

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 11, 2025

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

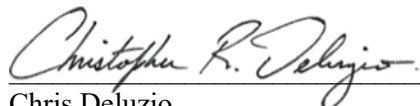
Dear Administrator Zeldin,

We are writing to urge you to reverse the decisions to terminate federal funding under the Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program, administered to Western Pennsylvania organizations through the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative. We have heard from community stakeholders that they are worried about how the Department of Governmental Efficiency (DOGE) is plundering our government and dismantling important community-led public and environmental health initiatives, workforce development, and outdoor education programming. On May 6, Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) received an impersonal, templated letter from the Environmental Protection Agency, clawing back over \$6,400,000 in federal funding from Pennsylvania organizations. GHHI had to immediately halt all program operations and assistance to Western Pennsylvania communities. This grant termination is deeply concerning, and we request the restoration of all Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program awards in Western Pennsylvania.

In Western Pennsylvania, organizations like New Sun Rising, Beaver County Marcellus Awareness Community, 412 Food Rescue, and Riverwise have all been relying on the funding from the Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program to create and improve public health initiatives throughout the Greater Pittsburgh region. For example, New Sun Rising had over \$500,000 in contractually obligated federal funds completely frozen. A major portion of this funding was going towards protecting and restoring tributary waters connected to the Monongahela River, helping reduce utility costs for homeowners through energy efficient improvements, and paying for construction jobs to build new community centers in the Greater Pittsburgh region.

This Administration is yet again breaking promises to our region. The EPA has long been a lifeline for so many communities in Pennsylvania. From helping provide clean drinking water, to commerce, to recreation, and more—our prosperity relies on clean and healthy initiatives funded by the EPA. As such, we urge the Environmental Protection Agency to immediately reinstate all previously awarded federal funding in Western Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress