



Federal Trade Commission



Department of Justice

May 5, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honorable Lee M. Zeldin
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Re: Executive Order No. 14267 – Reducing Anti-Competitive Regulatory Barriers

Dear Administrator Zeldin:

On April 9, 2025, President Trump issued [Executive Order No. 14267](#), “Reducing Anti-Competitive Regulatory Barriers,” to identify regulations across the federal government that reduce competition, entrepreneurship, and innovation. This Executive Order commences the process for eliminating or reducing these anticompetitive regulations, which will advance the President’s agenda to revitalize the American economy.

As the leaders of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) Antitrust Division, we write jointly to make you aware of the Executive Order and to request that you or your designated official assist in (1) reviewing the regulations subject to your rulemaking authority and (2) identifying those that fall within the categories specified in Section 3(a) of the Executive Order. This section directs all agency heads, in coordination with the FTC and the DOJ, to identify regulations within their rulemaking authority that:

- (i) create or facilitate the creation of monopolies;
- (ii) create unnecessary barriers to entry for new market participants;
- (iii) limit competition or have the effect of limiting competition between competing entities;
- (iv) create or facilitate licensure or accreditation requirements that unduly limit competition;
- (v) unnecessarily limit companies’ ability to compete for agency procurements; or
- (vi) otherwise impose anticompetitive restraints or distortions on the operation of the free market.

Anticompetitive federal regulations harm ordinary Americans in many ways. They lead to higher prices, lower quality goods and services, less innovation, and fewer opportunities to earn a living. These types of regulations can be found across the federal government, including in the following areas:

- **Healthcare:** Federal regulations in the healthcare sector, especially those promulgated under the Affordable Care Act, may have the effect of pushing low-cost insurance plans out of the market and inducing vertical consolidation that raises prices, while burdensome pharmaceutical regulations may delay the introduction of new, more affordable medicines.
- **Energy:** Unnecessary environmental and energy regulations may prevent the exploitation of existing energy sources and the development of new projects that compete against incumbent energy providers.
- **Technology:** Excessive regulation in technology-driven sectors, such as the Biden Administration's recently invalidated net neutrality rules, may serve the interests of big tech while discouraging investment and innovation by emerging companies. When big tech companies are insulated from competition, they can degrade the quality of their products in numerous ways, including by offering inferior privacy protections and censoring their users' speech.
- **Food and Agriculture:** Grocery prices rose throughout the Biden-Harris Administration at the same time that farmers struggled to make ends meet. Eliminating unnecessary anticompetitive regulations can help farmers, growers, and ranchers produce food that unlocks lower prices for American consumers.
- **Transportation:** Regulations can increase the costs of equipment, limit the availability of flights, prevent the construction of critical infrastructure, and slow innovation in our critical transportation sector. Eliminating anticompetitive regulations will lower costs for consumers and enable transportation to fuel economic growth.
- **Government Procurement:** Complex federal procurement regulations may favor large incumbent government contractors, which have the resources to navigate these regulations, while preventing smaller businesses from competing effectively.

The rescission or modification of anticompetitive federal regulations is essential to achieving the economic growth envisioned by President Trump.

President Trump's Executive Order directs all agency heads to provide a list of anticompetitive regulations to the FTC and DOJ within 70 days of the Order's issuance, i.e. by June 18, 2025, along with recommendations as to whether each regulation identified should be rescinded or modified. For recommended modifications, the Executive Order requires all agency heads to specify briefly what modification would be appropriate. If the agency does not propose to rescind or modify a regulation identified as anticompetitive, the agency head should then provide a justification for the regulation's anticompetitive effects.

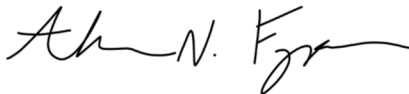
Pursuant to the Executive Order, the FTC and DOJ will spearhead assembling the list of federal regulations that unnecessarily impede competition. The DOJ recently launched an [Anticompetitive Regulations Task Force](#) to advocate for the elimination of anticompetitive regulations, and last month the FTC issued a [Request for Information](#) (RFI) inviting members of the public to identify regulations with anticompetitive effects. Following receipt of public feedback

and the lists of anticompetitive regulations from agency heads, the FTC and DOJ will provide the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a consolidated list of regulations that warrant rescission or modification, along with recommended modifications.

To facilitate this important work, you must designate a senior political official within your agency to lead the effort to identify regulations that fall within the categories specified by the Executive Order. Please provide the contact information of your agency's designated official to: (1) Daniel Guarnera, Director of the FTC's Bureau of Competition, reachable at 202-326-3370 and dguarnera@ftc.gov; and (2) Sara Matar, Chief of Staff to Assistant Attorney General Abigail Slater, reachable at 202-808-4241 and sara.matar2@usdoj.gov. The FTC and DOJ will send your agency's designated official a standardized template for each agency to use in submitting its list of anticompetitive regulations, as well as suggested regulations to review based on responses to the RFI. Mr. Guarnera and Ms. Matar will be available to answer any questions about identifying anticompetitive regulations within your agency.

President Trump promised the American people major deregulatory reform. He won a landslide electoral victory and is delivering on that promise. The FTC and DOJ are dedicated to advancing President Trump's deregulatory agenda by eliminating anticompetitive federal regulations. Regulations that predetermine economic winners and losers, exclude new market entrants, and protect dominant incumbents hamper the American economy and stifle growth and innovation. We look forward to working with you to achieve a more competitive economy and usher in President Trump's Golden Age.

Sincerely,



Andrew N. Ferguson
Chairman
Federal Trade Commission



Abigail Slater
Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division