



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

The Honorable Clare Short  
Chair of the Board  
Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative  
Ruseløkkveien 26  
0251 Oslo, Norway

DEC 13 2013

Dear Madam Short:

On behalf of the Multi-Stakeholder Group of the United States Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (USEITI), I am pleased to submit the United States Candidacy Application. Please find enclosed the completed Candidacy Application Form along with the necessary supporting documentation. I trust that you will find our application in order and look forward to a favorable review by the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Board.

Since the first day of his Administration, President Barack Obama has made open government a high priority. The Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government, the first executive action to bear the President's signature, states that "Openness will strengthen our democracy, and promote efficiency and effectiveness in Government," and calls for new measures to promote transparency, participation, and collaboration. The President reinforced this commitment by launching the global Open Government Partnership and making tangible commitments to promote transparency and accountability under the U.S. National Action Plan. I am pleased to spearhead one of the featured deliverables and specific commitments of this plan – implementation of EITI in the United States.

As the steward of our Nation's natural resources and the bounty that flows from their development, the U.S. Department of the Interior reinforced the President's transparency and open government vision by implementing natural resource management reforms that emphasize greater transparency and accountability in the collection of natural resource revenues that belong to the American public. The USEITI implementation complements and furthers those reforms. The creation of the Multi-Stakeholder Group has provided even greater opportunities to forge collaborative relationships among government, industry and the public, and to promote public trust regarding resource governance.

As we transition to the concrete details of USEITI implementation, the partners on the Multi-Stakeholder Group remain committed to collaborative engagement to produce USEITI reports that are not only accurate, but also easy to understand and accessible to the public. The submission of the USEITI Candidacy Application also represents the continued commitment by the U.S. to lead by example in promoting greater global EITI participation and global institutions that are more transparent, effective, and accountable.

Sincerely,

Sally Jewell

Enclosure