

**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.

**Background:**

- S.O. 3330 established a DOI-wide 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 durability of mitigation measures; (4) ensuring transparency and consistency in mitigation decisions; and (5) focusing on mitigation efforts that improve the resilience of our Nation's resources in the face of climate change.
  - As directed by S.O. 3330, the BLM finalized its interim mitigation policy in collaboration with the NPS, FWS, USFS, and state resource management agencies to reflect the SO 3330 strategy, 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 resources related to S.O. 3330 or the 2015 Presidential Memorandum on mitigation;
  - climate change;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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