adam@epa.gov]; Bohnenblust, Eric [Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: Oxitec Florida Webinar

If the first release is delayed until 2021, does that mean they will Likely request extending the EUP until 2023?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 15, 2020, at 1:26 PM, Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov> wrote:

Answers in blue below.

From: McNally, Robert <Mcnally.Robert@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:14 PM
To: Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>; Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>; Moyer, Adam <moyer.adam@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Oxitec Florida Webinar

Did Florida chime in to correct Oxitec? What role did they play? No role. I did not hear from FDACS during the webinar or Q&A.

So, if no vote, what is the next step? Florida Keys Mosquito Control Board Meeting 7/21/2020. They can vote to go forward, vote to reject, or delay till their August mtg.

The Monroe County Board votes? If it passes, when does the release happen? Florida Keys Mosquito Control Board Meeting. Most releases in 2021, but some may occur this summer.

Any press there? Any press today? No press visible at webinar. I have not heard from press today.

From: Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:02 PM
To: McNally, Robert <Mcnally.Robert@epa.gov>; Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>; Moyer, Adam <moyer.adam@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Oxitec Florida Webinar

Overall the session was quite good. I have a couple of questions I need to follow up on.

- Links to our risk assessment, response to comments, and issuance letter were provided.
- CDC is collaborating with Oxitec re: evaluation of data from the EUP.
- Oxitec seemed to indicate that no monitoring is required, but genetic resistance monitoring is required.
- When asked about tetracycline concerns, Oxitec did not bring up the required buffers and said it's an outside trial and mosquitoes move. They did mention our analysis and protocols (I think required by FDACS) to remove materials in the case of upcoming severe weather.

- Oxitec again promoted the benefit of moving insecticide susceptibility genes to native populations.
- Public exposure and informed consent was brought up and our response to comments document was cited since the EUP did not meet the standard of requiring informed consent and male mosquitoes don't bite.
- The mosquito control district mentioned that they are looking at effectiveness and cost when considering tools.
- The mosquito control district mentioned they are only concerned with Aedes aegypti for disease transmission concerns.
- A question was posed regarding efficacy and Oxitec incorrectly said that there was not an actual percentage control/suppression that would measure success, but the whole impact.
- Another referendum to voters is not planned.
- Most questions came from a few individuals. Barry Ray submitted lots of comments, but the forum focused on answering questions.
- Oxitec did not provide funds to the mosquito control district, but is also not charging them for the testing.
- Oxitec has already transformed *Aedes albopictus* (Asian Tiger mosquito) and Anopheles gambiae (African mosquito that spreads malaria) and these are on the shelf.
- A paper was brought up that indicated that global warming was increasing mutation in mosquitoes. Dr. Rey from UF said he was unaware of the article or journal, but certainly warmer climates could bring about more generations that could lead to more mutations.
- Some screenshots follow.

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<!--[if !vml]-->
<image005.jpg>
<!--[endif]-->

<image006.jpg>

<image007.jpg>

From: McNally, Robert <Mcnally.Robert@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 10:51 AM
To: Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>
Cc: Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>; Moyer, Adam <moyer.adam@epa.gov>
Subject: Florida Session

Any takeaways you can share?