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Brad, attached is Zinke's podium remarks.

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Great to see you all again. I didn't know I'd be getting so much experience behind the podium when I took the job but it's going alright I think 😊

Tomorrow President Trump will continue on the successes of his first 100 days in office and sign The America First Offshore Energy Executive Order which directs me, the Secretary of the Interior, to conduct a review of the current five year development plan on the Outer Continental Shelf for offshore oil and gas exploration as well as review regulations to streamline permitting for development and seismic research.

The order also directs the Secretary of Commerce to refrain from designating or expanding marine monuments and sanctuaries and conduct a review of all designations and expansions of National Marine Sanctuaries and Marine National Monuments under the Antiquities Act that were designated or expanded within the last 10 years.

This order will cement our Nation's position as a global energy leader and foster energy security for the benefit of the American people, while ensuring that any such activity is safe and environmentally responsible.

The Department of the Interior oversees 1.7 billion acres on the Outer Continental Shelf which contains an estimated 90 billion barrels of undiscovered recoverable oil and 327 trillion cubic feet of undiscovered, recoverable natural gas. The OCS accounts for about 18 percent of domestic crude oil and four percent of domestic natural gas supply.

The Gulf of Mexico alone, covering 160 million offshore acres, has 48.46 billion barrels of recoverable oil and 142 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

However, today 94 percent of the Outer Continental Shelf is off limits for responsible development.

As of March 1, 2017, only 16.9 million acres on the U.S. OCS (out of a total 1.7 billion acres) are under lease for oil and gas development. Of the little area that is open to development, more than 97 percent of the leases are in the Gulf of Mexico.

In 2008 federal leasing revenues for the OCS were nearly \$18 billion dollars. By contrast, in 2016, leasing revenues approximately \$2.8 billion.

That's a drop of more than \$15 billion that would otherwise go to the Treasury or toward funding important conservation programs like the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Historic Preservation Fund.

This executive order, coupled with the President's January 30th order on reducing regulations and the March 28th order on energy independence, puts us on track for American energy independence.

American energy independence has three major benefits to the environment, economy, and national security:

First, it's better for the environment that the U.S. produces energy. Thanks to advancements in technology, we can responsibly develop our energy resources and return the land to equal or better quality than it was before. I've spent a lot of time in the Middle East, and I can tell you with 100 percent certainty it is better to develop our energy here under reasonable regulations, rather than have it produced overseas under little or no regulations.

Second, energy production is an absolute boon to the economy, supporting more than 9 million jobs and supplying affordable power for manufacturing, home heating, and transportation needs. And I can tell you, it's going to take a whole lot of energy to rebuild our infrastructure.

And lastly, achieving American energy independence will strengthen our national security by reducing our reliance on foreign oil and allowing us to assist our allies with their energy needs. As a military commander, I saw how the power of the American economy and American energy defeated our adversaries around the world. We can do it again to keep Americans safe.

Now, I understand people may be concerned about any environmental impact that development may have, and that's a valid concern that the President and I share.

The truth is, we fully expect that during the review process we will find ways to improve our regulatory requirements that strengthen safety precautions.

One thing that does not change between Administrations is our commitment to safety. That remains our number one priority. We have really smart, energetic folks working on our frontlines in the Gulf who dedicate their entire work day to maintaining a strong offshore safety culture. We are going to keep it that way and we will hold companies accountable. Good stewardship of our lands and waters and responsible offshore development are not mutually exclusive.

Now with that, I'll take a few questions. And please state your name and publication before your question. ----- Thank you.