

ROY BLUNT  
MISSOURI

260 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2508  
202-224-5721

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE  
AND TRANSPORTATION  
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION  
SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

August 12, 2014

Congressional Liaison  
Department of Interior  
Washington, DC

Dear Liaison:

On June 11, 2014 I sent a letter to your regarding the concerns of my constituent, **Non-responsive**  
My office has not received a final reply on this matter.

Please review the attached information on this case in order to provide my office with a written response regarding the status of this inquiry. You may send your response to my Office of Constituent Services at 1001 Cherry Street, Suite 104, Columbia, Missouri 65201 or fax to 573/442-8162.

Sincere regards,



Roy Blunt  
United States Senator

RDB/ejb  
enclosure

ROY BLUNT  
MISSOURI

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2508  
202-224-5721

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES  
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COMMERCE, SCIENCE  
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SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

June 11, 2014

Congressional Liaison  
Department of Interior  
Washington, DC

Dear Liaison:

Please find enclosed a privacy release statement from **Non-responsive** who has expressed concern about his application for employment at the Arch in St. Louis through the Department of Interior.

Please review this situation and provide my office with a written response. You may send your response to my Office of Constituent Services at the accompanying email or fax to 573/442-8162.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincere regards,



Roy Blunt  
United States Senator

RDB/ejb  
enclosure

06-03-14;02:37PM;

;036-278-8836

# 1/ 1



# United States Senator Roy Blunt Privacy Act Release Statement

As mandated by the 1974 Privacy Act, I authorize Senator Roy Blunt and his staff to make inquiries on my behalf and to obtain information from my personal records or files regarding the problem mentioned below.

Signature

Date

6-3-14

Signature of parent or guardian (if different than the person requesting information)

Date

Personal Information: (Please Print or write legibly)

**Non-responsive**

Name: First

Middle

Last

**Non-responsive**

Address/City/Zip

**Non-responsive**

E-mail

**Non-responsive**

**Non-responsive**

Home Telephone

Work/Cell

County

**Non-responsive**

Date of Birth

Social Security Number

Agency to contact, if known

Problem:

This is regarding the email that I sent about the position I applied for at the St. Louis Arch and how the Dept of Interior is dragging their feet on the paperwork that is needed for me to start employment.

Please mail or bring this original form to: Senator Roy Blunt  
308 East High Street, Suite 202, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

You may fax this form to our office at: 573/634-6005.

All envelopes MUST be CLEARLY marked with return name and address

Please call 573/634-2488 if you have any questions.



UNITED STATES

SENATE FAX

COVER SHEET

United States Senator Roy Blunt

Office of Constituent Services

1001 Cherry Street, Ste. 104

Columbia, Missouri 65201

Telephone: 573-442-8151

Fax: 573-442-8162

OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

646474

2014 AUG 20 PM 1:05

RECEIVED

Date: 8-13  
~~6-12-14~~

Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Pages: 84, including this cover sheet.

To: Dicison

From: By Behrns

SUBJECT: employment application

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The document(s) accompanying this facsimile contain confidential information for the use of the intended recipient named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copy, distribution or taking of any action in reliance on the contents of the telecopied information except its direct delivery to the intended above named recipient is strictly prohibited. If you have received this facsimile in error, please notify us immediately to arrange for return of the original documents.



# United States Department of the Interior



National Park Service

Midwest Region  
601 Riverfront Drive  
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4226

10.D(MWR-PAL/PCL) AUG 27 2014

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
260 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-2508

Dear Senator Blunt:

In response to your information request of June 11 regarding the employment of **Non-responsive** the National Park Service (NPS) has provided the following employment information. **Non-responsive** began work for the NPS as a Security Guard on **Non-responsive** **Non-responsive** was selected from a competitive employment certificate announced on the USAJOBS website. As the Acting Regional Director for the Midwest Region of the NPS, I have been asked to respond.

