

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 22, 2025

The Honorable Lee M. Zeldin
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Zeldin:

As members of the Pennsylvania delegation, we write to express our strong opposition to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to eliminate the 2009 Endangerment Finding, which would strip away critical protections and expose our constituents to escalating climate hazards that are already devastating Pennsylvania communities.

The Endangerment Finding is the cornerstone of federal climate action, serving as the EPA's science-based determination that greenhouse gas pollution threatens public health and welfare. Repealing it will not change that reality. The overwhelming scientific evidence remains unchanged: greenhouse gas pollution is warming our planet, intensifying extreme weather events, and imposing escalating costs on families, workers, and communities nationwide.

Pennsylvanians are already feeling the effects of climate change through more frequent and severe extreme weather. These are not distant projections but present realities affecting our constituents from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, from rural farming communities to urban neighborhoods. Our state has recorded the nation's largest increase in rainfall since the 1950s¹, fueling more frequent and severe flooding². In 2024 alone, Pennsylvania experienced 12 extreme weather events³, each causing over \$1 billion in damages, totaling \$36.7 billion, and claiming at least 253 lives⁴. Pennsylvania's 2024 Climate Action Plan⁵ confirms that extreme precipitation events will become more common and intense, remaining the state's highest climate risk, especially for communities most vulnerable to flooding and with the fewest resources to recover.

Rising temperatures compound these threats to our communities. Pennsylvanians are already experiencing record high temperatures⁶, with state projections showing nearly a 7°F increase by 2050.⁷ Heat waves⁸ historically lasting just over two days are expected to stretch to nine and become far more frequent. These extreme conditions place our most vulnerable populations⁹ at

¹ <https://www.govtech.com/em/safety/pennsylvania-to-see-increase-in-extreme-weather-events>

² <https://statesummaries.ncics.org/chapter/pa/>

³ <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/billions/state-summary/PA>

⁴ <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/billions/state-summary/PA>

⁵ <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/residents/climate-change/pa-climate-action-plan>

⁶ <https://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/health/documents/topics/documents/environmental-health/Heat%20Stress%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

⁷ <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/residents/climate-change/pa-climate-action-plan>

⁸ <https://www.axios.com/local/philadelphia/2025/07/30/heat-waves-philly-pennsylvania-common>

⁹ <https://www.psu.edu/news/institute-energy-and-environment/story/investigating-impacts-extreme-heat-vulnerable-populations>

serious risk, including the elderly and children, while worsening air quality and contributing to asthma, cardiovascular stress, and vector-borne diseases like Lyme. In June 2025 alone, Allegheny County hospitals treated over 40 patients¹⁰ for heat-related illnesses. Extreme heat¹¹ also presents a grave risk to worker health, safety, and productivity. Workers are more likely to experience health challenges and illnesses such as headaches and heat stroke in these rising temperatures, not only putting them at greater health risk but also reducing worker productivity¹².

By proposing to eliminate the Endangerment Finding, the administration will undermine essential safeguards against climate pollution, leaving our constituents to face more pollution, more health harms, more extreme weather, and higher costs¹³, especially in communities already overburdened by pollution.

We urge you to maintain the Endangerment Finding and uphold EPA's fundamental responsibility to protect communities in Pennsylvania and across the country from the documented harms of climate change.

Sincerely,



Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress



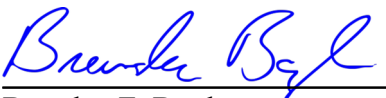
Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress




Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress

¹⁰ <https://www.wtae.com/article/pittsburgh-heat-wave-allegheny-general-hospital-west-penn-power/65195055>

¹¹ [presents](#)

¹² <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/07/31/climate/heat-labor-productivity-climate.html>

¹³ <https://www.centredaily.com/news/state/pennsylvania/article311517644.html>



Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



John Fetterman
United States Senator