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

November 4, 2013

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PENNY DODGE DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

Robert G. Dreher Acting Assistant Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice Environment and Natural Resources Division P.O. Box 7415 Ben Franklin Station Washington, DC 20044

Dear Acting Assistant Attorney General Dreher:

On May 16, 2013, the Committee on Natural Resources ("Committee") sent a letter to the Department of Justice ("DOJ") requesting information about the enforcement of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act ("MBTA") and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act ("BGEPA"). To date, DOJ has failed to provide any formal response and none of the requested information.

The original letter sought two categories of information and documents: (1) any referrals or declinations of prosecution by DOJ between January 1, 2009 to the present date under the MBTA or BGEPA concerning bird fatalities associated with wind and conventional energy companies; and (2) any policies, guidance, memoranda, legal analysis, emails or other documents concerning prosecutorial discretion to not enforce the MBTA or BGEPA concerning bird fatalities associated with wind and conventional energy companies. The May 30, 2013 deadline for response passed five months ago. Despite repeated requests for updates, Committee staff have not been told when a response will be sent and whether it will be complete.

Given the ongoing questions about the enforcement of the MBTA and the BGEPA, it is requested that a meeting with Jean E. Williams, the Deputy Assistant Attorney General who oversees the Environmental Crimes Section, also be scheduled with Committee majority oversight staff the week of November 11, 2013.

DOJ's lack of a timely response is unacceptable and frustrates Congress's ability to conduct oversight of this important matter. It is expected that DOJ will promptly and voluntarily comply in full with the original May 16, 2013 request and agree to schedule this meeting without any further delay.

Sincerely, R Doc Hastings

Chairman