



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROL**

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312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue
Nashville, TN 37243
(615) 532-0554 Voice or (615) 532-0614 FAX

October 6, 2021

Kenderick Arney, Regional Forester
USDA Forest Service Southern Region (R8)
1720 Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30309

Subject: Scoping Notice, USDA Forest Service Regional Slow the Spread Project

Dear Mr. Arney:

The Division of Air Pollution Control has reviewed the scoping notice for the proposed Slow the Spread Project. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

The Division recommends that you evaluate potential impacts to air quality prior to any aerial application of pesticides. Air quality forecasts and other relevant information can be found at EPA's AirNow website found at AirNow.gov. The National Park Service (NPS) operates air quality monitors in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park that could be adversely affected by this project. If you have not already solicited comments from the NPS it is recommended that you do so. The Division also recommends application of pesticides only on days with little to no wind to minimize the impact on surrounding areas.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Ms. Lacey Hardin of my staff at (615) 532-0545.

Sincerely,

Michelle W. Owenby
Director