By April 2009, solar and wind companies had proposed 28 projects to be included in the Mojave Trails National Monument, including sites on former Catellus lands intended for permanent conservation. I visited some of those sites at the time, including one particularly beautiful area known as the Broadwell Valley, where thousands of acres of pristine lands were proposed for development. Seeing it first hand, I quickly came to the conclusion that those lands were simply not the right place for renewable energy development.

Since then, 26 of the 28 applications have been withdrawn. Let me explain why this happened. First, the Energy and Interior Departments developed new solar energy zones. These zones allow projects to be developed on lands least likely to harm plant and wildlife species, and allow projects to be completed faster and with fewer conflicts. This is a smart compromise. Second, California has worked closely with Federal agencies to develop the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan. This blueprint will help identify pristine lands that warrant protection and direct energy projects elsewhere. This is a fair balancing of priorities, and I think it provides a clear path forward.

The bill I am introducing also takes additional action to help promote responsible renewable energy development through state land exchanges. There are currently about 370,000 acres of isolated parcels of state lands spread across the California desert. These state-owned lands are largely unusable, due to their location inside Federal national parks, wilderness, monuments, and conservation areas. The bill addresses this problem by requiring the Department of the Interior to develop and implement a plan with the state to exchange these state lands for other BLM or General Services Administration owned property in the next ten years. By swapping state land that is often surrounded by wilderness and national parks for other federal land, these exchanges will provide California with sites for renewable energy production, recreation or other uses.

I strongly urge my colleagues in both the House and the Senate to take a hard look at this legislation. We have made great strides in the past twenty years to strike the right balance between desert conservation, recreational uses, and the development of our natural resources. I believe this legislation continues in that fine tradition. Built on a foundation of consensus and compromise, this legislation fulfills our promise to the next generation that they will have the same opportunities to indulge in the best the California desert has to offer.

I am hopeful this Congress will take this legislation up and move it forward. It's the right thing to do.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3307. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3308. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3309. Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3310. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3311. Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3307. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title III, add the following:

SEC. 31____. NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION, TREATMENT, MANAGEMENT, AND USE, FORT KNOX, KENTUCKY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 449 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end of the following:

"§ 4781. Natural gas production, treatment, management, and use, Fort Knox, Kentucky

''(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of the Army (referred to in this section as the 'Secretary') may provide, by contract or otherwise, for the production, treatment, management, and use of natural gas located under Fort Knox, Kentucky, without regard to section 3 of the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 352).

''(b) LIMITATION ON USES.—Any natural gas produced pursuant to subsection (a)—

''(1) may only be used to support activities and operations at Fort Knox; and

''(2) may not be sold for use elsewhere.

''(c) OWNERSHIP OF FACILITIES.—The Secretary may take ownership of any gas production and treatment equipment and facilities and associated infrastructure from a contractor in accordance with the terms of a contract or other agreement entered into pursuant to subsection (a).

''(d) NO APPLICATION ELSEWHERE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The authority provided by this section applies only with respect to Fort Knox, Kentucky.

''(2) EFFECT OF SECTION.—Nothing in this section authorizes the production, treatment, management, or use of natural gas resources underlying any Department of Defense installation other than Fort Knox.

''(e) APPLICABILITY.—The authority of the Secretary under this section is effective beginning on August 2, 2007.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections of chapter 449 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''4781. Natural gas production, treatment, management, and use, Fort Knox, Kentucky.''.

SA 3308. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title III, add the following:

SEC. 31____. DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE NATURAL GAS PIPELINE.

(a) PERMIT.—Section 3(b)(1) of the Denali National Park Improvement Act (Public Law 113–33; 127 Stat. 516) is amended by striking ''within, along, or near the approximately 7-mile segment of the George Parks Highway that runs through the Park''.

(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—Section 3(c)(1) of the Denali National Park Improvement Act (Public Law 113–33; 127 Stat. 516) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''and'' after the semicolon;

(2) by striking subparagraph (B); and

(3) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(c) APPLICABLE LAW.—Section 3 of the Denali National Park Improvement Act (Public Law 113–33; 127 Stat. 515) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) APPLICABLE LAW.—A high pressure gas transmission pipeline (including appurtenances) in a nonwilderness area within the boundary of the Park, shall not be subject to title XI of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3161 et seq.).''.

