

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 19, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President-elect of the United States of America
Trump Tower
735 5th Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear President-elect Trump:

We ask that your Administration take immediate steps to terminate Department of the Interior (DOI) Secretarial Order 3338, which was issued by Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell in January 2016.

This wholly unnecessary Secretarial Order imposed an immediate moratorium on new federal coal leasing and paused ongoing lease applications and modification reviews. It also launched – for some undetermined length of time – a comprehensive review and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement of the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) federal coal program, proposing an overhaul of the leasing process and coal royalty rates. Not only has this jeopardized tens of thousands of jobs directly and indirectly related to the coal industry; it quickly led to economic instability in states and Indian tribes that rely on coal royalties to support critical education, transportation and infrastructure programs. The BLM published a final scoping document on January 11, 2017, little more than one week prior to your inauguration, which has set the stage for an agency review of the program under politically-motivated terms and parameters established by the current Administration.

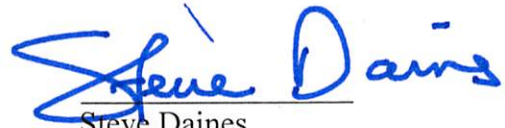
Despite the myriad of regulatory and policy efforts of the Obama Administration to eliminate fossil fuels, coal continued to generate approximately 40 percent of the energy consumed in this country in 2014, according to the BLM. Approximately 40 percent of that coal was produced on federal lands. According to the BLM, the federal coal leasing program generated well over a billion dollars a year between 2005 and 2014: \$7.9 billion in royalties, and nearly \$4 billion in rent, bonus bid payments, and other fees. That’s money coal leasing has earned for the federal government – a stark contrast to most federal programs. Terminating the Secretarial Order will allow us to get this program back on track, and get people in coal-producing communities back to work.

During your campaign, you pledged to end the war on coal and coal miners. We ask you to honor that pledge by having your Administration take immediate steps to terminate this senseless Secretarial Order. We look forward to your prompt response, and to working with you to get our coal miners back to work making energy affordable and reliable for our country and the world.

Sincerely,



Mike Enzi
United States Senator



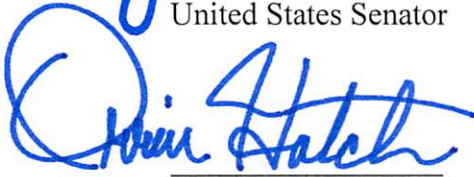
Steve Daines
United States Senator



John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



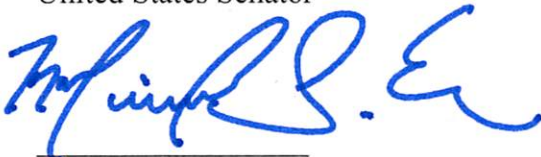
Cory Gardner
United States Senator



Orrin Hatch
United States Senator



Roy Blunt
United States Senator



Mike Lee
United States Senator