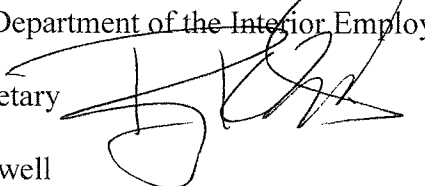




THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

JAN 02 2019

Memorandum

To: All Department of the Interior Employees  
From: Secretary   
Subject: Farewell

It has been one of the great honors of my life to serve as your Secretary. First of all, I thank the President for this amazing opportunity.

When I took office here, one thing became immediately clear: Interior has a fantastic team.

I am so proud of the great work we have done together over my time as Secretary. When I was a Boy Scout, I was taught to leave the campsite better than I found it. I am confident that over the last 2 years, we have done that together for our public lands and the Department of the Interior (Interior). America's public lands are "For the Benefit and Enjoyment of the People," as it says on the Roosevelt Arch in Yellowstone National Park. That passion for public access is the ethic I brought to this job.

Our stellar record on conservation – from the million-plus acres we opened for hunting and fishing, to the historic commitment we made to investing in our public lands infrastructure as part of the President's last budget proposal – stands as a testament to our enduring and shared love of the great American outdoors. Increased public access established protected wildlife corridors and restored the American conservation ethic to best sciences and best practices for the greater good and the longest term.

In less than 2 years, Interior has led the revitalization of America's domestic energy production, reclaiming our position as the world's largest energy producer. Our recent Bureau of Land Management lease sale in New Mexico brought in almost \$1 billion, shattering records. For the second year in a row, our energy revenue disbursements to States and Indian Tribes grew substantially. Our regulatory relief efforts saved over \$6 billion, making us a leader in the Administration in regulatory reform. We put our all-of-the-above energy policy into action, conducting the highest-grossing lease sale for wind development in American history. Never again shall we be held hostage by foreign entities for our energy needs.


In addition, there is no higher priority than keeping America safe. Our joint law enforcement task force on opioids has had tremendous success. We are beginning to more actively manage our forests. We also worked hard to reopen Interior sites and rebuild alongside communities after various natural disasters.

Here at Interior, we took action on the widespread harassment problem that our Administration inherited, and we began a transformative Department reorganization that will streamline our processes and improve Interior's operations.

Now, it is time to move on. I am stepping down today, January 2, 2019. Deputy Secretary David Bernhardt will take over as the Acting Secretary of the Interior. I have full confidence in Deputy Secretary Bernhardt and I trust that the transition will be seamless.

Finally, I thank each and every one of you, the great public servants at the Department of the Interior, for your hard work; your dedication to the mission; your unwavering patriotism; and your love of public lands. Bravo Zulu to you all.

May God Bless America  
and all those who serve her!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Donald Trump", with a long horizontal line extending to the left.