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- **Non-responsive**
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

Thank you again for your inquiry. Should you have any other questions or concerns, please contact Superintendent Tom Bradley at 314-655-1611 or [jeff\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:jeff_superintendent@nps.gov)

Sincerely,

Patricia S. Trap  
Acting Regional Director

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

645016

June 25, 2014

RECEIVED

2014 JUN 30 PM 3

OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

The Honorable Daniel M. Ashe  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Room 3331  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell and Director Ashe:

We are writing to express our concern regarding the notice published in the October 2, 2013 Federal Register (78 Fed. Reg. 61046) in which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the Service) proposed to list the Northern Long-Eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) as an endangered species throughout its range. In our judgment, the notice does not adequately consider external costs and fails to demonstrate the scientific rigor required by the Endangered Species Act (ESA). It seeks to apply a broad rule to a problem in need of greater understanding and a tailored solution. We believe this listing would be fundamentally ineffective and would impose unjustifiable burdens on commercial and recreational activities.

The Service asserts that the listing is necessary because data have indicated a significant decline in the population of the Northern Long-Eared Bat as the result of White-Nose Syndrome. Though we are conscious of the threat White-Nose Syndrome poses to bat populations, we share the concerns voiced by numerous others regarding the reliability of these scientific determinations. The conclusions of the notice derive from a type of data that is noted for its unreliability and is representative of only a small segment of the species' range. Such deficiencies necessarily prevent capable and informed solutions and serve only to reduce the efficacy of regulation, both functionally and legally. Utilization of the best scientific and commercial data is imperative to ensure that regulations effectively protect species and avoid needless economic dislocation.

In light of the data provided by the notice, we are concerned that the geographic scope of the proposed listing would extend consequences beyond the area in which it would be most effective. The Service notes that while some regions have seen a population decline in the species, other regions remain unaffected. In Missouri, the Northern Long-Eared Bat was removed from the state's Species of Concern List in 2007 and according to the Missouri Department of Conservation, there has yet to be a confirmed bat death attributed to White-Nose

Syndrome. We maintain that current population realities cannot be ignored; federal protection should extend only to those states where data sufficiently demonstrate a population threat. This efficient allocation of regulations and resources could increase the impact of protective measures in affected states and decrease the needless economic harm sustained by states in which the species is not threatened.

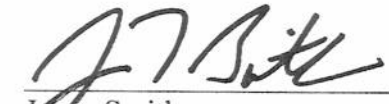
Effective conservation demands protections that are neither capricious nor arbitrary, but carefully and empirically formulated to actualize their intent. In this case, the proposed listing change would mandate a rigid statutory framework primarily designed to address risks within human control. We remain concerned that this listing will be ineffective against the pathological threat posed by White-Nose Syndrome. Before such an imposition, the Service should perform a deeper analysis of the current programs that directly address White-Nose Syndrome, such as the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act, National Environmental Act, The National Plan for Managing White-Nose Syndrome in Bats, as well as programs in 21 states. These programs are more efficient and effective because they are narrowly focused and specially designed, and they reduce costs—both direct and external—by allowing minimally intrusive commercial activities to continue.

As the Supreme Court articulated in *Bennett v. Spear*, in addition to the goal of species preservation, the Endangered Species Act espouses the consideration of economic consequences. Conservation and industry are not mutually exclusive; to the contrary, they are sustained through reciprocated consideration and effective implementation. We remain deeply concerned that the proposed designation would be incapable of combating the threat of White-Nose Syndrome, yet would have profound economic consequences. In Missouri, many of our most vital industries would be susceptible to detrimental effects—forest products, which support over 41,000 jobs and contribute over \$8 billion to the economy; agriculture, which supports over 580,000 jobs and contributes over \$31 billion; construction; manufacturing; and land and energy development—at a time in which these sectors of the economy are only beginning to recover from the recession. The Service has acknowledged that these industries have had little detrimental effect on the species; nevertheless, the proposed rule would have grave implications for businesses in these fields.