SA 3309. Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title IV, add the following:

SEC. 44____. NATIONAL PARK CENTENNIAL.

(a) NATIONAL PARK CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1049 of title 54, United States Code (as amended by section 5001(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 104909. National Park Centennial Challenge Fund

''(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to establish a fund in the Treasury—

''(1) to finance signature projects and programs to enhance the National Park System as the centennial of the National Park System approaches in 2016; and

''(2) to prepare the System for another century of conservation, preservation, and enjoyment.

''(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) CHALLENGE FUND.—The term 'Challenge Fund' means the National Park Centennial Challenge Fund established by subsection (c)(1).

''(2) QUALIFIED DONATION.—The term 'qualified donation' means a cash donation or the pledge of a cash donation guaranteed by an irrevocable letter of credit to the Service

that the Secretary certifies is to be used for a signature project or program.

''(3) SIGNATURE PROJECT OR PROGRAM.—The term 'signature project or program' means any project or program identified by the Secretary as a project or program that would further the purposes of the System or any System unit.

''(c) NATIONAL PARK CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE FUND.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a fund, to be known as the 'National Park Centennial Challenge Fund'.

''(2) DEPOSITS.—The Challenge Fund shall consist of—

''(A) qualified donations that are transferred from the Service donation account, in accordance with subsection (e)(1); and

''(B) such amounts as are appropriated from the general fund of the Treasury, in accordance with subsection (e)(2).

''(3) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts in the Challenge Fund shall—

''(A) be available to the Secretary for signature projects and programs under this title, without further appropriation; and

''(B) remain available until expended.

''(d) SIGNATURE PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS.—

''(1) DEVELOPMENT OF LIST.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall develop a list of signature projects and programs eligible for funding from the Challenge Fund.

''(2) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives the list developed under paragraph (1).

''(3) UPDATES.—Subject to the notice requirements under paragraph (2), the Secretary may add any signature project or program to the list developed under paragraph (1).

''(e) DONATIONS AND MATCHING FEDERAL FUNDS.—

''(1) QUALIFIED DONATIONS.—The Secretary may transfer any qualified donations to the Challenge Fund.

''(2) MATCHING AMOUNT.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Challenge Fund for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2020 an amount equal to the amount of qualified donations received for the fiscal year.

''(3) SOLICITATION.—Nothing in this section expands any authority of the Secretary, the Service, or any employee of the Service to receive or solicit donations.

''(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall provide with the submission of the budget of the President to Congress for each fiscal year a report on the status and funding of the signature projects and programs.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections affected for title 54, United States Code (as amended by section 5001(b)), is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 104908 the following:

''§104909. National Park Centennial Challenge Fund.''.

(b) SECOND CENTURY ENDOWMENT FOR THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 1011 of title 54, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 101121. Second Century Endowment for the National Park System

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Park Foundation shall establish an endowment, to be known as the 'Second Century Endowment for the National Park System' (referred to in this section as the 'Endowment').

''(b) CAMPAIGN.—To further the mission of the Service, the National Park Foundation may undertake a campaign to fund the Endowment through gifts, devises, or bequests, in accordance with section 101113.

''(c) USE OF PROCEEDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—On request of the Secretary, the National Park Foundation shall expend proceeds from the Endowment in accordance with projects and programs in furtherance of the mission of the Service, as identified by the Secretary.

''(2) MANAGEMENT.—The National Park Foundation shall manage the Endowment in a manner that ensures that annual expenditures as a percentage of the principal are consistent with Internal Revenue Service guidelines for endowments maintained for charitable purposes.

''(d) INVESTMENTS.—The National Park Foundation shall—

''(1) maintain the Endowment in an interest-bearing account; and

''(2) invest Endowment proceeds with the purpose of supporting and enriching the System in perpetuity.

''(e) REPORT.—Each year, the National Park Foundation shall make publicly available information on the amounts deposited into, and expended from, the Endowment.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections affected for title 54, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 101120 the following:

''§101121. Second Century Endowment for the National Park System.''.

(c) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1049 of title 54, United States Code (as amended by subsection (a)(1)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 104910. Intellectual property

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) SERVICE EMBLEM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'Service emblem' means any word, phrase, insignia, logo, logotype, trademark, service mark, symbol, design, graphic, image, color, badge, uniform, or any combination of emblems used to identify the Service or a component of the System.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'Service emblem' includes—

''(i) the Service name;

''(ii) an official System unit name;

''(iii) any other name used to identify a Service component or program; and

''(iv) the Arrowhead symbol.

''(2) SERVICE UNIFORM.—The term 'Service uniform' means any combination of apparel, accessories, or emblems, any distinctive clothing or other items of dress, or a representation of dress—

''(A) that is worn during the performance of official duties; and

''(B) that identifies the wearer as a Service employee.

''(b) PROHIBITED ACTS.—No person shall, without the written permission of the Secretary—

''(1) use any Service emblem or uniform, or any word, term, name, symbol or device or any combination of emblems to suggest any colorable likeness of the Service emblem or Service uniform in connection with goods or services in commerce if the use is likely to cause confusion, or to deceive the public into believing that the emblem or uniform is from or connected with the Service;

''(2) use any Service emblem or Service uniform or any word, term, name, symbol, device, or any combination of emblems or uniforms to suggest any likeness of the Service emblem or Service uniform in connection with goods or services in commerce in a manner reasonably calculated to convey the impression to the public that the goods or services are approved, endorsed, or authorized by the Service;

''(3) use in commerce any word, term, name, symbol, device or any combination of words, terms, names, symbols, or devices to suggest any likeness of the Service emblem or Service uniform in a manner that is reasonably calculated to convey the impression that the wearer of the item of apparel is acting pursuant to the legal authority of the Service; or

''(4) knowingly make any false statement for the purpose of obtaining permission to use any Service emblem or Service uniform.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections affected for title 54, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 104908 (as added by subsection (a)(2)) the following:

''§104910. Intellectual property.''.

(d) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Division A of subtitle I of title 54, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 1007 the following:

''CHAPTER 1008—EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

''CHAPTER 1008—EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

''Sec.
''100801. Purposes.
''100802. Definitions.
''100803. Interpretation and education authority.
''100804. Interpretation and education evaluation and quality improvement.
''100805. Improved utilization of partners and volunteers in interpretation and education.

''§ 100801. Purposes

''The purposes of this chapter are—

''(1) to more effectively achieve the mission of the Service by providing clear authority and direction for interpretation and education programs that are carried out by the Service under separate authorities;

''(2) to ensure that the public encounters a variety of interpretive and educational opportunities and services during visits to System units;

''(3) to recognize that the Service provides lifelong learning opportunities and contributes to interdisciplinary learning in traditional and nontraditional educational settings;

''(4) to provide opportunities for all people to find relevance in the System; and

''(5) to strengthen public understanding of the natural and cultural heritage and the United States.

''§ 100802. Definitions

''In this chapter:

''(1) EDUCATION.—The term 'education' means enhancing public awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the resources of the System through learner-centered, place-based materials, programs, and activities that achieve specific learning objectives as identified in a curriculum.

''(2) INTERPRETATION.—The term 'interpretation' means—

''(A) providing opportunities for people to form intellectual and emotional connections to gain awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the resources of the System; and

''(B) the professional career field of Service employees, volunteers, and partners who interpret the resources of the System.

''(3) RELATED AREA.—The term 'related area' means—

''(A) a component of the National Trails System;

''(B) a National Heritage Area; and

''(C) an affiliated area administered in connection with the System.

''§ 100803. Interpretation and education authority

''The Secretary shall ensure that management of System units and related areas is enhanced by the availability and utilization of a broad program of the highest quality interpretation and education.

''§ 100804. Interpretation and education evaluation and quality improvement

''The Secretary may undertake a program of regular evaluation of interpretation and education programs to ensure that the programs—

''(1) adjust to the ways in which people learn and engage with the natural world and shared heritage as embodied in the System;

''(2) reflect different cultural backgrounds, ages, education, gender, abilities, ethnicity, and needs;

''(3) demonstrate innovative approaches to management and appropriately incorporate emerging learning and communications technology; and

''(4) reflect current scientific and academic research, content, methods, and audience analysis.

''§ 100805. Improved utilization of partners and volunteers in interpretation and education

''The Secretary may—

''(1) coordinate with System unit partners and volunteers in the delivery of quality programs and services to supplement the programs and services provided by the Service as part of a Long-Range Interpretive Plan for a System unit;

''(2) support interpretive partners by providing opportunities to participate in interpretive training; and

''(3) collaborate with other Federal and non-Federal public or private agencies, organizations, or institutions for the purposes of developing, promoting, and making available educational opportunities related to resources of the System and programs.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for division A of subtitle I of title 54, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 1007 the following:

''1008. Education and Interpretation 100801''.

(e) PUBLIC LAND CORPS AMENDMENTS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—Section 203(10)(A) of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1722(10)(A)) is amended by striking ''25'' and inserting ''30''.

(2) PARTICIPANTS.—Section 204(b) of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1723(b)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''25'' and inserting ''30''.

(3) HIRING.—Section 207(c)(2) of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C., 1726(c)(2)) is amended by striking ''120 days'' and inserting ''2 years''.

(f) VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS PROGRAM.—Section 102301(d) of title 54, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''is'' and inserting ''are''; and

(2) by striking ''not more than $3,500,000'' and inserting ''such sums as are necessary''.

(g) NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION.—

(1) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—Subchapter II of chapter 1011 of title 54, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in section 101112—

(i) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) MEMBERSHIP.—The National Park Foundation shall consist of a Board having as members at least 6 private citizens of the United States appointed by the Secretary, with the Secretary and the Director serving as ex officio members of the Board.''; and

(ii) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) CHAIRMAN.—

''(1) SELECTION.—The Board shall select a Chairman of the Board from among the members of the Board.

''(2) TERM.—The Chairman of the Board shall serve for a 2-year term.''; and

(iii) in section 101113(a)—

(I) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(II) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) COORDINATION WITH SERVICE.—Activities of the National Park Foundation under paragraph (1) shall be undertaken after consultation with the Secretary to ensure the activities are consistent with the programs and policies of the Service.''.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 1011 of title 54, United States Code (as amended by subsection (b)(1)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 101122. Authorization of appropriations

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subchapter $25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2026.

''(b) USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—Amounts made available under subsection (a) shall be provided to the National Park Foundation for use for matching, on a 1-to-1 basis, contributions (including money, services, or property) made to the National Park Foundation.

''(c) PROHIBITION OF USE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—No Federal funds made available under subsection (a) shall be used by the National Park Foundation for administrative expenses of the National Park Foundation, including for salaries, travel and transportation expenses, and other overhead expenses.''.

(B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections affected for title 54, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 101121 (as amended by subsection (b)(2)) the following:

''§101122. Authorization of appropriations.''.

SA 3310. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title IV, add the following:

SEC. 44____. CONVEYANCE OF FEDERAL LAND WITHIN THE SWAN LAKE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT BOUNDARY.

Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, after consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall—

(1) survey the exterior boundaries of the tract of Federal land within the project boundary of the Swan Lake Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2911) as generally depicted and labeled ''Lost Creek'' on the map entitled ''Swan Lake Project Boundary—Lot 2'' and dated February 1, 2016; and

(2) issue a patent to the State of Alaska for the tract described in paragraph (1) in accordance with—

(A) the survey authorized under paragraph (1);

(B) section 6(a) of the Act of July 7, 1958 (commonly known as the ''Alaska Statehood Act'') (48 U.S.C. note prec. 21; Public Law 85–508); and

(C) section 24 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 818).

SA 3311. Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2953 proposed by Ms. MURKOWSKI to the bill S. 2012, to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title II, add the following:

SEC. 23____. REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.

Section 1222 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16421) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Before carrying out a Project under subsection (a) or (b), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that—

''(1) describes the impact that the proposed Project would have on electricity rates;

''(2) demonstrates that the proposed Project meets the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) and paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b); and

''(3) includes a list of utilities that have entered into contracts for the purchase of power from the proposed Project.

''(i) DECISION.—The Secretary may not issue a decision on whether to carry out a Project under subsection (a) or (b) before the date that is 90 days after the date of submission of a report required under subsection (h).''.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator JAMES LANKFORD, intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of John B. King, to be Secretary of Education; dated February 23, 2016.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 23, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 23, 2016, at 9:45 a.m., in room SR–253 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a Subcommittee hearing entitled ''Passenger Rail: Opportunities and Challenges for the National Network.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 23, 2016, at 2:30 p.m., in room SR–253 of the Russell Senate Office