



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic
Infectious Diseases
1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30329

July 6, 2020

Mr. Grey Frandsen
Chief Executive Officer
Oxitec Ltd
71 Innovation Drive
Milton Park
United Kingdom OX144RQ
grey@oxitec.com

Dear Mr. Frandsen,

Thank you for informing us of your proposed collaboration with the Florida Keys Mosquito Control Board in the coming year. We understand that the proposed pilot project would leverage the Experimental Use Permit that EPA recently granted to pilot Oxitec's 2nd generation Friendly™ *Aedes aegypti* mosquito technology to reduce mosquito populations in the Florida Keys over the spring and summer of 2021.

CDC is committed to identifying novel tools for preventing and controlling vector-borne diseases, including those caused by the bite of infected *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes. As new technologies like the Oxitec technology are developed and gain EPA approval, it is very important to carefully evaluate the impact of early implementations. The results of these evaluations will inform CDC's future guidance on mosquito control and will directly impact future decisions made by local and state health departments about the value of these technologies for use towards the prevention and control of mosquito-borne diseases.

For these reasons, I am writing this letter to communicate our intention to collaborate with you and the jurisdiction on the evaluation of this important project. If approved by the Florida Keys Mosquito Control Board, entomologists and senior leaders from CDC's Division of Vector-Borne Diseases (DVBD) will provide their technical assistance to develop a strong project evaluation. The evaluation will be designed to ensure that collaborators from Oxitec and the jurisdiction can draw defensible conclusions about the impact of the implementation on mosquito populations. These data are needed to inform the field and local decision-makers so that evidence-based decisions can be made about future implementations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lyle R. Petersen".

Lyle R. Petersen, MD, MPH
Director
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