

BUREAU: Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
MEMBER: General Interest
ISSUE: Implementation of S.O. 3349, American Energy Independence

Key Points:

- Secretarial Order (S.O.) 3349, *American Energy Independence* implements the review of agency climate change actions directed by Executive Order (E.O.) 13783, *Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth*, focusing on decreasing the regulatory burden associated with energy production.
- In addition, S.O. 3349 revokes S.O. 3330, *Improving Mitigation Policies and Practices of the Department of the Interior*, and directs DOI bureaus to identify all actions taken related to S.O. 3330 and the 2015 Presidential Memorandum, *Mitigating Impacts on Natural Resources from Development and Encouraging Related Private Investment*.
- Finally, S.O. 3349 specifically directs the BLM to review a number of other agency actions affecting domestic energy development.

(b) (5)

Background:

- S.O. 3330 established a DOI-wide mitigation strategy to ensure consistency and efficiency in the review and permitting of infrastructure development projects and in conserving our Nation's valuable natural and cultural resources through ~~;~~ (1) a landscape-scale approach ~~to~~; (2) early integration of mitigation considerations in project planning and design ~~;~~ (3) ensuring and considering the durability of mitigation measures ~~;~~ (4) ensuring transparency and consistency of mitigation measures in mitigation decisions ~~;~~ and (5) focusing on mitigation efforts that improve the resilience of our Nation's resources in the face of climate change.
 - Consistent with S.O. 3330, the BLM finalized its interim (June 2013) mitigation policy, incorporating the SO 3330 strategy and issuing a Mitigation Manual (MS-1794) and Mitigation Handbook (H-1794-1) in December 2016.
- The Report of the Executive Office of the President of June 2013, *The President's Climate Action Plan* contained three broad goals related to climate change mitigation, adaptation, and international leadership.
 - As directed by this report and other executive actions, the BLM integrated climate change into its decisionmaking and planning processes and played a role in mitigation, through renewable energy permitting and efforts to limit methane emissions and in adaptation, through the agency's actions to address wildland fire, invasive species, prolonged drought and other potential effects of climate change.

Current Status:

- Consistent with S.O. 3349, The BLM has reviewed and provided a list of all actions to the Assistant Secretary of the Department that have been adopted or are in the process of being developed on mitigation of impacts to natural and climate change since the policies specified in the SO 3349 were issued. and is waiting on a response from the Assistant Secretary as to which actions are to be reconsidered, modified, or rescinded.
- Preparing to propose that the agency's March 26, 2015, final rule titled *Oil and Gas; Hydraulic Fracturing on Federal and Indian Lands* be rescinded;
- Reviewing, within 21 days, the agency's January 17, 2017 final rule titled *Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation* to ensure consistency with E.O. 13783; and

- Identifying, within 21 days, all existing agency actions that potentially affect the development or utilization of domestic oil, natural gas, coal, and nuclear energy resources.

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