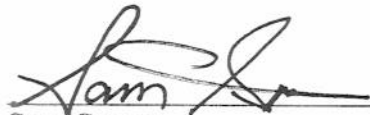
If, after evaluating the listing's scientific conclusions, proposed scope of implementation, and potential efficacy to the fullest extent, the Service continues to believe that additional protections are warranted, we ask that it limit the scope of the listing to exclude the State of Missouri. We further urge the Service to impart greater significance to economic costs and consider alternatives that are less commercially intrusive, such as the many specialized state and federal programs that have been proposed or are currently in place.

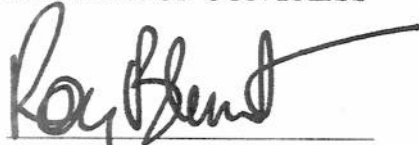
Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your response.


Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Smith  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

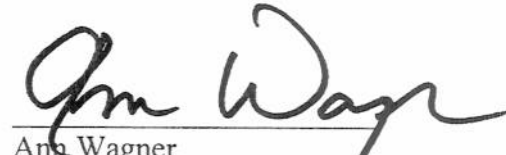
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Billy Long  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sam Graves  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roy Blunt  
UNITED STATES SENATOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Blaine Luetkemeyer  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vicky Hartzler  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Wagner  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS





# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

5600 American Boulevard West, Suite 990  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55437-1458



IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWS/R3/ES-TE/DTS057721

**JUL 16 2014**

Honorable Roy Blunt  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Blunt:

Thank you for your June 25, 2014, letter to Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) Director Dan Ashe regarding the Service's proposed rule to list the northern long-eared bat as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). An identical letter is being sent to each member of the Missouri Delegation who signed the original correspondence. Secretary Jewell and Director Ashe have asked that I respond on their behalf.

We appreciate your concern about the proposed listing and the adequacy of the scientific information used for our proposal. As our biologists reviewed the status of the northern long-eared bat and developed our listing proposal, we made a significant effort to obtain the best available scientific information, including contacting all state fish and wildlife agencies within the species' range to request survey data and any other available information. Additionally, the Service is a member of a white-nose syndrome (WNS) group comprised of local, state and federal agencies, universities and non-governmental organizations. We worked with this group to conduct our WNS risk analysis that included projecting the rate of spread of WNS and its impacts on this bat, which led to our proposal to list as endangered.

Your letter notes that White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) is the lone basis for our proposed listing of the northern long-eared bat as endangered, but that economic activities that would be most affected by the listing have had little impact on population numbers or the decline of the species. We agree that no other threat to the species is as severe or immediate as WNS, and that absent WNS we would not anticipate that the species would warrant listing. However, under the listing criteria set forth in the ESA, only one threat (depending on level of impact to species) may warrant listing of a species. Additionally, although these other factors (*e.g.*, cave modifications, human disturbance in caves, summer habitat modification, and wind power development) did not cause the initial dramatic population decline, we must now explore whether these are important factors affecting the northern long-eared bat's ability to persist while experiencing declines caused by WNS. Through our continuing analysis, we are strengthening our understanding of these factors, and exploring ways they can be addressed.

Your letter suggests that if the northern long-eared bat is listed under the ESA, it should only be listed where population declines have occurred. The ESA defines species to "... include any subspecies of fish or wildlife or plants, and any distinct population segment of any species of vertebrate fish or wildlife." Thus we must evaluate the status of a species throughout its range or

within a distinct population segment and cannot consider listing a species on a state by state basis. For the northern long-eared bat listing analysis we are considering factors such as: the areas of its range that have had significant declines, the rapid rate of those declines, the rate that WNS has spread to unaffected areas, and the impact that WNS has had on the northern long-eared bat population as it has spread outside of the Northeast.

