

Alert | Environmental



May 2025

Interior Department Seeks Public Input on Repealing Public Lands and Natural Resources Rules

On May 16, 2025, the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) announced its intent to solicit public input on federal regulations that may be subject to repeal or revision as part of the Trump administration’s deregulatory agenda. According to a [notice](#) published in the *Federal Register* on May 20, DOI is formally requesting feedback on “deconstructing the regulatory burden that has been self-imposed on our Nation’s interests.”

The DOI notice follows Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum’s department-wide deregulatory order in February ([Secretary’s Order No. 3418](#)). In that document, Burgum signaled an intent to prioritize revisions to regulations adopted during the Biden administration.

The new DOI notice recites recent White House directives and focuses on [Executive Order 14192](#), which directs agencies – beginning for Fiscal Year 2026 – to identify “on an aggregated basis” new regulations that increase costs, and offsetting existing regulations that can be repealed, along with the costs and savings of each. DOI encourages the public to identify environmental and energy-related regulations that are “outdated,” “overly complex,” “burdensome,” or not consistent “with law or Administration policy.” The term “regulation” includes guidance, policies, procedures, and other administrative actions. Comments are due by June 18, and can be submitted at www.regulations.gov, by U.S. mail, or to a [newly established email account](#) that will remain active after the comment period closes.

The DOI notice directs commenters to address a series of questions about existing rules, including:

- Are there regulations that don't make sense or have become unnecessary?
- Are there outdated rules that could be updated?
- Are there necessary regulations that don't work well but could be improved, and/or implemented at lower cost?
- Are there complex regulations that could be simplified?
- Are there obstructive regulations that unnecessarily burden energy projects?
- Is DOI currently collecting information from the public that it does not need?

This initiative follows multiple recent executive orders and directives from the White House declaring a “**national energy emergency**” and directing the agencies of the federal government to expedite domestic energy and mineral development, repeal or revise potentially unnecessary and burdensome regulations and guidance, and eliminate regulatory barriers. The Office of Management and Budget published its own **notice** in April seeking suggestions for government-wide regulatory reform. Efforts of this kind may be expected across the federal government or have already begun.

Stakeholders across the energy, infrastructure, and environmental sectors should carefully evaluate the potential impact of this deregulatory effort on existing and planned projects. Companies with an interest in public lands, offshore leasing, or environmental permitting should consider submitting comments and monitoring forthcoming agency rulemakings.

Authors

This GT Alert was prepared by:

- **Steven G. Barringer** | +1 202.331.3108 | barringers@gtlaw.com
- **Jenna Rackerby** | +1 212.801.6426 | Jenna.Rackerby@gtlaw.com

Albany. Amsterdam. Atlanta. Austin. Berlin[~]. Boston. Charlotte. Chicago. Dallas. Delaware. Denver. Fort Lauderdale. Houston. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia^{*}. Las Vegas. London^{*}. Long Island. Los Angeles. Mexico City⁺. Miami. Milan^{*}. Minneapolis. Munich[~]. New Jersey. New York. Northern Virginia. Orange County. Orlando. Philadelphia. Phoenix. Portland. Sacramento. Salt Lake City. San Diego. San Francisco. São Paulo[»]. Seoul[∞]. Shanghai. Silicon Valley. Singapore[™]. Tallahassee. Tampa. Tel Aviv[^]. Tokyo^{*}. United Arab Emirates[<]. Warsaw[~]. Washington, D.C. West Palm Beach. Westchester County.

*This Greenberg Traurig Alert is issued for informational purposes only and is not intended to be construed or used as general legal advice nor as a solicitation of any type. Please contact the author(s) or your Greenberg Traurig contact if you have questions regarding the currency of this information. The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision. Before you decide, ask for written information about the lawyer's legal qualifications and experience. Greenberg Traurig is a service mark and trade name of Greenberg Traurig, LLP and Greenberg Traurig, P.A. ~Greenberg Traurig's Berlin and Munich offices are operated by Greenberg Traurig Germany, LLP, an affiliate of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. *Operates as a separate UK registered legal entity. «Greenberg Traurig operates in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through Greenberg Traurig Khalid Al-Thebity Law Firm, a professional limited liability company, licensed to practice law by the Ministry of Justice. +Greenberg Traurig's Mexico City office is operated by Greenberg Traurig, S.C., an affiliate of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. »Greenberg Traurig's Milan office is operated by Greenberg Traurig Studio Legal Associato, an affiliate of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. »Greenberg Traurig's São Paulo office is operated by Greenberg Traurig Brazil Consultores em Direito Estrangeiro – Direito Estadunidense, incorporated in Brazil as a foreign legal consulting firm. Attorneys in the São Paulo office do not practice Brazilian law. ∞Operates as Greenberg Traurig LLP Foreign Legal Consultant Office. ™Greenberg Traurig's Singapore office is operated by Greenberg Traurig Singapore LLP which is licensed as a foreign law practice in Singapore. ^Greenberg Traurig's Tel Aviv office is a branch of Greenberg Traurig, P.A., Florida,*

USA. ¶Greenberg Traurig's Tokyo Office is operated by GT Tokyo Horitsu Jimusho and Greenberg Traurig Gaikokuhojimbengoshi Jimusho, affiliates of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. ‹Greenberg Traurig's United Arab Emirates office is operated by Greenberg Traurig Limited. ~Greenberg Traurig's Warsaw office is operated by GREENBERG TRAUIG Nowakowska-Zimoch Wysokiński sp.k., an affiliate of Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP. Certain partners in GREENBERG TRAUIG Nowakowska-Zimoch Wysokiński sp.k. are also shareholders in Greenberg Traurig, P.A. Images in this advertisement do not depict Greenberg Traurig attorneys, clients, staff or facilities. No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey. ©2025 Greenberg Traurig, LLP. All rights reserved.