

TYLER PATRICK GRAY  
SECRETARY

DUSTIN H. DAVIDSON  
DEPUTY SECRETARY



MARK NORMAND, JR.  
UNDERSECRETARY

MANNY ACOSTA  
OIL SPILL COORDINATOR

KEITH O. LOVELL  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
COASTAL MANAGEMENT

AMANDA MCCLINTON  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
ENERGY

ANDREW B. YOUNG  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
MINERAL RESOURCES

STEVEN M. GIAMBRONE  
INTERIM DIRECTOR  
CONSERVATION

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Fellow Cabinet Members

**FROM:** Tyler Patrick Gray, Secretary

**DATE:** April 4, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Department of Energy and Natural Resources Re-Organization

---

Today marks an important milestone as we transition to the newly structured Department of Conservation and Energy (DCE). This initiative aligns our operations, personnel structures, and strategic goals with the latest energy and conservation demands while ensuring transparency, accountability, and productive engagement with key stakeholders. The objective is to strengthen checks and balances, refine the roles of appointed officials, and institute a cohesive mechanism for interagency collaboration through the newly formed Natural Resources Commission (NRC).

The reorganization clarifies the roles of our appointed officials and streamlines departmental authority under a unified leadership structure. The Secretary retains direct oversight, setting strategic goals and handling urgent issues. The Deputy Secretary supervises cross-agency coordination through the NRC, reducing the need for duplicative boards or task forces. The Undersecretary expands beyond fiscal tasks to include investigative and audit responsibilities, ensuring thorough internal review. Formerly designated as Commissioners or Assistant Secretaries, Executive Directors now manage specific program offices—such as Permitting & Compliance or Enforcement—under the Secretary's overarching guidance.

The NRC builds upon Louisiana's historical legacy of resource governance, dating back to the 1908 commission that led to the Department of Conservation's establishment in 1912. Taking inspiration from the federal Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), the NRC functions as a high-level body to review policy proposals, address emerging challenges, and maintain public trust. Seven executive seats—representing statewide energy, environmental, and economic interests—convene quarterly, ensuring coordinated direction without forming multiple ad hoc committees. By harmonizing diverse programs, requiring transparent reporting, and facilitating large-scale projects like expedited permitting (reducing wait times for critical energy and environmental reviews), the NRC reinforces robust oversight and fosters collaborative solutions across agencies.

Notably, our leadership engages actively with a variety of state agencies and commissions to ensure cohesive governance. Collaboration with the Mineral Board, for instance, enhances the state's oversight of severance taxes and royalties. We also coordinate with economic development partners to drive cross-cutting energy and business initiatives, leveraging departmental expertise. Over time, we have forged longstanding partnerships with offices managing groundwater, flood protection,

wildlife resources, and environmental quality—underscoring our shared heritage. Hopefully, this formal collaboration will include working more closely with the Louisiana Public Service Commission to support responsible resource stewardship and long-term economic progress.

Our guiding principles for the reorganization are captured in these three pillars.

- **Transparency:** Ensuring open governance, strong budget oversight, and clear communication to build trust among stakeholders.
- **Balance:** Integrating conservation and energy management to promote environmental stewardship alongside economic development, creating a stable and attractive climate for investment.
- **Solutions:** Streamlining permitting processes and modernizing data management systems to reduce bureaucracy and deliver practical, measurable results for industries and communities.

We move forward with great confidence that these reforms position our department to serve the people of Louisiana more effectively. By uniting key leadership roles, solidifying checks and balances, and introducing a single, high-level commission to guide critical decisions, we continue our commitment to prudent stewardship of our state's indispensable energy and natural resources.

Thank you for your unwavering support. I look forward to continued collaboration with all Cabinet Members as we fulfill our collective responsibility to advance Louisiana's prosperity and protect its invaluable natural assets.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Gray', with a stylized, flowing script.

Tyler Gray, Secretary  
Louisiana Department of  
Energy and Natural Resources