

Finding of No Significant Impact
Movement of Grapes and Other Regulated Articles from the European Grapevine Moth
Quarantine Zone
Environmental Assessment
June, 2010

The U.S Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes potential environmental consequences of moving fresh grapes and other regulated article from a quarantine zone in California, which has been established to control the spread of European Grapevine Moth (EGVM). The EA, incorporated by reference in this document, is available online at

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/ea/downloads/egvm-ea.pdf and from:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Emergency and Domestic Programs
Emergency Management
4700 River Road, Unit 160
Riverdale, MD 20737-1236

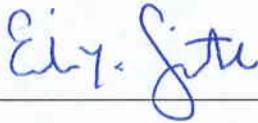
The EA analyzed alternatives, including (1) allowing unrestricted movement of host material out of California (no action alternative), and (2) establishing a quarantine zone and requiring inspection of regulated articles with movement outside of the quarantine zone allowed only if the articles are found to be free of EGVM or if they are treated with an APHIS-approved treatment. Fresh grapes that have originated from EGVM-positive vineyards or vineyards within 200 meters of positive vineyards must be treated with methyl bromide to ensure that no viable life stages of EGVM are present prior to movement outside the quarantine zone. Farm equipment is to be kept clean and mechanized equipment is to be pressure washed or steam treated prior to leaving infested areas. Environmental impacts associated with the use of the steam and pressure washing techniques outlined in the Federal Order are negligible; therefore, the EA predominantly focused on effects from the use of methyl bromide.

Under the requirements of the Federal Order, only those grapes from vineyards with a positive detection of EGVM and from vineyards within 200 meters of such a vineyard would require treatment with methyl bromide. Should EGVM be detected on other host material upon inspection, that material may be treated according to Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) protocol. Based on the method (tarpaulin protocol or chamber) and timing (postharvest) of its application, the use of methyl bromide for the proposed action will pose minimal risk to human health and nontarget organisms, including terrestrial and aquatic species. Potential environmental consequences of the preferred alternative include the addition of ozone depleting substances that can impact the ozone layer. However, as demonstrated in the analysis in the EA, the amounts of methyl bromide likely to be released under the proposed action are considered negligible when viewed in a global context and will not result in significant impacts. In addition, APHIS has determined that the preferred alternative will have no effect on species or critical

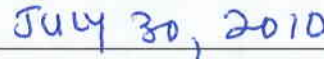
habitat that is federally listed as endangered or threatened, and is not expected to have disproportionate adverse effects to any minority or low-income populations or disproportionate effects to children.

This document has been made available to the public for a 30-day comment period ending on July 23, 2010. To date, no comments have been received.

An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared if implementation of the Action may significantly affect the quality of the human environment. I have determined that there would be no significant impact to the human environment from the implementation of the preferred alternative; therefore, an EIS does not need to be prepared.



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Plant Protection and Quarantine
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Date