

October 28, 2025

Lee Zeldin, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
William J. Clinton Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Administrator Zeldin:

I urge the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to update and strengthen locomotive emissions standards.

Due to outdated standards and major regulatory loopholes, decades-old diesel locomotives continue to be rebuilt and reused without ever improving their efficiency. These engines emit harmful pollutants that degrade regional air quality and seriously endanger the health of railroad workers and communities near railyards, ports, and other major rail corridors.

EPA has the responsibility to close these regulatory gaps and set new, stronger standards that reflect the efficiency of modern technologies, including zero-emissions. As the urgency of cleaning up air pollution and responding to the climate crisis accelerates, zero-emission technologies offer a long-term solution to this public health challenge. At the same time, the technology to transition to cleaner, more efficient engines already exists and is cost-effective. Setting new Tier 5 standards that ensure the deployment of modern, efficient technologies will reduce cancer risk, cut emissions, and advance public health.

Please act now to clean up locomotives and help deliver healthier air for millions of people.

Sincerely,

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Susan Vogt

Alabama

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Lauren Richie

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Drena LaPointe
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EMW Mothershead
Eleanor Navarro
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Christie Dunning
Douglas Evans
Mark Glasser
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H Leabah	Winter, MPH
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Whitney	Wright

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Johnny	Fifles
Brooks	Robinson