

THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF IDAHO
BOISE**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2025-01

GONE WITH THE LAVA RIDGE WIND PROJECT ACT

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State of Idaho to lead on reliable, affordable, sustainable, and innovative energy strategies that responsibly enhance Idahoans' quality of life and the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, this responsibility requires public lands to be managed with a long-term view for multiple and mixed uses, conservation of valued natural, historical and cultural resources, and support from the local communities; and

WHEREAS, the unprecedented proposed Lava Ridge Wind Project (project) would install up to 241 wind turbines, each reaching heights of up to 660 feet, spanning over 100,000 acres in Jerome, Lincoln, and Minidoka counties in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, this project has faced overwhelming opposition from Idaho residents and elected officials over its permanent impact on multiple use, cultural and historical sites, including the Minidoka National Historic Site, wildlife, and local economies; and

WHEREAS, significant concerns related to the proposed project have not been addressed, specifically related to the February 6, 2023, letter addressed to then Idaho State BLM Director Karen Kelleher and signed by Governor Little, Lt. Governor Scott Bedke, U.S. Senator Mike Crapo, U.S. Senator Jim Risch, and Congressman Mike Simpson; and

WHEREAS, the fiscal year 2024 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill contained language that was signed into law which directed federal agencies to work with local stakeholders to address concerns about the project, and to date that consultation has not been adequately completed; and

WHEREAS, despite significant negative impacts, statewide opposition, and specific federal legislation and law, the Biden Administration blindly pushed its unsound energy agenda by exploiting Idaho resources for California's benefit; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2025, President Donald J. Trump signed an executive order temporarily halting the Lava Ridge Wind Project and mandating a review of the Record of Decision and comprehensive analysis by the Secretary of the Interior to assess various interests implicated by the project and the environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, Idaho has demanded such a comprehensive analysis for years and stands ready to advance the President's order; and

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 as follows:

- 1. State Agency Cooperation: All state agencies are directed to fully cooperate with the review process initiated by President Trump's executive order, providing necessary data and support to ensure a thorough assessment of the Lava Ridge Wind Project's impacts.*
- 2. Public Engagement: In collaboration with local governments, Idaho state agencies shall participate in public forums to gather input from Idaho residents, ensuring that their concerns and perspectives are adequately represented in the review process.*

This order is effective immediately.



PHIL MCGRANE
SECRETARY OF STATE

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 22nd day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-five.

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR