



**OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

AUG 03 2017

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bernard Sanders
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mazie Hirono
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Al Franken
Committee on Energy & Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators,

This is in response to your letter of July 24, 2017, in which you express concerns about the reassignment of Senior Executive Service employees of the Department of the Interior.

Your letter asked that the Office of Inspector General (OIG) look into this matter and report the results of our investigation to the Secretary, the appropriate committees of Congress, and to you.

The OIG is conducting an initial review of the methodology and criteria used to reassign executives. We will advise you about what further action the results of this review lead the OIG to take.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 208-5745, or your staff may contact Nancy DiPaolo, Director, External Affairs at (202) 208-4357.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary L. Kendall", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Mary L. Kendall
Deputy Inspector General