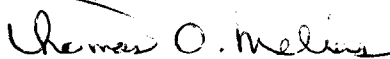
Some of the concern about listing the northern long-eared bat and its impact on economic activities stems from voluntary guidance that we prepared for federal agencies called the Northern Long-eared Bat Interim Conference and Planning Guidance (issued January 6, 2014). That guidance was developed in direct response to questions we received from a variety of partners, particularly federal agencies, which have specific responsibilities under Section 7 of the ESA. The guidance provides advice and a suite of voluntary conservation options for our federal partners to use as they plan and design their projects during the time that this bat is proposed for listing. The Service never intended that conservation measures identified in the guidance would become blanket requirements if the species is listed. Instead, the conservation measures we presented provide a list of possible options that may be used, depending on site specific conditions, to minimize impacts to the bat and its habitat.

The Service is committed to using the regulatory flexibility available under the ESA to identify site-specific conservation measures that minimize or avoid economic impacts while meeting our obligations under the ESA. We have a strong record of working with others using the various tools and options available to us, and we will embrace every opportunity to do so with respect to the northern long-eared bat. Our experience is that there are effective, implementable, common-sense solutions to conserve listed species. We are committed to practical solutions that focus conservation efforts where they are most needed and effective.

Ultimately, our final listing decision must be based "solely on the basis of the best scientific and commercial data available" 16 U.S. C. 1533(b)(1)(A). To ensure that we have the best data available, we are again contacting all state natural resource agencies within the range of the northern long-eared bat to request any new survey data and all other new data related to this bat and white-nose syndrome. We have also begun a process to work with state fish and wildlife agency directors and state forestry agencies through their regional associations to better inform our final decision. On June 30 we extended the deadline for making our final listing determination by six months. That final decision will now be made by April 2, 2015. Additionally, we have re-opened a 60-day public comment period that will allow commenters to provide information not previously provided. Our final determination concerning the proposed listing will fully consider all written comments and any additional information we receive.

You or your staff may contact me, or our Midwest Regional Office, (612) 713-5301 if you have any questions or need additional information regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



**Thomas O. Melius**

**Regional Director**

cc: Megan Kelhart, Division of Congressional and Legislative Affairs, USFWS, Washington, DC  
Amy Salveter, Field Supervisor ES, USFWS, Columbia, MO



UNITED STATES

COVER SHEET

SENATE FAX

644726

United States Senator Roy Blunt

Office of Constituent Services  
1001 Cherry Street, Ste. 104  
Columbia, Missouri 65201  
Telephone: 573-442-8151  
Fax: 573-442-8162

Date: 6-12-14

Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Pages: 3, including this cover sheet.

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Division

From: \_\_\_\_\_

By Behrens

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

employment application

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

2014 JUN 17 PM 5:36

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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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June 11, 2014

Congressional Liaison  
Department of Interior  
Washington, DC

Dear Liaison:

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United States Senator

RDB/ejb  
enclosure

06-03-14; 02:37PM;

; 636-278-8836

# 1 / 1



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Signature

Date

6-3-14

Signature of parent or guardian (if different than the person requesting information)

Date

Personal Information: (Please Print or write legibly)

**Non-responsive**

Name: First

Middle

Last

**Non-responsive**

Address/City/Zip

**Non-responsive**

E-mail

**Non-responsive**

**Non-responsive**

Home Telephone

Work/Cell

County

**Non-responsive**

Date of Birth

Social Security Number

Agency to contact, if known

Problem:

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All envelopes MUST be CLEARLY marked with return name and address

Please call 573/634-2488 if you have any questions.



# United States Department of the Interior



National Park Service

Midwest Region  
601 Riverfront Drive  
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4226

10.D(MWR-PAL/PCL) AUG 27 2014

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
260 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-2508

Dear Senator Blunt:

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- **Non-responsive**
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Thank you again for your inquiry. Should you have any other questions or concerns, please contact Superintendent Tom Bradley at 314-655-1611 or [jeff\\_superintendent@nps.gov](mailto:jeff_superintendent@nps.gov)

Sincerely,

Patricia S. Trap  
Acting Regional Director

ROY BLUNT  
MISSOURI

VICE CHAIR, SENATE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE

260 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2608  
202-224-5721

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS

ARMED SERVICES

COMMERCE, SCIENCE  
AND TRANSPORTATION

RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

September 4th, 2013

The Honorable Sylvia Mathews Burwell  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
1650 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Interior  
1849 C St, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Burwell and Secretary Jewell:

