

Message

From: Dan Byers [globalenergy@uschamber.com]
Sent: 1/30/2019 7:56:46 PM
To: Gunasekara, Mandy [Gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov]
Subject: Crickets.....

The Missing Month of Energy Actions



Dear Mandy:

The last time we provided you with an update to the Global Energy Institute – Beveridge & Diamond Energy Tracker, we predicted that a flurry of major policy and regulatory actions were just around the corner. Boy how wrong we were! Little did we know that the longest government shutdown in history was just about to begin, and with it, a near blanket stoppage of energy policy activity.

With key agencies such as EPA, Interior, and CEQ closed for business, and FERC—funded and open, but hampered due to a vacancy—January effectively became a “missing month” for energy actions. It will take some time to fully understand the effects of the shutdown on the Trump Administration’s energy agenda, but as we detailed here, it is clear that a large number of reforms were negatively impacted.



In fact, by our count, only one notable executive branch action occurred during the five-week shutdown: EPA’s proposed reform to the cost-benefit finding accompanying its mercury and air toxics rule (MATS). Nonetheless, January was a busy month for energy-related litigation, particularly with respect to high profile pipelines such as Keystone XL, Atlantic Coast, and Mountain Valley.

With the federal government back open for at least a few weeks, we expect a surge of activity as agencies attempt to make up for lost time. As always, the Tracker will stay on

top of these developments, and continue to monitor the more than 130 federal energy-related issues are covered in each edition of the Tracker.

Click below to check it out, and please share the Tracker with co-workers and colleagues interested in following the latest in energy policy. Thanks!

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Sincerely,

Dan Byers
Vice President Policy
Global Energy Institute
U.S Chamber of Commerce

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