

**From:** Dove, William  
**To:** [Downey Magallanes](#)  
**Subject:** ASLM 30 Day Policy Report Items  
**Date:** Friday, January 05, 2018 5:59:14 PM  
**Attachments:** [ASLM 30 Day Report 1-5-18.docx](#)

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1. **ACTION ON ENERGY BURDENS:** Two rules identified in Interior’s energy burdens report, pursuant to Executive Order 13783, are currently under review by OIRA. The first proposed rule would revise certain provisions of the 2016 rule entitled “Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control”. Last week, Interior published a portion of the revision relating to the productions systems safety requirements of the 2016 rule. We hope to publish the proposed rule containing the larger revision by the end of January. The second final rule is the revision to the 2016 rule entitled, the “Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation” (venting and flaring rule). This rule will not likely be finalized until March.  
**Timing:** January 2018-March 2018  
**Contact:** Kate MacGregor, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
2. **MONUMENT MANAGEMENT PLANS:** In the next week, BLM will publish Notice of Intents (NOI), seeking public comment, regarding management plans in Bears Ears National Monument and the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The NOIs are the first steps in initiating new management plans, consistent with the monument enhancements enacted by the President on December 4, 2017.  
**Timing:** January 12, 2018  
**Contact:** Casey Hammond, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
3. **SAGE GROUSE HABITAT MANAGEMENT:** A scoping report is set to be completed and released to the public in mid-January outlining responses from the states and the public regarding potential management plan changes. In the coming weeks, the Department will determine whether to proceed with plan amendments and initiate a public process on the 68 Sage Grouse Resources Management Plans.  
**Timing:** January 15, 2018  
**Contact:** Casey Hammond, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
4. **ATLANTIC OFFSHORE RENEWABLE RFF:** BOEM plans to publish a Request for Feedback (RFF) in the Federal Register seeking input on a proposed path forward for renewable energy leasing offshore the Atlantic Coast. The RFF describes the process and factors used by BOEM to identify and forecast areas along the Atlantic Coast where future development is most likely and leasing should be focused.  
**Timing:** January 2018  
**Contact:** Kate MacGregor, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
5. **COAL MINING ACTIONS:** Throughout January, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement will submit mining decisions and a notice of availability.
  - **Cordero Rojo Mine.** OSMRE anticipates forwarding to ASLM a mining plan decision document with a recommendation by January 22, 2018. The mine employs 383 people and produces approximately 20 million tons of coal per year.

- **Bridger Mine Mining Plan Modification (WY):** OSMRE anticipates forwarding to ASLM a mining plan decision document with a recommendation on or about January 24, 2018, for the Bridger Mine. The mine employs 540 people. If the modification is approved, production is estimated to be 2.24 million tons per year.

**Timing:** January 2018

**Contact:** Kate MacGregor, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management

6. **WILD HORSES AND BURROS REPORT TO CONGRESS:** The Bureau of Land Management is completing a report to Congress detailing legislative and administrative options, including partnerships, to bring Wild Horse and Burro populations to appropriate management levels. The current population and program are unsustainable resulting in vast resource impacts and unhealthy herds. In the past year, the Department has requested the restoration of statutory tools to manage herd levels, which includes humane destruction, and others to facilitate sales of excess animals.

**Timing:** Mid-January 2018

**Contact:** Casey Hammond, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management

7. **GREATER MOOSES TOOTH 2 APD:** By mid to late January, the BLM anticipates releasing a draft supplemental environmental impact statement (EIS) that analyzes an application for oil and gas development at the Greater Mooses Tooth 2 (GMT2) production pad in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A). The Application for Permit to Drill was submitted by ConocoPhillips in August 2015. Publication of the Notice of Availability of the draft supplemental EIS in the Federal Register will initiate a 45-day public comment period, during which time the BLM will hold a series of public meetings in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and the North Slope communities of Anaktuvuk Pass, Atkasuk, Utqiagvik, and Nuiqsut. (b) (5) DPP

**Timing:** Mid-Late January 2018

**Contact:** Joe Balash, Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management

8. **OIL & GAS IM:** By late January, the BLM anticipates issuing an Instruction Memorandum (IM) updating oil and gas leasing reform. The IM will simplify and streamline the leasing process in order to alleviate unnecessary impediments and burdens, to expedite the offering of lands for lease, and to ensure quarterly oil and gas lease sales are consistently held in accordance with the Mineral Leasing Act, E.O. 13783, and S.O. 3354. The IM is expected to be controversial with environmental and other non-profit groups given its deviance from the existing policy established in 2010, in addition to the timelines it establishes for the leasing process.

**Timing:** Late January 2018

**Contact:** Kate MacGregor, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management

9. **2017 COMPREHENSIVE INVENTORY OF OCS OIL AND NATURAL GAS RESOURCES REPORT TO CONGRESS:** This report is required by Section 357 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. It directs the Secretary of the Interior to provide a report to Congress within 6 months of the date of enactment (i.e., Aug. 8, 2005), with updates at least every 5 years. It is currently in surnaming with ASLM.  
**Timing:** Late January 2018  
**Contact:** Kate MacGregor, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
10. **MITIGATION:** In late January, BLM will put out a new Instruction Memoranda (IM) changing BLM policy to be in line with the Deputy Secretary's Memo issued in December 2017.  
**Timing:** Late January 2018  
**Contact:** Kate MacGregor, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
11. **CARLSBAD DRAFT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN:** In early February, the Carlsbad New Mexico Draft RMP will be sent to the WO BLM and ASLM for review. The publication date of the Draft RMP is tentatively scheduled for March 2018 with a 90 day public comment period. Oil and gas leasing and development, potash, ACEC's, Lands with Wilderness Characteristics and threatened and endangered species are some of the focus programs of this document.  
**Timing:** Early February 2018  
**Contact:** Kate MacGregor, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management