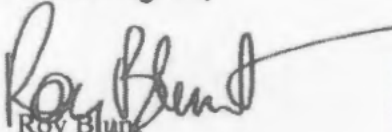
I am writing you today regarding the worldwide helium shortage that could result should the federal government not act. The Federal Helium Reserve was established by Congress in 1925, which included a requirement that all debts resulting from the creation of the reserve would be repaid to the treasury through the sale of crude helium. Congress later in 1996 set the point at which the reserve would be deauthorized after debts were paid. The hope was the private companies would supply their own helium, a phenomenon which has occurred in part. However the stockpile still supplies roughly 40% of domestic and 30% of global helium demand. Yet the reserve is set to shut down in October of 2013.

Helium is used in many commercial, defense, and medical applications. One of its most important uses is in its ability to cool magnets used in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machines. Shortages occurring from the shuttering of the reserve could lead to price spikes and compromise patient access to MRIs and consumer access to other critical goods.

The Senate Energy Committee has put forth a bill, S.783, to continue the operation of the Federal Helium Reserve until 2014, and auction off reserves in a responsible way. I am hopeful that this bill will come to the floor expeditiously so Congress can act to remedy this problem and understand that – despite the limited amount of time remaining – efforts to do just that are going well.

In the unlikely event that an agreement on how to proceed to passage of legislation is not reached, I implore you to use your discretion to avert the shutdown of the reserve in your talks with Congress during Continuing Resolution negotiations.

Sincere regards,

  
Roy Blunt  
U.S. Senator

RECEIVED  
2013 SEP -5 PM 12:45  
OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

526487

9/5/13

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail - Fwd: letter to Director Burwell and Secretary Jewell



Howarth, Robert <robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

---

## Fwd: letter to Director Burwell and Secretary Jewell

1 message

---

**Bogard, Lauren** <lauren\_bogard@ios.doi.gov>

Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 12:43 PM

To: Robert Howarth <Robert\_Howarth@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Stephenne Harding <stephenne\_harding@ios.doi.gov>, Sarah Neimeyer <sarah\_neimeyer@ios.doi.gov>

FYI: Letter from Sen. Blunt.

Thanks,

Lauren Bogard  
Special Assistant  
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: (202) 208-5954

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dungan, Hilary (Blunt)** <Hilary\_Dungan@blunt.senate.gov>

Date: Wed, Sep 4, 2013 at 4:56 PM

Subject: letter to Director Burwell and Secretary Jewell

To: "calla\_r\_brown@omb.eop.gov" <calla\_r\_brown@omb.eop.gov>, "Lauren\_bogard@ios.doi.gov" <Lauren\_bogard@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: "Palmer, Downey (Blunt)" <Downey\_Palmer@blunt.senate.gov>

PDF attached. Letter went in the mail today.

Hilary Dungan

Legislative Correspondent

Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO)

Hilary\_dungan@blunt.senate.gov

(202) 224-5721

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**Sen Blunt letter to OMB and DOI.pdf**  
228K





THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

NOV 05 2013

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Blunt:

Thank you for your letter dated September 4, 2013, to Office of Management and Budget Director Sylvia Mathews Burwell and me regarding the critical issues facing the Federal Helium Reserve. I appreciate the opportunity to respond for both of us.

The Helium Act of 1960, as amended by the Helium Privatization Act of 1996, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to sell crude helium for Federal, medical, scientific, and commercial uses. Helium is a critical component in many fields of scientific research and high-technology manufacturing processes, and plays an important role in military defense activities. Accordingly, the United States has a strong interest in ensuring that critical users have an uninterrupted supply of helium.

On October 2, 2013, President Barack Obama signed the Helium Stewardship Act of 2013, which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to continue to sell crude helium, and provides a long term solution for the Federal Helium Reserve. Thank you for your continued interest in this issue.

