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**Committee on Natural Resources**  
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March 17, 2015

The Honorable Dan Ashe  
Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Ashe:

In order to facilitate a more productive discussion at the March 19th joint budget hearing before the Subcommittees on Federal Lands and Water, Power, and Oceans, it is requested that you be prepared to answer the following questions:

1. Has the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the "Service") to engage in Section 7 consultation on EPA's proposed Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New Stationary Sources rule?<sup>1</sup>
2. Has the EPA asked the Service to engage in consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on the proposed Clean Power Plan Rule?<sup>2</sup>
3. Have you requested that the EPA enter into a consultation under Section 7 of the ESA on either of these two rules?

If you intend to answer in the affirmative to any of the above questions, I would request you provide, in advance, or, at a minimum, bring with you to the hearing documentation that supports your answers. Documents may be provided to Rob Gordon or Mike Freeman of the Committee on Natural Resources staff.

Sincerely,



Rob Bishop  
Chairman

<sup>1</sup> Standards of Performance for Greenhouse Gas Emissions from New Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units, 79 Fed. Reg. 1430 (January 8, 2014), Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0495

<sup>2</sup> Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units, 79 Fed. Reg. 34829 (June 18, 2014), Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0602

cc: Raúl Grijalva, Ranking Member