

To: "Rees"[Rees]; Gareth"[gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Daniel Jorjani[daniel.jorjani@sol.doi.gov]; Scott De La Vega[scott.delavega@sol.doi.gov]; Matthew Parsons[matthew.parsons@sol.doi.gov]; "Bernhardt"[Bernhardt]; David"[REDACTED]@ios.doi.gov]
From: "McDonnell, Edward" <edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov>
Sent: 2018-12-04T13:28:42-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke
Received: 2018-12-04T14:29:24-05:00
[AXPC 18 WM Agenda.doc](#)
[Bernhardt, David - DI-1958 for Winter Board Meeting of American Exploration and Production Council.pdf](#)

Hi Gareth,

After reviewing the information provided on the invitation extended by the American Exploration & Production Council to Deputy Secretary Bernhardt to speak at the Winter Board Meeting of the American Exploration & Production Council on December 7, 2018, at the JW Marriott Galleria, 5150 Westheimer Road, Houston, Texas, the Departmental Ethics Office (DEO) has determined that there is no legal objection to Deputy Secretary Bernhardt's acceptance, on behalf of the Department of the Interior (DOI), of this invitation. It is our understanding that his attendance at the Winter Board Meeting of the American Exploration & Production Council will be in his official capacity and that he will be making official remarks and presenting information on behalf of the U.S. Government at this event. I understand that none of the attendees are charged a fee to attend the board meeting, to include the Deputy Secretary's presentation, and that the Deputy Secretary will not receive any meal or other tangible item of value.

Official Capacity Speech – It is our understanding that the Deputy Secretary's official remarks at the Winter Board Meeting of the American Exploration & Production Council on December 7, 2018, will include a discussion of the Department of the Interior reorganization. While at the Winter Board Meeting of the American Exploration & Production Council, the Deputy Secretary will also have the opportunity to engage with and to present information on behalf of the Administration relating to the President's policy goals and priorities to the approximately 65 attendees, including senior leaders in the oil and gas industry.

Because the Deputy Secretary's attendance at the Winter Board Meeting of the American Exploration & Production Council will be in his official capacity and he will be presenting information on behalf of the Department in his remarks, he may accept the offered gift of free attendance to the event on December 7, 2018, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. §§ 2635.203(b)(8) and (g). Please note that, consistent with guidance from GSA, the Deputy Secretary's attendance at this event does not require the submission of a DI-2000 and is not being analyzed under 31 U.S.C. § 1353 because it is our understanding that he will only be present at the Winter Board Meeting of the American Exploration & Production Council while making his official remarks and he will not be accepting any meals or other travel-related expenses.

Additionally, any DOI staff member whose presence at the Winter Board Meeting of the American Exploration & Production Council is essential to the Deputy Secretary's participation and presentation of official remarks may also attend the portions of the event attended by the Deputy Secretary, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.203(8)(ii). An employee is considered essential for these purposes when the primary purpose of the employee's presence is to accompany the Deputy Secretary and to directly and substantially support the Deputy Secretary's participation in the event. If there are any

questions about whether an employee should be considered essential for this event or whether that employee's attendance should be evaluated separately for compliance with the ethics regulations, please contact the DEO for further guidance.

Please note the following guidelines for the Deputy Secretary speaking/presenting information in an official capacity:

1. Official Title – Use of his official title is permitted as the Deputy Secretary will be attending and presenting at the Winter Board Meeting of the American Exploration & Production Council in his official capacity. 5 C.F.R. § 2635.702.
2. Endorsement – We remind the Deputy Secretary that he may not use his official Government position or title or any authority associated with his public office to endorse any product, service, or enterprise, including non-profit and charitable organizations that may have some affiliation with DOI. 5 C.F.R. § 2635.702(c).
3. Nonpublic Information – The Deputy Secretary may not discuss at the Winter Board Meeting of the American Exploration & Production Council any nonpublic information he has gained by reason of his Federal position. 5 C.F.R. § 2635.703.
4. No Partisan Political Activity – While the Deputy Secretary may discuss the Administration's policy priorities and ideological approach to proposed laws and regulations (especially in regard to DOI-related issues) at the Winter Board Meeting of the American Exploration & Production Council, he must strictly avoid partisan political activity in order to remain in compliance with the Hatch Act. Partisan political activity is any activity directed towards the success or failure of a political party, candidate for a partisan political office, or partisan political group and can include verbal remarks and speech.