Sincerely,

  
Sally Jewell



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

NOV 05 2013

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

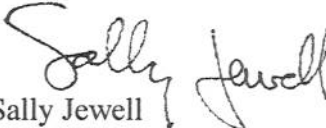
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Sincerely,

  
Sally Jewell

ROY BLUNT  
MISSOURI

V.P. CHAIR, SENATE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE

250 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2508  
202-224-6721

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

September 4th, 2013

The Honorable Sylvia Mathews Burwell  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
1650 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Interior  
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Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Burwell and Secretary Jewell:

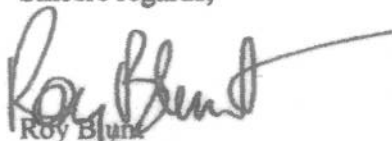
I am writing you today regarding the worldwide helium shortage that could result should the federal government not act. The Federal Helium Reserve was established by Congress in 1925, which included a requirement that all debts resulting from the creation of the reserve would be repaid to the treasury through the sale of crude helium. Congress later in 1996 set the point at which the reserve would be deauthorized after debts were paid. The hope was the private companies would supply their own helium, a phenomenon which has occurred in part. However the stockpile still supplies roughly 40% of domestic and 30% of global helium demand. Yet the reserve is set to shut down in October of 2013.

Helium is used in many commercial, defense, and medical applications. One of its most important uses is in its ability to cool magnets used in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machines. Shortages occurring from the shuttering of the reserve could lead to price spikes and compromise patient access to MRIs and consumer access to other critical goods.

The Senate Energy Committee has put forth a bill, S.783, to continue the operation of the Federal Helium Reserve until 2014, and auction off reserves in a responsible way. I am hopeful that this bill will come to the floor expeditiously so Congress can act to remedy this problem and understand that – despite the limited amount of time remaining – efforts to do just that are going well.

In the unlikely event that an agreement on how to proceed to passage of legislation is not reached, I implore you to use your discretion to avert the shutdown of the reserve in your talks with Congress during Continuing Resolution negotiations.

Sincere regards,

  
Roy Blunt  
U.S. Senator

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
OFFICE OF THE

2013 SEP -5 PM 12:45

RECEIVED

526487

9/5/13

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail - Fwd: letter to Director Burwell and Secretary Jewell



Howarth, Robert <robert\_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

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## Fwd: letter to Director Burwell and Secretary Jewell

1 message

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**Bogard, Lauren** <lauren\_bogard@ios.doi.gov> Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 12:43 PM  
To: Robert Howarth <Robert\_Howarth@ios.doi.gov>  
Cc: Stephenne Harding <stephenne\_harding@ios.doi.gov>, Sarah Neimeyer <sarah\_neimeyer@ios.doi.gov>

FYI: Letter from Sen. Blunt.

Thanks,

Lauren Bogard  
Special Assistant  
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: (202) 208-5954

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dungan, Hilary (Blunt)** <Hilary\_Dungan@blunt.senate.gov>  
Date: Wed, Sep 4, 2013 at 4:56 PM  
Subject: letter to Director Burwell and Secretary Jewell  
To: "calla\_r\_brown@omb.eop.gov" <calla\_r\_brown@omb.eop.gov>, "Lauren\_bogard@ios.doi.gov" <Lauren\_bogard@ios.doi.gov>  
Cc: "Palmer, Downey (Blunt)" <Downey\_Palmer@blunt.senate.gov>

PDF attached. Letter went in the mail today.

Hilary Dungan  
Legislative Correspondent  
Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO)  
Hilary\_dungan@blunt.senate.gov  
(202) 224-5721

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**Sen Blunt letter to OMB and DOI.pdf**  
228K

ROY BLUNT  
MISSOURI

260 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2508  
202-224-5721

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE  
AND TRANSPORTATION  
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION  
SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

December 9, 2011

Congressional Liaison  
U.S. Department of Interior  
Mail Stop 6242  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Liaison:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter my office has received from **Non-responsive** regarding expressing concern regarding Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines.

