July 2, 2026

The Honorable Lee Zeldin
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Sent via email

Dear Administrator Zeldin:

We are writing to thank you for recent steps to advance the registration of pesticide products.

Our members provide vital pest management services that protect our public health, infrastructure, waterways, drinking water, and green spaces. Their work often requires the judicious use of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered pesticides that control mosquitoes, ticks and rodents that carry disease; protect our food safety post-harvest, protect our nation's public utilities, water quality, rights-of-way, and infrastructure from invasive weeds to ensure reliable delivery of electricity; manage overgrowth, vegetation, and brush that pose fire hazards; and maintain homes, greenspaces, parks, sports fields, and golf courses.

Environmental stewardship is central to our members' work. We depend on innovative products to control new and invasive species and manage pest resistance. Continued investment in industry research and development, along with public-private partnerships like the IR-4 Project, is essential to delivering these solutions. As summer begins, our products used to control mosquitoes and ticks become especially important. Specialty pesticides also protect the public from Lyme disease, among other diseases. The CDC estimates that approximately 476,000 Americans are diagnosed and treated for Lyme disease each year, with symptoms ranging from itchy rashes to arthritis and memory loss. For an estimated 5% to 20% of patients, symptoms can persist long after treatment, with no proven cure. A 2022 study estimated the annual U.S. economic burden of Lyme disease at $345 million to $968 million. Rodent control is also increasingly important for control of diseases such as the hantavirus.

We are grateful that under your leadership, the Office of Pesticide Programs has made significant process and technological improvements to address the backlog of pending pesticide registration actions. We appreciate the recent actions by EPA to advance registration of new pesticide products. Our members and the public are now closer to realizing the benefits of new, innovative pest mitigation technology. We urge you to continue work to preserve science-based decision-making while adhering to statutory deadlines and promoting efficiency in the pesticide registration process.

Sincerely,

Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation
AmericanHort
American Mosquito Control Association
National Association of Landscape Professionals
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America
National Pest Management Association
RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment)
Turfgrass Producers International

cc:
The Honorable Brooke L. Rollins, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Susie Wiles, White House Chief of Staff
Vince Haley, Director, Domestic Policy Council
Kevin Hassett, Ph.D., Director, National Economic Council