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September 28, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Following EPA Administrator, Gina McCarthy's announcement that the agency is finalizing updates and revisions to the Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS) for pesticides, Mark Magaña, President of GreenLatinos – a coalition of Latino Environmental & Conservation Leaders – issued the following statement:

"As an organization that advocates for environmental, energy and conservation policies that promote the health and well-being of the Latino community across the United States, we commend the EPA for delivering a stronger Agricultural Worker Protection Standard.

Securing a WPS that protects farmworkers from pesticide poisoning is of utmost importance to ensuring environmental justice for some of the most vulnerable workers in our community.

Honoring the principles of environmental justice and under the leadership of Board Member Andrea Delgado, GreenLatinos led the way to ensure that farmworkers were involved at every stage of the rulemaking process and we will continue to do so throughout the implementation and enforcement process."

EPA's final rule will enhance the protections provided to agricultural workers, pesticide handlers, and others at risk of pesticides exposure under the WPS by strengthening elements of the existing regulation, such as training, notification, pesticide safety and hazard communication information, use of personal protective equipment, and the providing of supplies for routine washing and emergency decontamination.

Revising the WPS - a standard that has not been updated in over 20 years - has been one of five core priorities for GreenLatinos.

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GreenLatinos is a national non-profit organization that convenes a broad coalition of Latino leaders committed to addressing national, regional and local environmental, natural resources and conservation issues that significantly affect the health and welfare of the Latino community in the United States. GreenLatinos provides an inclusive table at which its members establish collaborative partnerships and networks to improve the environment; protect and promote conservation of land and other natural resources; amplify the voices of minority, low-income and tribal communities; and train, mentor, and promote the current and future generations of Latino environmental leaders for the benefit of the Latino community and beyond. GreenLatinos develops and advocates for policies and programs to advance this mission.