As always, thank you for checking with the DEO, and please do not hesitate to let us know if it would be helpful to discuss our guidance further, or if we can be of any additional assistance.

Thanks very much,
Ed

Ed McDonnell
Deputy Director, Ethics Law and Policy
Departmental Ethics Office
Office of the Solicitor
U.S. Department of the Interior
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(C) (202) 510-8427
edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov
Visit us online at: www.doi.gov/ethics

Public service is a public trust.

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Rees, Gareth** <gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Tue, Nov 27, 2018 at 1:17 PM

Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke
To: Edward McDonnell <edward.mcdonnell@sol.doi.gov>

Ed,

Here is the agenda for the event David is speaking at next week in Houston. He will not be joining the lunch.

Thanks

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bruce Thompson** <bthompson@axpc.us>

Date: Mon, Nov 26, 2018 at 5:50 PM

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke

To: Rees, Gareth <gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov>

Gareth-

The current Draft Agenda for our meeting is attached. I am still calling it a draft, but I do not anticipate any material changes.

Please feel free to give me a call with any questions.

In terms of my introduction, let me know if David has anything he wants me to mention. With that in mind, if he gets to Houston in time the evening of the 6th, I would be glad to meet him for a bit just to go over the audience, etc. Just let me know. Thanks for all your help.

Bruce

V. Bruce Thompson

President

American Exploration & Production Council

1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW - Seventh Floor

Washington, DC 20004

202-347-7529 (Direct)

303-638-7979 (Mobile)



From: Rees, Gareth <gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 9:50 AM
To: Bruce Thompson
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke

Thanks Bruce

On Mon, Nov 26, 2018 at 9:50 AM Bruce Thompson <bthompson@axpc.us> wrote:

Gareth
I will get that to you later today. Thanks

Bruce
Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 26, 2018, at 9:42 AM, Rees, Gareth <gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Good Morning Bruce,
Hope you had a great Thanksgiving. When you get a chance, could you send us the latest agenda for next week?

Thanks

On Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 10:22 AM Rees, Gareth <gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Sounds good. Thanks and have a great weekend.

On Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 9:59 AM Bruce Thompson <bthompson@axpc.us> wrote:

Gareth-
You bet. I will do that on Monday if it's OK. We are waiting on a final piece and I should know that by the end of today.

Bruce

V. Bruce Thompson

President

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From: Rees, Gareth <gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov>

Sent: Friday, November 16, 2018 8:50 AM

To: Bruce Thompson

Subject: Re: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke

Good Morning Bruce,

Would you be able to send me the latest version of teh agenda?

Thanks

Gareth

On Tue, Nov 13, 2018 at 2:18 PM Rees, Gareth <gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Hi Bruce,

I think 9:30am to 10:15am will work great. That will allow for some Q&A time if that sounds good? He will be flying in the night before and likely have to head back Friday afternoon. If you need additional information please let me know.

Thanks

On Tue, Nov 13, 2018 at 2:04 PM Bruce Thompson <bthompson@axpc.us> wrote:

Gareth-

Just a quick follow up to my earlier note. We are good with David joining us at 9:30 and we have allowed time on the agenda until 10:15. If he needs to come earlier that's fine as well. Just let me know, but for now we have him in the 9:30-10:15 slot on the agenda. Thanks again and let me know if you have any questions and/or if you need any additional information from me.

Bruce

V. Bruce Thompson

President

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From: Rees, Gareth <gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 3:26 PM

To: Bruce Thompson

Cc: Matthew Dermody

Subject: Re: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke

Bruce

At the moment I expect David will arrive in Houston Thursday and leave late afternoon Friday so he can be pretty flexible on timing. Would something around 9:30-10am work?

Thanks

Gareth

On Wed, Oct 24, 2018 at 6:07 PM Bruce Thompson <bthompson@axpc.us> wrote:

Gareth-

Hope you are doing well. I am just following up on our correspondence

below re Deputy Secretary Bernhardt joining us for our Winter Board meeting in Houston on the morning of December 7. I would be grateful for any updates as I am working on preparing the agenda for the meeting and want to be sure to allow for as much flexibility as possible so as to accommodate his schedule.
Please let me know and thanks in advance.