Please provide an explanation of this matter so that I may properly respond to my constituent. You may send your response to my Office of Constituent Services at 308 East High Street, Suite 202, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 or fax to 573/634-6005.

Thank you for your time and assistance with this situation.

Sincere regards,



Roy Blunt  
United States Senator

RDB/ejb  
enclosure

RECEIVED  
2011 DEC 19 PM 4:02  
OFFICE OF THE  
CLERK OF THE  
U.S. SENATE

507696

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 <MSG>Dear Senator,

I am writing to request your assistance. Referencing the message below - The adoption of this guideline will negatively impact a least 2 Missouri companies that are in the small wind business. I appreciate any assistance you can provide. Regards.

---

The "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines" states:

"The Guidelines are designed for "utility- scale" land-based wind energy projects to reduce potential impacts to species of concern, regardless of whether they are proposed for private or public lands. While these Guidelines are designed for utility- scale wind projects, the general principles may also apply to distributed and community-scale wind energy projects. Developers should contact the Service to determine applicability of the Guidelines to their particular project. Offshore wind energy projects may involve another suite of effects and analyses not addressed here."

The draft USFWS guidelines call for pre-installation studies and approvals, post-installation monitoring, and mitigation programs. The estimated cost of compliance for a single wind turbine, even a \$15,000 2.4 kW turbine at a home, is \$500,000! We have already been able to document significant distributed wind projects at schools and farms that have been killed by the draft guidelines.

Comments on the latest draft are due tomorrow, August 23, and we are asking any and all to submit an objection via e-mail or an attached letter. Even if you miss the deadline we believe your voice should be heard and you should still submit a comment.

Talking points:

- The available science, such as the 2008 Pennsylvania DCNR study at Presque Isle State Park, have concluded virtually no impact or risk to birds or bats.
- The cost of compliance, at an estimated \$500,000, will kill every small distributed wind project it is applied to. School projects have already been killed by the guidelines, even though they are still in draft form.
- Distributed wind systems are typically much, much smaller than utility scale projects and they are always installed where man-made buildings and land development already exist.
- Distributed wind systems have been installed at National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, State Parks, and Audubon Parks, where they have compiled decades of service with no hint of adverse impacts.
- The application of remedies to windfarm wildlife issues to all wind turbine installations, regardless of size, location, or configuration, is unjustified and unjust

</MSG>

</APP>



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Washington, D.C. 20240



In Reply Refer To:  
FWS/AFHC-HRC-CPA/050316

JAN 26 2012

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
United States Senator  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Blunt:

Thank you for your letter of December 9, 2011 regarding your constituent's, **Non-responsive** **Non-responsive** interests in the Land-based Wind Energy Guidelines (Guidelines). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) understands the importance of renewable energy for our country's economic recovery and future energy security, as well as the importance of conserving our country's fish and wildlife resources for future generations. The Guidelines document is but one example of the ways in which the Service works with industries to streamline regulatory processes to reduce costs and ensure a viable future business environment, while meeting our responsibilities to conserve our country's natural resources.

As noted by **Non-responsive** the Guidelines are designed for "utility-scale" land-based wind energy projects to reduce potential impacts to species of concern, regardless of whether they are proposed for private or public lands. The Service received several comments from distributed or community scale wind energy developers regarding the potential burden on them to comply with the recommendations in the Guidelines. The Service worked with representatives of the Distributed Wind Energy Association and modified the language in the Guidelines to clarify the recommendation as it applies to a distributed or community scale wind energy development. The new language says:

