

The Honorable [FIRST NAME LAST NAME]
Governor of [STATE]
[Mailing Address]
[CITY], [STATE] [ZIP]

Dear Governor [LAST NAME]:

I am writing to update you on the Department of the Interior's progress towards implementing the United States Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (USEITI), and to invite your State's participation in the preparation and publication of the first USEITI report. EITI is a global standard that promotes greater transparency for oil, gas, and mineral revenue collection and offers a voluntary framework for governments and companies to publically disclose in parallel the revenues paid and received for the extraction of energy and natural resources.

The implementation of USEITI is guided by a Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) established by the Secretary of the Interior under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The USEITI MSG is comprised of representatives from industry, federal and state government, and civil society. A list of the members of the MSG is enclosed for your reference.

In March 2014, the U.S. was accepted as an EITI Candidate Country and began the multi-year process of complying with the EITI Standard. In order to meet the EITI reporting requirements, we must issue a report on the size and nature of the extractive industries in the United States and the revenues they generate. The MSG is drafting the guidelines for the first independently reconciled report, which will be issued in late 2015.

As a first step toward meeting the EITI reporting requirements, the Department's Office on Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) is leading an effort to improve the availability and accessibility of natural resources revenue data. As part of an online data portal, ONRR will publish federal natural resource revenue data by company, commodity, and revenue stream using information already reported by companies. This Unilateral Disclosure Report will mark the first time ONRR publishes revenue data by company.

In December 2015, we will build on this disclosure by issuing the first comprehensive USEITI Report, which will reconcile the federal data with company data. An independent contractor will compile, analyze and publish the data in the USEITI Report. While USEITI is not required to include state-level revenue data in this first report, the MSG would like to include publicly available data from [STATE]. Given the meaningful amount of revenue information that your state already publishes, we are asking for you to support the use and publication of the already publicly available data on extractive industry revenues collected by [STATE].

We would also welcome the opportunity to coordinate with a representative from your state to ensure accuracy in our reporting. The state of Wyoming, for example, has designated a representative to participate in the USEITI process and provide insight into the most effective ways to display and utilize Wyoming's state-level data. We hope that we will be able to work with you in order to highlight the work you have done to display data and provide it to the public in [STATE]. We intend our report to augment existing state-level efforts to provide information to the public on the size and scope of the extractives sector in your state. We see [STATE]'s participation in this effort as a critical contribution given its sizable role in domestic energy and mineral production.

We would be happy to speak with you or a representative from your state about USEITI and the publication of state-level data through this process. We welcome your support and leadership in the publication of [STATE] data alongside of federal data in our first USEITI Report. If you would like to arrange a discussion with Interior officials, please contact Paul A. Mussenden the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources Revenue Management at (202) 208-2842. You can find more information about USEITI at <http://www.doi.gov/EITI>.

Sincerely,

Rhea Suh
Assistant Secretary
Policy, Management and Budget

Enclosure