THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

ORDER NO. 3358

Subject: Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting

Sec. 1 **Purpose**. This Order establishes the Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting (ECEP). The ECEP will advance energy policy goals set forth in Executive Order 13783, "Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth"; Executive Order 13795, "Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy"; Secretary's Order 3348, "Concerning the Federal Coal Moratorium"; Secretary's Order 3349 "American Energy Independence," Secretary's Order 3350 "America-First Offshore Energy Strategy"; Secretary's Order 3351, "Strengthening the Department of the Interior's Energy Portfolio"; Secretary's Order 3352, "National Petroleum Reserve"; and Secretary's Order 3354, "Supporting and Improving the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program and Federal Solid Mineral Leasing Program."

Sec. 2 **Background**. Energy dominance is a top priority for this Administration. American energy dominance requires efficient and effective development of the Nation's conventional and renewable energy resources. Through its bureaus with energy development responsibilities, the Department of the Interior (Department) oversees a significant percentage of the Nation's oil, natural gas, and coal production, as well as onshore and offshore renewable resources such as wind, solar, and geothermal energy. Permitting backlogs and regulatory delays have slowed the Department's progress in advancing this key priority. The ECEP will resolve these problems and enhance our Nation's energy dominance.

Sec. 3 **Authority**. This Order is issued under the authority of section 2 of the Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1262), as amended, and other applicable statutes.

Sec. 4 **Policy**. It is the policy of the Department to improve aggressively the efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of its management of energy resources on Federal and Indian lands and the Outer Continental Shelf. Coordinating and streamlining energy-permitting policies by and among the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), National Park Service (NPS), Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR), and other Federal agencies as necessary will ensure that the Department fulfills its statutory, regulatory, and trust responsibilities; carefully stewards public resources; and obtains fair market value for resources owned by the public and federally recognized tribes.

Sec. 5 **Establishment of the Executive Committee for Expedited Permitting**. There is hereby established the ECEP within the Immediate Office of the Secretary.

a. Working with BLM, BIA, OSMRE, BOEM, BSEE, FWS, NPS, BOR, ONRR, and other Federal agencies as appropriate, the ECEP shall:

(1) oversee the identification of best practices and reforms that will improve the Department's energy permitting in service to the American public and Indian Country;

(2) evaluate and recommend energy-permitting policies, strategies, and options for BLM, BIA, OSMRE, BOEM, BSEE, FWS, NPS, BOR, ONRR, and other Federal agencies as appropriate to assist in meeting the Nation's energy needs;

(3) facilitate the identification of energy right-of-way corridors on Federal lands for Government-wide expedited environmental review for the development of energy infrastructure projects; and

(4) facilitate interagency communication regarding onshore and offshore conventional and renewable energy permitting activities.

b. The duties of the ECEP are to advise and report to the Secretary on current and emerging issues related to the permitting of energy projects on Federal and Indian lands.

Sec. 6 **Membership**. The Counselor to the Secretary for Energy Policy shall chair the ECEP. Membership shall include: 1) Deputy Secretary; 2) Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget; 3) Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management; 4) Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks; 5) Assistant Secretary for Water and Science; and 6) Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs; or their respective designees. Additional members may be added at the discretion of the Secretary.

Sec. 7 **Implementation**. The Counselor to the Secretary for Energy Policy is responsible for implementing this Order.

Sec. 8 **Expiration Date**. This Order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until its provisions are converted to the Departmental Manual or until it is amended, superseded, or revoked, whichever comes first.

Secretary of the Interior

Date: OCT 25 2017