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

May 21, 2013

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The Honorable Sally Jewell  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1951 Constitution Ave, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell,

Last week, the Department of the Interior released the most recent iteration of a rule to regulate hydraulic fracturing on federal and tribal lands. As part of the rulemaking, the Department of the Interior has proposed to provide 30 days for public comment on this revised draft rule.

We jointly believe that this timeframe is unacceptable and not nearly long enough to allow the public to formulate in-depth and constructive comments on this 171 page, complicated rule. Further, the Department previously allowed 120 days for the public to comment on the original draft rule that was proposed last year.

As the bipartisan leaders of the Committee on Natural Resources, we call on the Department of the Interior to allow at least 120 days for comments on this proposed rule. By allowing a 120 day comment period, the Department can ensure the public will be allowed to fully participate and engage in the rulemaking process. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Doc Hastings  
Chairman  
Committee on Natural Resources



Ed Markey  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Natural Resources