

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Natural Resources**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 15, 2023

The Honorable Deb Haaland  
Secretary  
US Department of the Interior  
1849 C St. NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Haaland:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources at a legislative hearing on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, on the following bills:

- **H.R. 5482 (Rep. Hageman)**, *“Energy Poverty Prevention and Accountability Act of 2023”*;
- **H.R. 6474 (Rep. Steel)**, To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expedite geothermal exploration and development in previously studied or developed areas; and
- **H.R. 6481 (Rep. Hageman)**, To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to reimburse the fee for an expression of interest if the expression of interest becomes inactive, and for other purposes.

Your testimony on these three bills was extremely helpful in defining the Subcommittee’s understanding of the issue and I appreciate the effort you took to prepare and present your testimony. While many questions were asked during the hearing, the Subcommittee has additional questions, attached, for your reply.

Please forward your responses to Lonnie Smith, Clerk of the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, at [Lonnie.smith@mail.house.gov](mailto:Lonnie.smith@mail.house.gov) by January 5, 2024. Your assistance in meeting this deadline is requested, as failure to meet it will be noted in the printed transcript.

Once again, thank you for your extensive effort in making this a valuable hearing.

Sincerely,



Pete Stauber  
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources  
Chairman

Enclosure

**Committee on Natural Resources**  
**Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources**  
**Legislative Hearing**  
**1334 Longworth House Office Building**  
**December 12, 2023**  
**10:30 AM**

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**Questions from Rep. Stauber** for [The Honorable Deb Haaland, Secretary, Department of the Interior]

1. How many EOIs has each BLM field office invalidated since the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) was passed and what criteria is each office using to do so?
  - a. How do these numbers compare percentage-wise to the remaining EOIs?
2. Please submit the number EOIs that you have received, along with the associated acreage, over the last 24 months by month and by State.
  - a. Please submit the amount of EOI acreage offered in lease sales by the Department over the last 24 months by lease sale.
  - b. Please submit the amount of non-EOI acreage offered in lease sales by the Department over the last 24 months by lease sale along with the agency’s rationale for offering non requested acreage.