



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

The Honorable Raul M. Grijalva
Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
US House of Representatives

JUL 18 2018

The Honorable A. Donald McEachin
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Investigations
US House of Representatives

The Honorable Jared Huffman
Vice-Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
US House of Representatives

Dear Ranking Members Grijalva and McEachin and Vice-Ranking Member Huffman:

This is an interim response to your letter of June 21, 2018, in which you request an investigation into Secretary Ryan Zinke's reported ongoing involvement in and use of taxpayer resources to advance land developments in Whitefish, Montana. You expressed special concern about the reported funding by a top executive at Halliburton and assuring decisions that affect the nation's welfare are not compromised by individual self-enrichment.

My office opened an investigation into this matter on July 16th. We will consider your concerns during the course of the investigation. Upon its completion, Nancy DiPaolo, Director of External Affairs will contact your staff for a briefing and update.

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

Sincerely,

Mary L. Kendall
Deputy Inspector General