



April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler  
EPA Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Wheeler,

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) represents the Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors of the state departments of agriculture in all fifty states and four U.S. territories. NASDA members are co-regulators with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the implementation of FIFRA in the states and work closely with EPA to regulate more than 900 active ingredients contained in as many as 40,000 formulated products used nationwide that are registered under FIFRA.

In the past few weeks, NASDA became aware that EPA will be re-evaluating its approach to reviewing the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) 24(c) requests. We are concerned that a different interpretation could significantly impact the way states meet their local needs. In fact, NASDA has already raised this issue with EPA late last year. In a letter submitted to EPA on September 12, 2018, NASDA stated that "*state flexibility is increasingly important*" when approving new crop protection products. States are considering restrictions under 24(c) requests to address geographical and local conditions needed for certain products, while also providing the best selection of crop protection tools for growers. NASDA believes that providing a wide range of crop protection options to American farmers and ranchers is essential to their economic viability.

We hope EPA recognizes that states are not stakeholders but co-regulatory partners under FIFRA and, therefore, must be consulted on any FIFRA regulatory or policy initiative. We appreciate the opportunity to work with EPA as the process of 24(c) requests is reviewed. Individually, regionally and collectively, NASDA members have knowledge and expertise that may offer an additional or perhaps unique perspective on this topic. So, if at any time we can be of assistance, please don't hesitate to contact NASDA staff (Aline DeLucia, [aline.delucia@nasda.org](mailto:aline.delucia@nasda.org)).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara P. Glenn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Barbara P. Glenn, Ph.D.**  
Chief Executive Officer