



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, D.C. 20240

ORDER NO. 3352

Subject: National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska

Sec. 1 Purpose. This Order provides for clean and safe development of our Nation's vast energy resources, while at the same time avoiding regulatory burdens that unnecessarily encumber energy production, constrain economic growth, and prevent job creation. The prudent development of these natural resources in Alaska and beyond is essential to ensuring the Nation's geopolitical security.

Sec. 2 Authorities. This Order is issued under the authority of section 2 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1262), as amended; the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, 43 U.S.C. 1701-1785; the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976, 42 U.S.C. 6501-6507, as amended; and other applicable statutes.

Sec. 3 Background. The National Petroleum Reserve – Alaska (NPR-A) is the largest block of federally managed land in the United States. In 2010, the U.S. Geological Survey estimated the NPR-A contained approximately 895 million barrels of economically recoverable oil and 52.8 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. On February 21, 2013, the Secretary of the Interior signed a Record of Decision approving the Integrated Activity Plan for the NPR-A, which sets forth the Bureau of Land Management's plan for future management of the area. That plan made approximately 11 million of the NPR-A's 22.8 million acres unavailable for leasing, potentially precluding development of up to 350 million barrels of oil and 45 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. The 1.5 million-acre coastal plain of the 19 million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) is the largest unexplored, potentially productive geologic onshore basin in the United States. The primary area of the coastal plain is the Section 1002 Area of ANWR. The Section 1002 Area was specifically set aside by Congress and the President in 1980 because of its potential for oil and natural gas development.

Sec. 4 Policy and Direction.

a. Within 21 days of the issuance of this Order, the Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management shall submit to the Counselor to the Secretary for Energy Policy:

(1) a schedule to effectuate the lawful review and development of a revised Integrated Activity Plan for the NPR-A that strikes an appropriate statutory balance of promoting development while protecting surface resources; and

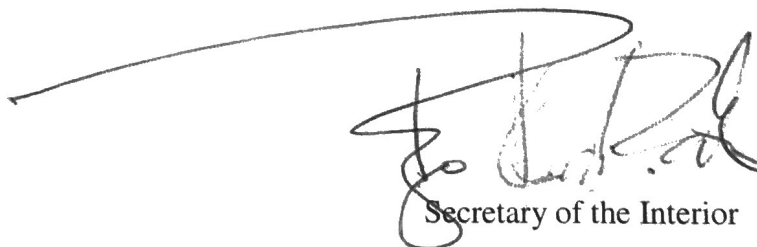
(2) an evaluation, under the existing Integrated Activity Plan, on efficiently and effectively maximizing the tracts offered for sale during the next NPR-A lease sale.

b. Within 21 days of the issuance of this Order, the Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management and the Assistant Secretary – Water and Science shall submit to the Counselor to the Secretary for Energy Policy a joint plan for updating current assessments of undiscovered, technically recoverable oil and natural gas resources of Alaska's North Slope, focusing on Federal lands including the NPR-A and the Section 1002 Area. The joint plan shall include consideration of new geological and geophysical data that has become available since the last assessments, as well as potential for reprocessing existing geological and geophysical data.

c. Within 31 days of the issuance of this Order, the Counselor to the Secretary for Energy Policy shall provide to me a plan to complete the review of the Department's actions set forth above.

Sec. 5 Effect of Order. This Order is intended to improve the internal management of the Department. This Order and any resulting reports or recommendations are not intended to, and do not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, instrumentalities or entities, its officers or employees, or any other person. To the extent there is any inconsistency between the provisions of this Order and any Federal laws or regulations, the laws or regulations will control.

Sec. 6 Expiration Date. This Order is effective immediately. It will remain in effect until its provisions are fully implemented, or until it is amended, superseded, or revoked, whichever occurs first.



Secretary of the Interior

Date: