



March 30, 2026

Dear Governor Polis;

Our coalition of public health advocacy groups and state legislators are writing to bring your attention to new research that finds high levels of PFAS in pesticides and to ask that you take action to minimize risks to human health and the environment from PFAS in pesticides. **We request that Colorado require full disclosure of pesticide ingredients from pesticide companies, that the state of Colorado not spray pesticides containing PFAS on state lands, and that you support a ban on the use of pesticides containing PFAS.**

This letter follows up on our November 1, 2022, letter to you on this issue. Recently, PEER conducted testing on the herbicide Indaziflam, sold under the trade name Rejuvra, that found that it contains significant levels of four toxic PFAS: PFHxS, PFHxA, PFOS, and PFBS. Indaziflam is a new pre-emergent herbicide used for invasive plant control and vegetation management.

This testing follows a peer-review paper published in 2024 by researchers at the Center for Biological Diversity, PEER, and the Environmental Working Group which found that EPA is increasingly approving pesticides using PFAS as active ingredients in pesticides, in part to lengthen the timespan of the pesticides' killing properties.

This disturbing trend must stop. PFAS contamination in pesticides has the potential to cause widespread environmental and human health harm. Disturbingly, many of these PFAS-laden pesticides are allowed to be used near water sources and on food crops. In addition, we know little about the amounts and locations of where PFAS in pesticides are being applied so the scope of the harm is hard to estimate.

Our concerns about PFAS are not abstract or theoretical. PFAS chemicals are some of the most persistent human-made chemicals on the planet. They can build up in our bodies, contaminate water sources and food supplies, and break down into a smaller PFAS like trifluoroacetic acid, a water pollutant that threatens aquatic and semiaquatic life.

Since we last wrote to you, new studies have been published showing that the dangers of PFAS have expanded to now include accelerated aging in men; infant mortality; higher risk of gestational diabetes mellitus, altered insulin resistance, and insulin secretion dysfunction; and obesity and fatty liver disease.

Recent events in our state further underscore the need for caution. In January 2026, a Colorado water district filed a federal lawsuit alleging that decades of PFAS releases contaminated its drinking water and forced the district to spend 10's of millions of dollars on treatment and replacement water supplies. This case illustrates that PFAS contamination is not theoretical -- it has already resulted in long term public health risks and enormous financial burdens on communities once released into soil and groundwater. PFAS contamination will cost billions to clean up.



In light of this problem of growing pollution and the lack of federal action, we are writing to ask you to take these three actions:

- 1. Direct Colorado's Department of Agriculture to require that pesticide manufacturers test every registered product and certify to the state that the product does not contain PFAS;**
- 2. Immediately cease applying pesticides containing PFAS on state lands; and**
- 3. Support a ban on the use of any pesticide containing any form or amount of PFAS.**

We are interested in meeting with you to discuss the issue. Please let us know when you have time in the next few weeks.

Thank you for your attention to this matter- we appreciate your leadership in protecting the public health and environment of Colorado.

Sincerely,

Chandra Rosenthal, PEER, CRosenthal@peer.org

State Senator Lisa Cutter, lisa.cutter.colorado@gmail.com

Representative Lorena Garcia, replorenagarcia@gmail.com

Representative Sheila Lieder, Legis.lieder@gmail.com

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CC:

Commissioner Greenberg, Colorado Department of Agriculture
Executive Director Ryan, Colorado Department of Health and Environment
Director Clellen, Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Regional Forester Heithecker, USFS
Acting Colorado State Director, BLM

Attachments:

Colorado Coalition 2022 letter to Governor Polis
PEER one-page fact sheet on indaziflam
March 10, 2026, PEER press release
Independent lab test of Rejuvra Summary, with links to test results
EPA regulatory label for Rejuvra