

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 22, 2025

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

Dear Administrator Zeldin:

We write to urge the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to withdraw the recent proposal to eliminate the 2009 Endangerment Finding. This proposal undermines EPA's foremost mission: to protect the environment and human health of all Americans. We are deeply concerned about what the roll back of the Endangerment Finding will mean for Arizona and our constituents' health and safety.

The Endangerment Finding requires the EPA to protect Americans from the greenhouse gas pollutants that heat our planet and accelerate climate change and its impacts. This finding was supported by settled science and steered EPA's environmental policy for over a decade. Arizonans, and all Americans, deserve science-based environmental protections, not political games at their expense and polluters' gain.

Climate change is an urgent and rapidly growing threat in the United States and across the world.<sup>1</sup> In Arizona, we continue to experience the effects of a hotter planet: decreased water flow in the Colorado River; a diminishing snowpack; worsening extreme heat; and increasing threats to our farms, forests, and personal health.

Arizona, especially, faces climate change's impacts with more extreme weather each year. July 2023 in Arizona was our nation's hottest month on record—with the Phoenix Valley surviving 31 days of 110-degree temperatures.<sup>2</sup> In 2024, Phoenix saw 113 straight days above 100 degrees, setting heat records across the state.<sup>3</sup> The impacts of extreme heat are life-threatening and even deadly. It has led to thousands of hospitalizations, and Maricopa County reported 608 deaths due to heat-related illnesses last year.<sup>4</sup> Frontline workers in outside occupations, which make up about 20 percent of Phoenix's workforce, face heightened risks to their health and earnings working in extreme heat.<sup>5</sup> Billions are lost annually in labor losses and health care costs.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://science.nasa.gov/climate-change/extreme-weather/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.phoenixnewtimes.com/news/whats-the-hottest-month-in-phoenix-arizona-21956949>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.weather.gov/psr/ExtremeTemps>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/phoenix/2025/06/05/maricopa-county-death-toll-from-heat-climbs/84037442007/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.frbsf.org/research-and-insights/blog/community-development/2024/03/26/extreme-heats-impact-on-a-local-economy-phoenix-arizona/>


Arizona's historic drought, worsened by climate change, is the biggest threat to our economy and to our ability to keep growing and attracting investment. Our state's future depends on the certainty and security of our water resources. Multiyear droughts due to climate change were also a driving factor in fueling the 15 percent increase in wildfires between 2023 and 2024.<sup>6</sup> In just 2024, 2,162 fires impacted a record 282,000 acres of land.<sup>7</sup>

By proposing to eliminate the Endangerment Finding, the Trump Administration aims to undermine other existing protections: clean air and water standards, oil and gas regulations, landfill rules, and more. This means our constituents will face more pollution, more health harms, and higher costs, especially in communities already overburdened by pollution. Arizona cannot afford such a mistake.

We urge you to maintain EPA's Endangerment Finding and to protect the health and welfare of Arizonans and communities across the country.

Sincerely,

  
Yassamin Ansari  
Member of Congress

  
Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress

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<sup>6</sup> [https://dffm.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/2024%20Annual%20Report\\_FINAL.pdf](https://dffm.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/2024%20Annual%20Report_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [https://dffm.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/2024%20Annual%20Report\\_FINAL.pdf](https://dffm.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/2024%20Annual%20Report_FINAL.pdf)