Bruce

V. Bruce Thompson

President

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From: Rees, Gareth <gareth_rees@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2018 11:02 AM
To: Bruce Thompson
Cc: Matthew Dermody
Subject: Re: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke

Good Morning Sir,
Sorry for my delayed response. Deputy Secretary Bernhardt is interested in speaking at your event on December 7. We are currently working to see whether we can work it into his existing travel and I hope to have a better idea shortly. I will follow-up with you as soon as I know if we can make this work.

Regards,

Gareth

On Fri, Oct 12, 2018 at 9:16 AM Bruce Thompson <bthompson@axpc.us> wrote:

I am following up on my notes below re the Deputy Secretary being able to join us in Houston on December 7 for our Winter Meeting. Please advise if you need any additional information from me and please let me know what the likely timing is for a decision. Thanks in advance for your help.

Bruce

V. Bruce Thompson

President

American Exploration & Production Council

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Washington, DC 20004

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303-638-7979 (Mobile)

From: Bruce Thompson
Sent: Monday, October 1, 2018 11:10 AM
To: SIO, Scheduling; Gareth Rees; Matthew Dermody
Cc: nicholas_davis@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke

Gareth & Matt-

Just following up on my note below re the Deputy Secretary joining us in Houston for our Winter Board Meeting on December 7.

Please let me know what, if any, additional information you might need for me. I am looking forward to the Deputy Secretary joining us. I am reachable at any time on my cell at 303-638-7979.

Thanks.

Bruce

V. Bruce Thompson

President

American Exploration & Production Council

1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW - Seventh Floor

Washington, DC 20004

202-347-7529 (Direct)

303-638-7979 (Mobile)

From: Bruce Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, September 18, 2018 10:18 AM
To: SIO, Scheduling; nicholas_davis@ios.doi.gov
Cc: Gareth Rees; Matthew Dermody
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke

Nick-

Many thanks for connecting us and for all your help.

Gareth & Matt, please feel free to give me a call on my cell at 303-638-7979 with any questions and/or if you need any additional information. I am looking forward to working with you on this and to having the Deputy Secretary join us for our Winter Board Meeting. Thanks again.

Bruce

V. Bruce Thompson

President

American Exploration & Production Council

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From: nicholas_davis@ios.doi.gov <nicholas_davis@ios.doi.gov> on behalf of SIO, Scheduling
<scheduling_sio@ios.doi.gov>

Sent: Monday, September 17, 2018 2:41 PM

To: Bruce Thompson

Cc: Gareth Rees; Matthew Dermody

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke

Hi Bruce,

Per our phone call, I have forwarded your request to the Deputy Secretary's office. Gareth Rees and Matt Dermody, who are cc'd on this email, will reach out to you to get this scheduled for him.

Thanks,

Nick

Nick Davis

Office of Scheduling and Advance

Immediate Office of the Secretary

U.S. Department of the Interior

Office: 202-208-7551

Cell: 202-805-9898

On Fri, Aug 3, 2018 at 1:33 PM, Bruce Thompson <bthompson@axpc.us> wrote:

Nick-

Thanks for your note. The completed Scheduling form is attached. Please let me know if you have questions or require additional information. Thanks again.

Bruce

V. Bruce Thompson

President

American Exploration & Production Council

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Washington, DC 20004

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303-638-7979 (Mobile)

From: nicholas_davis@ios.doi.gov <nicholas_davis@ios.doi.gov> on behalf of SIO, Scheduling
<scheduling_sio@ios.doi.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 3, 2018 12:14 PM
To: Bruce Thompson
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke

Hi Bruce, thank you for your invitation to the Secretary. Can you please fill out the attached event information form so we can work to accommodate your request?

Thanks,
Nick

Nick Davis

Office of Scheduling and Advance
Immediate Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office: 202-208-7551
Cell: 202-805-9898

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Wynn, Todd <todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Fri, Aug 3, 2018 at 10:45 AM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Formal Invitation for Secretary Zinke
To: "Getto, Leila" <leila_getto@ios.doi.gov>, Nicholas Davis
<nicholas_davis@ios.doi.gov>

Invite for Sec to speak at conference in December.

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