

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

ORDER NO. 3312

SIGNATURE DATE: August 11, 2011

Subject: Designation of the Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget to Act on Land Withdrawals

Sec. 1 **Purpose.** The purpose of this Order is to confirm my assignment of the Assistant Secretary - Policy Management and Budget to act on withdrawals of land as authorized in Section 204(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, for the period in which there is no Presidentially appointed and Senate-confirmed Assistant Secretary - Land and Minerals Management.

Sec. 2 **Background.** Section 204(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, 43 U.S.C. 1714(a), provides that the Secretary may make, modify, extend, or revoke withdrawals of federal lands or may delegate the authority to take such actions to an individual in the Office of the Secretary who has been appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, such as Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget. Although each Assistant Secretary in the Department previously has been delegated all of the authority of the Secretary of the Interior, the position of Assistant Secretary - Land and Minerals Management is normally assigned responsibility to act on withdrawals of federal land. This position is currently occupied by an Acting Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals and Management, who has not been Presidentially appointed or confirmed by the Senate. It is therefore necessary to assign the responsibility for land withdrawals to another official in the Office of the Secretary.

Sec. 3 **Authority.** This Order is issued under the authority of Section 2 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1262), as amended, and Section 204(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, 43 U.S.C. 1714(a).

Sec. 4 **Designation.** The Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget is hereby designated as the Presidentially appointed and Senate confirmed official in the Office of the Secretary to make, modify, extend, or revoke withdrawals pursuant to Section 204(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, 43 U.S.C. 1714(a).

Sec. 5 **Limitation.** The authority to act on land withdrawals may not be redelegated.

Sec. 6 **Expiration Date.** This Order is effective immediately. It will automatically expire either upon the Senate confirmation of a successor Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management or the departure of the current Assistant Secretary – Policy, Management and Budget. In the absence of any of the foregoing actions, this Order will terminate on **August 31, 2012**, unless extended, modified, or revoked.

/s/ Ken Salazar
Secretary of the Interior

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