

Statement of Leslie Beyer
Nominee for Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management
U.S. Department of the Interior

Chairman Lee, Ranking Member Heinrich, and Members of the Committee, it is an honor to appear before you today as President Trump's nominee for Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management at the Department of the Interior.

I am deeply grateful to President Trump and Secretary Burgum for their confidence in my ability to ensure responsible stewardship of America's public lands for the benefit of all Americans. I'm also very thankful to have many friends and family here today, my parents Stan and Connie, my children Grant and Olivia, my oldest son Ethan watching us from Oklahoma State, and my Godparents Charlie and Kathie.

From the time that my Grandfather Leslie began his career as a roughneck, and my Great Aunt Faye was one of the first and only female toolpushers in the oilfield, we have seen extraordinary feats of innovation in energy development that took our country from being a net energy importer, to the world's largest energy exporter, all while leading the world in reducing emissions.

Growing up on our family farm in West Texas, I have been surrounded by the energy workforce my entire life and witnessed firsthand how America has proven time and again that we can develop our resources cleaner, safer, and more efficiently than anyone else in the world.

The advanced drilling equipment, e frac systems, and underwater remote vehicles that I'm involved with today are vastly different than the tools and technologies of my grandparents' time, but the commitment to responsible production and respect of our natural resources remains with me.

From spending my birthday weekend each year in Alaska hiking glaciers and running the Anchorage half marathon, to our annual family dove hunting season opener, and now managing my own farm, my family taught me to love and appreciate our lands, public and private.

The Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management plays a critical role in balancing multiple uses of our public lands, recognizing these lands as a vital asset of the American people and important contributor to our nation's financial health and security.

If confirmed to serve as Assistant Secretary, I pledge to be a responsible steward of more than 245 million acres of surface, 700 million acres of subsurface and over 3 billion acres offshore, ensuring that critical energy development takes place alongside other important uses of recreation, conservation, grazing, timber management and housing.

I appreciate and understand the significant responsibilities of the role, with its management of the four bureaus - BLM, BOEM, BSEE and OSMRE. And if confirmed, I commit to working collaboratively with the members of this committee regarding decisions related to the

Department's stewardship of federal lands and waters, including the management and development of their mineral and non-mineral resources.

As a former CEO of an organization representing over 650,000 U.S. energy workers and now as a corporate director, I have responsibility for executive oversight, governance, and the health and safety of a combined global workforce of over 10,000 men and women. I bring a proven record of leadership and extensive experience managing large organizations—qualities I will carry into the role of Assistant Secretary.

Throughout my career in both public and private sectors, I have emphasized collaboration and will bring this approach to the Department of the Interior, working closely with states, tribes, local communities, and industry to develop solutions that benefit all.

I also commit to ensuring that the bureaus under my authority carry out the directives established by Congress. This includes working to ensure that lease sales are conducted on a regular and predictable basis—providing the certainty necessary for long-term investment, meeting our national resource needs, and fulfilling the requirements of the law amid rapidly growing energy demand.

As a young White House staffer 20 years ago, I served on multiple trips overseas as efforts were made to secure oil and gas imports due to our perceived national energy scarcity. In my following years in the energy services and equipment sector, I had a front row seat to the shale revolution that has taken us from energy scarcity to energy abundance and enabled the ability to strategically provide resources to our allies. It has driven my passion for American innovation, energy resilience, and respect for our nation's resources.

I appreciate meeting with many of you and learning of your specific focus areas in land and minerals management. If confirmed, I will always keep at the forefront of my mind the critical mission of protecting and managing our natural resources, ensuring that we fully utilize our federal lands and waters to benefit all Americans.

Thank you for the honor of appearing before you today, and for considering my nomination. I look forward to answering your questions.