



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

May 8, 2017

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Madam Chairman:

I have reviewed the Public Financial Disclosure Report (OGE Form 278e), dated March 6, 2017, submitted by Mr. David Bernhardt, in connection with President Trump's nomination of Mr. Bernhardt to serve as Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

The certified report and letter to the Designated Agency Ethics Official constituting a separate ethics agreement are enclosed for your review.

In his ethics agreement, Mr. Bernhardt explained the steps that will be taken to resolve any potential conflicts of interest. He has agreed that if he is confirmed, he will not hold any financial interest in Federal lands or resources administered or controlled by the Department of the Interior during his service in this position.

It is my opinion, based upon my review of Mr. Bernhardt's OGE Form 278e and the specific commitments made by him in his ethics agreement that he will be in compliance with the conflicts of interest laws and regulations that will apply to him as Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

Sincerely,

Melinda J. Loftin
Designated Agency Ethics Official
Director, Ethics Office

Enclosures
As stated

cc: The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member