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**From:** Swift, Heather  
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This is the general direction I'm going.... does this work for y'all? The teal will be hyperlinks.

## **Department of the Interior Releases Energy Burdens Report** *Outlines progress to achieve American Energy Dominance*

(WASHINGTON) Today, the U.S. Department of the Interior released the the "Review of the Department of the Interior Actions that Potentially Burden Domestic Energy" report which was produced in response to Executive Order 13783. The report identified agency actions that potentially burden the development or use of domestically produced energy resources, with particular attention to oil, natural gas, coal, and nuclear energy resources. The Interior oversees America's oil, gas, coal, hydropower, and renewable energy resources which accounts for almost one-fifth of the Nation's energy and generates more than \$10 billion per year in annual revenue.

The report identified a number of burdens that specifically impede the production of and transportation of energy resources, including, but not limited to:

### **Burdens and Actions**

- **Burden: Obama-Era 5-Year Plan**
  - **Why:** Put 94% of the Outer Continental Shelf off-limits, drastically limiting revenue, In 2008, offshore revenue topped \$18 billion, in 2016 it was just more than \$2 billion, in large part due to 94% off the OCS being put off-limits to responsible development
  - **Action:** *Secretarial Order 3350, America-First Offshore Energy Strategy*, started the process of developing a new 5-Year Plan to responsibly develop the OCS and generate much-needed revenue.
  
- **Burden: Federal Coal Lease Moratorium (Secretarial Order 3338 Discretionary Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement to Modernize the Federal Coal Program)**
  - **Why:** Nearly 40% of our nation's coal comes from public lands.
  - **Action:** *Secretarial Order 3348, Concerning the Federal Coal Moratorium*,

repealed the Obama-era moratorium on new federal coal leases.

- **Burden: Hydraulic Fracturing on Federal and Indian Lands Rule (RIN 1004-AE26) and Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation AKA the Venting and Flaring Rule RIN 1004-AE14)**

- **Why:**

- **Action:** Secretarial Order 3349: American Energy Independence put the rules under review and subsequent action by the Department

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- Fracking: Following the initial review, the BLM rescinded the rule on July 25th

- Venting and Flaring: On October 5, 2017, the BLM issued a proposed rule seeking comment on temporarily suspending or delaying certain requirements of the rule.

- **Burden: Unnecessarily lengthy NEPA reviews delay projects**

- **Why:**

Extra time and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis adds to uncertainty for industry and leads to higher costs for taxpayers

- **Action:**

"NEPA Compliance for National Oil and Gas Lease Reinstatement Petitions" has resulted in additional analysis and review time that often involves another surface management agency, and in some instances, has led to adding new lease stipulations prior to lease reinstatement.

- **Burden: Holding energy producers hostage via Compensatory Mitigation (Secretarial Order 3330)**

- **Why:**

- **Action:**

- **Burden: Systematic delays in the leasing program and permitting process**

- **Why:**

- **Action:** Secretarial Order 3354 Supporting and Improving the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program and Federal Solid Mineral Leasing Program. In January 2017 there were 92 vacancies in key positions related to the permitting process. Since that time this administration has filled nearly half of those positions. The BLM is also modernizing the software used to track and coordinate permitting while seeking to add regional teams that will be able

to greatly streamline the permitting process. So far this year the BLM has decreased their processing time for APDs by an average of 46 days.

The report also detailed extensive action the Department has taken to advance American Energy Dominance at the Department of the Interior, including, but not limited to:

- Secretarial Order 3351: Strengthening the Department of the Interior's Energy Portfolio
- Secretarial Order 3352: National Petroleum Reserve - Alaska
- Secretarial Order 3353: Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation and Cooperation with Western States
- Review, repeal, and rewrite of the following rules:
  - "Well Control" Rule

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