

Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
March 4, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Oversight Hearing

*Examining the Department of the Interior's Spending Priorities and the President's Fiscal Year
2021 Budget Proposal*

Questions from Rep. TJ Cox for Susan Combs, Assistant Secretary of Policy, Management and Budget, U.S. Department of the Interior

1. How does this budget support Americans living without safe drinking water?
2. Given the scientific consensus that climate change will alter hydrology in ways that create new challenges for aging water infrastructure, what is Interior doing to specifically plan to make sure our existing infrastructure is resilient to the impacts of climate change?
3. Will you commit to ensuring the Department of the Interior appropriately plans for climate resiliency in water management?
4. Referring to changes made to DOI Ethics Guide, how does using the less descriptive and less inclusive term "sex" clarify to employees that they are protected from discrimination based on their gender identity and sexual orientation? Wouldn't including "sexual orientation" and "gender" explicitly be clearer and more inclusive?
5. Will this revised language be used in any other policies or guidance?
6. What other measures has Interior undertaken to ensure no employee is unfairly discriminated against based on their gender or sexual orientation?