



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

SEP 9 2017

The Honorable Ryan Zinke
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of the Secretary, your engagement and interest in offshore energy production is very much recognized. Collaboration between the Department of Interior and the Department of Defense is a priority.

The President's April 2017 Executive Order on America's offshore energy strategy is intent on increasing domestic energy production to fortify national security objectives and reduce our dependency on imported energy. The Department of Defense supports the development of national domestic energy resources in concert with enabling military operations, training and testing.

The interagency working group established in August will provide an effective interface between the Department of Defense and the Department of Interior.

The Secretary and I look forward to working with you and your team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Patrick M. Shanahan", is located at the bottom right of the page.