



EARTHJUSTICE



EARTHJUSTICE ACTION

January 29, 2025

United States Senate

Re: Oppose Lee Zeldin's Confirmation as EPA Administrator

Dear Senator:

Earthjustice writes to express our unequivocal opposition to the nomination of Lee Zeldin as Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Zeldin's record reveals an alarming disregard for environmental health and justice, his lack of relevant experience, and a troubling alignment with corporate polluters and deregulatory agendas.

For communities on the frontlines of pollution and harmful exposure, the EPA serves as a lifeline. However, Zeldin's record reflects a disregard for the agency's mandate to protect these communities. The EPA requires steadfast leadership to combat climate and environmental harm, protect communities from toxic pollution, and safeguard public health—qualities that Zeldin demonstrably lacks.

In Congress, he received a dismal 14% lifetime score from the League of Conservation Voters, consistently opposing environmental protections. His stance on the EPA's most trusted impacts could not be clearer: Zeldin voted to end Clean Air Act standards and voted against funding the replacement of lead service lines for drinking water, even as millions of Americans face unsafe air and water. Despite joining bipartisan environmental caucuses, he opposed legislation that would have prevented corporations from discharging PFAS and other forever chemicals into our waterways.

Zeldin's leadership in the EPA would prioritize corporate interests over communities disproportionately affected by pollution. As chair of the America First Policy Institute, he has advocated for fossil fuel expansion and weakening protections like the Clean Air and Endangered Species Acts. His dismissive statements on climate change and a deregulatory agenda signal a disregard for science and public health. Environmental groups have condemned his nomination, warning of increased pollution, public health risks, and exacerbated environmental injustices under his leadership. These policies threaten to erode hard-won progress in combating the climate crisis, leaving vulnerable communities at greater risk.

The EPA requires a proven leader with expertise and commitment to address the urgent environmental challenges facing our nation. Zeldin's limited experience, anti-environmental record, and allegiance to corporate polluters make him fundamentally unfit for this role. We urge you to reject the confirmation of Lee Zeldin for EPA Administrator.

Sincerely,

Earthjustice