

# Regulatory Alert

## Regulatory Insights



February 2025

### First 100 Days: Upcoming Regulatory Signals for Energy

#### *KPMG Insights*

- **Quick Actions/Long Tail:** With rapid “Day One” Energy actions, a recognition of the processes and dependencies that will be impacted by new policy directives.
- **Regulatory Withdrawals:** A likelihood for a flurry of regulatory withdrawals, particularly related to climate and GHG, with growing global divergence.
- **Regulatory Shifts:** A shift in regulatory approach to permitting processes, federal and state collaboration and public/private partnerships to help drive both energy and AI dominance, acknowledging the inter-relationship of these two sectors.

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The initial flurry of ‘Day One’ Executive Orders (EOs) focused quickly on the Energy sector – from the declaration of a national emergency to the opening of the energy supply to exiting from the Paris Agreement. Issuances from the incoming agency leadership look to execute their agency objectives and regulatory focus in line with these EOIs. Preliminary signals include:

1. Agency Objectives, including Energy “Dominance”, AI Leadership, Regulatory Withdrawal, and Global Pullback
2. Regulatory Focus, including Federal Collaboration, State Collaboration, Resiliency, and Consumer Costs

## 1. Agency Objectives

Across the various Energy agencies, leadership is setting parameters for regulatory activity going forward, including initial support for:

Signals	Description/Examples	Source
<b>Energy "Dominance"</b>	Implementation of the Executive Order declaring a "national energy emergency" with actions related to both energy supply and infrastructure, across all energy types and focusing on national "energy independence"	<a href="#">White House</a> <a href="#">DOI release</a> <a href="#">EPA release</a> <a href="#">DOE release</a>
	Emphasis on enhancing energy transportation infrastructure, especially pipelines	<a href="#">White House</a> <a href="#">DOI release</a>
	Plans to expedite permits and approvals for energy projects, using emergency authorities to bypass regulations	<a href="#">White House</a> <a href="#">here</a> , <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a> <a href="#">DOI release</a>
	Focus on developing domestic/Alaskan energy resources, reversing previous restrictions, prioritizing Alaska LNG	<a href="#">White House</a>
	Rollback of climate-related regulations, aiming to encourage fossil fuel development and reduce energy costs	<a href="#">White House</a> <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a> <a href="#">DOI release</a>
<b>AI Leadership</b>	<p>Implementation of Executive Order on "Advancing United States Leadership in Artificial Intelligence Infrastructure" (still in force from the previous administration), which allows for expansion of data centers and related facilities and supports the Administration's goal of global AI leadership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Emphasis on domestic leadership in energy for AI data centers</li> <li>— Build AI infrastructure to protect national security and economic competitiveness</li> <li>— Priority on domestic sources for energy for AI data centers, matching new generation resources</li> <li>— Government-private sector cooperation to build and secure AI infrastructure</li> <li>— Modernize energy infrastructure and reduce regulations for permits, with emphasis on lowering costs</li> </ul>	<a href="#">EO 14141</a> <a href="#">here</a> <a href="#">White House</a> <a href="#">EPA release</a>
<b>Regulatory Withdrawal/ Pullback</b>	Rescission of select previous Administration Executive Orders on energy and climate-related development and regulation (e.g. EO 14082, "Implementation of the Energy and Infrastructure Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022", and EO 14008, "Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad")	<a href="#">White House</a>
	Implementation of Executive Orders on "Regulatory Freeze Pending Review" and "Unleashing American Energy" that direct review of rules, orders, guidance, policies, and other actions that may be inconsistent with the Administration's policies	<a href="#">White House</a> <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a>

<b>Global Pullback</b>	Withdrawal and/or reconsideration given to standing regulations (and regulations currently under legal challenge), including greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions and coal combustion residuals (CCR)	
	Reassessment of natural gas and permitting regulatory reform, in the context of large energy infrastructure, nuclear development, etc.	
	Potential reconsideration of previously granted waivers (e.g., CA)	EPA <a href="#">release</a>
	Shift away from "climate change" terminology in agency materials/actions	
	Withdrawal of support for previous administration rule requiring enhancement and standardization of climate-based disclosures	SEC <a href="#">statement</a>
<b>Global Pullback</b>	Implementation of the Executive Order, "Putting America First in International Environmental Agreements", including withdrawal from the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	<a href="#">White House</a>

## 2. Regulatory Focus

Likewise, agency leadership is also noting potential changes in key regulatory areas, including:

Signals	Description/Examples	Source
<b>Cross-Departmental Coordination</b>	Execution of the duties of the National Energy Dominance Council- (comprised of federal departments and agencies including State, Treasury, Defense, Justice, Agriculture, Commerce, Transportation, EPA and others) to advise the President on ways to expand all forms of energy production including processes for permitting, production, regulation, and transportation and recommending a National Energy Dominance Strategy for long-range goals for achieving energy dominance (e.g., innovation, private sector investment, "cutting red tape")	<a href="#">White House</a>
<b>State Collaboration</b>	Look to shorten permitting times and processes with federal and state partnerships to incentivize investment	EPA <a href="#">release</a>
	Promote federal and state collaboration (e.g., FERC and state utility regulators)	FERC <a href="#">release</a>
<b>Resiliency</b>	Focus on reliability of generation units and construction of new power generation	FERC <a href="#">release</a> DOE <a href="#">release</a>
<b>Consumer Costs</b>	Focus on lowering consumer costs related to previous climate and energy policies (e.g., food costs, power costs, residential construction and consumer goods) by reducing regulatory requirements	White House <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a> EPA releases <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a> FERC <a href="#">release</a> DOE <a href="#">release</a>
	Assessment of agency programs/programs to identify/recommend actions to lower consumer costs	<a href="#">White House</a> DOI <a href="#">release</a>

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