



Executive Department
State of Idaho

State Capitol
Boise

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF IDAHO
BOISE**

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 2024-09

**CONTINUING THE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES
WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

WHEREAS, energy production, generation, transmission, and conservation are vital to Idaho; and

WHEREAS, mineral acquisition, production, and exploration are key contributors to Idaho's economy;
and

WHEREAS, stable, reliable, and cost-competitive long-term energy supplies are critical to the wellbeing and future of Idaho; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of state government to coordinate energy and mineral planning and policy development for Idaho.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Brad Little, Governor of the State of Idaho, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this state do hereby order:

- 1. The continuation of the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources within the Executive Office of the Governor; and*
- 2. The term "energy" as used in this Executive Order shall include, but is not limited to, electricity, oil, natural gas, bioenergy, nuclear energy, renewable energy, hydrogen, and transportation fuels.*
- 3. The term "mineral" as used in this Executive Order shall include, but is not limited to, naturally occurring, inorganic, metallic, non-metal, or solid energy substances that are leasable, salable or locatable.*
- 4. The Governor shall appoint an administrator ("Administrator") to lead the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources ("Office"). The Administrator shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and shall be subject to confirmation by the Idaho Senate. The Administrator shall be the official in Idaho designated to oversee energy and mineral coordination, planning, and policy, and, as funding allows, to fulfill the duties provided in this Executive Order.*
- 5. Employees of the Office shall be non-classified for the purpose of Chapter 53, Title 67 of the Idaho Code.*
- 6. The duties, powers, and authorities of the Office of Energy and Mineral Resources shall include:*
 - a. Serve as Idaho's clearinghouse and first point of contact for energy and mineral information, including addressing policy inquires and providing information regarding issues;*
 - b. Coordinate the state's energy and mineral planning efforts;*
 - c. Advise the Governor, the Legislature, and other public officials on the state's energy requirements, supply, transmission, management, conservation, and efficiency efforts, permitting processes, and policy development;*
 - d. Coordinate with federal agencies, state agencies, local governments, and stakeholders on issues concerning the state's energy requirements, supply, transmission, management, conservation, and efficiency efforts, permitting processes, and policy development;*
 - e. Advise the Governor, the Legislature, and other public officials on mineral exploration, production, planning, permitting processes, and policy development;*
 - f. Coordinate with federal agencies, state agencies, local governments, and stakeholders on issues concerning mineral exploration, production, planning, permitting processes, and policy development in the state;*

- g. *Serve as a cooperating agency for energy and mineral projects subject to the National Environmental Policy Act, in the discretion of the Administrator;*
 - h. *Lead coordination of state comments on documents and processes involving energy and mineral projects and regulation, including Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensing of hydropower projects;*
 - i. *Coordinate, support, and oversee the Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance;*
 - j. *Staffs and supports the Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission, which enhances the long-term viability and mission of INL and other nuclear industries.*
 - k. *Assist state agencies, local governments, and stakeholders to secure funding where available for energy and mineral projects and opportunities;*
 - l. *Apply for, accept, and administer energy loan programs, grants, and other forms of financial assistance for eligible projects;*
 - m. *Enter into other agreements or contracts necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this Executive Order, including, without limitation voluntary agreements with public and private parties to fund or reimburse staff and consultant costs to support Idaho executive branch agencies in the discharge of their respective duties, as provided by statute and administrative rule, on energy- or mineral-related licensing or permitting matters, provided that moneys received through these agreements shall be expended pursuant to appropriation; and*
 - n. *Perform other duties as may be directed by the Governor.*
7. *The Office may accept private contributions, state or federal funds, funds from other public agencies, or funds from any other sources. Funding shall be accounted for and expended solely for the purposes provided in the Executive Order and as provided by law.*
8. *All orders, regulations, contracts, and licenses that are in effect at the time this Executive Order is signed shall continue in effect according to their terms until modified or terminated.*
9. *The duties, responsibilities, and authority of this Executive Order shall not alter any existing authorities of state agencies established by state law. Nothing in this Executive Order shall be construed to provide or imply any regulatory authority by the Office over activities that are subject to the jurisdiction of another state agency, including the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, the Idaho Division of Building Safety, the Idaho Department of Lands, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, the Idaho Department of Water Resources, and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.*



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 17th day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four.

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

PHIL MCGRANE
SECRETARY OF STATE