*"that a developer of a distributed or community scale wind project may find it useful to consider the general principles of the tiered approach to assess and reduce potential impacts to species of concern, including answering Tier 1 (Preliminary Site Evaluation) questions using publicly available information. In the vast majority of situations, appropriately sited distributed or community scale wind projects are not likely to pose significant risks to species of concern. Answering Tier 1 questions will assist a developer of distributed or community wind projects, as well as landowners, in assessing the need to further communicate with the Service, and precluding, in many cases, the need for full detailed pre-construction assessments or monitoring surveys typically called for in Tiers 2 (Site Characterization) and 3 (Field Studies to Document Site Wildlife and Habitat and Predict Project Impacts). If landowners or community/distributed wind developers encounter problems locating information about specific sites they can contact the Service and/or state wildlife agencies to determine potential risks to species of concern for their particular project."*

It is important for all wind energy developers to understand that the Guidelines are voluntary. The decision of whether or not to follow the tiered approach is up to the developer. It is our intent to inform all wind energy developers that the Service is available to assist them with information about fish, wildlife and their habitats.

We appreciate your interest in the Guidelines. If we can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me or Mr. David Cottingham at 202-208-4331.

Sincerely,

**ACTING** *Hannibal Bolton*  
Director

---



ROY BLUNT  
MISSOURI

260 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2508  
202-224-5721

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

34515  
COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE  
AND TRANSPORTATION

RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

December 9, 2011

Congressional Liaison  
U.S. Department of Interior  
Mail Stop 6242  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Liaison:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter my office has received from Non-responsive regarding hunting at the Mingo National Wildlife area.

Please provide an explanation of this matter so that I may properly respond to my constituent. You may send your response to my Office of Constituent Services at 308 East High Street, Suite 202, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 or fax to 573/634-6005.

Thank you for your time and assistance with this situation.

Sincere regards,

  
Roy Blunt  
United States Senator

RDB/ejb  
enclosure

U.S. SENATE  
OFFICE OF THE  
CLERK

2011 DEC 19 PM 4:02

RECEIVED

507697

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<MSG>Dear Senator, I have owned land adjacent to mingo national wildlife area for many years. The management of the refuge conducted a youth hunt this past weekend. Most of us owning land around the refuge disagree with the way it was handled. It was an open hunt meaning they could take a buck or doe. It should have been a doe only. I say this because you usually see around 20 to 30 does before you see a buck. This would hav been a good conservation lesson for the kids. With these rules the kids used it as a chance to kill large bucks. It was a bad lesson for the kids and worsened the ratio. When questioned about this, they said they planned to do it each year. With all the problems in our country this may seem small but it is wrong. It also will lower property values for landowners. There's no common sense here and I'm asking for your help. You'll probably receive contacts from fellow landowners. Thanks for any help! </MSG>  
</APP>



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

5600 American Boulevard West, Suite 990  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55437-1458

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWS/NWRS-RFS2/050261

JAN - 9 2012

Honorable Roy Blunt  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Blunt:

Thank you for your December 9, 2011 letter regarding a youth deer hunt at Mingo National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) that was held on November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate your interest in Mingo NWR and the outdoor recreation opportunities it offers to the general public.

The youth deer hunt and all other deer hunts on Mingo NWR are annually coordinated with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) to ensure consistency with state regulations and statewide deer management goals. For the youth deer hunt, fifty youth (ages 11-15) were randomly selected in a process that was managed by MDC. All of the successful applicants attended a mandatory orientation where refuge staff educated youth participants on deer management, hunting safety, and a variety of other conservation topics.

As indicated by your constituent, youth were permitted to harvest one deer of either sex. This was consistent with MDC regulations for the statewide youth deer hunt. While we recognize your constituent's concerns regarding buck/doe ratios at the refuge, the primary goal of the youth deer hunt was to provide youth hunters with the best opportunity for a safe, ethical, and successful hunt. The Mingo NWR youth hunt was tremendously successful with thirty-eight youth harvesting a deer.

Recently, Mingo NWR has begun to evaluate deer hunting and other hunting opportunities offered at the refuge. Within the next year, a new hunting plan will be proposed and the public will be invited to provide comments. We look forward to hearing from the public and even improving on the hunting opportunities for both youth and other members of the public.

Should you have additional questions or concerns relative to this issue, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

**Thomas O. Melius**  
Regional Director