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

October 25, 2013

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The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell:

This letter follows up on prior communications, including June 28, 2013 and July 29, 2013 letters requesting 15 categories of documents and information, about the Department of the Interior's ("Department") Secretarial Order 3321 ("Order").

This Order established the "National Blueways System," a "headwaters to mouth approach to river management." This information is needed in order for the American people and Congress to have a better understanding of how the Blueways process has evolved and how the Department intends the system to work in the future. The Department has not met the deadline from the Committee on Natural Resources ("Committee") for providing the requested information.

In a hearing before the Committee on July 17, 2013, it was announced that the Department had placed the Blueways program on hold. It remains unclear whether this is a permanent end to a legally suspect program, or a temporary pause. At a July 22, 2013 meeting with Committee majority staff, Senior Advisor to the Secretary and the architect of the Blueways' program, Rebecca Wodder, was unable to answer questions about the program's recent activities and future.

Ms. Wodder also informed Committee staff that, one month after the June 28 document request had been sent, she had not yet begun to collect or review her internal documents for production to the Committee. Committee staff have been informed that Ms. Wodder has since left the Department.

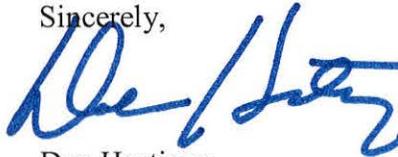
It is vital that the Department take the steps necessary to protect Ms. Wodder's documents from being destroyed and to ensure that they remain available in response to Congressional requests.

Please describe what steps were taken upon the departure of Ms. Wodder to ensure that her records, emails, and computer hard-drives were properly preserved and whether any of Ms. Wodder's documents that are responsive to the Committee's June 28 document request have been destroyed or lost. Please confirm that all of Ms. Wodder's records responsive to the June 28, 2013 letter have been collected and please describe Ms. Wodder's role in collecting and reviewing those records.

A letter from the Department's Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs, received on September 6, 2013 and purporting to be in response to the June 28 and July 29 requests, failed to answer any of the 12 questions in the June 28 letter or any of the 3 follow up questions in the July 29 letter, and did not provide any of the requested documents.

It is expected that the Department will comply with the document requests, and that all of the relevant documents responsive to these requests will be provided, without further delay.

Sincerely,



Doc Hastings
Chairman