

Opening Statement
James Edward Campos
Confirmation Hearings
U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
March 15, 2018

Chairman Murkowski, Ranking Member Cantwell, Members and the entire staff of this Committee, it is my honor to appear before you from the great state of Nevada as the President's nominee to be the Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact at the Department of Energy. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank President Donald J. Trump and Secretary Rick Perry. I am truly humbled by the confidence they have placed in me with this nomination.

Most importantly, I would like to thank my family who are here with me today: my father, Joseph Campos and my mother, Christina Campos. My parents are middle school sweethearts and have been married for 57 years. They were born in Omaha, Nebraska in the 1930's and are children to immigrants of Mexico who came to the United States of America in the early 1900's. My father proudly served in the US Navy during the Korean War and went on to serve 15 additional years in the Naval Reserve. He was later selected to serve in a US Government agency and was stationed in eight different politically, socially and economically emerging Latin American countries over a 16-year period. At the same time, my mother had an equal challenging job raising four children. I am proud of them both. Mom, Dad, without your love, support, and guidance, a son could not possibly have found himself at this height of honor.

Also in attendance is my best friend of 10 years who happens to be my lovely and talented fiancé, Irma Aguirre. Thank you for the many years of support, unconditional love, and understanding. To my sisters Laurie and Vickie, my brother Joe, and friends who are here with me today, thank you as well for your constant support. I also would like to thank my grade school teacher that was able to make it today, Janice Artino. Ms. Artino, my journey started with you in fifth grade and my deepest appreciation for being my inspiration to never give up and to always be the best I could be.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not thank all of my colleagues and friends in Nevada, whose mentorship led me to be here today.

I believe I come before you with the necessary background and experience to lead the Office of Minority Economic Impact at the Department. I have worked as a state-wide agency administrator, a regulatory and equal rights commissioner, a higher education official, a business development advisor, and an entrepreneur working with diverse groups. All of these experiences have provided me with substantive skills in organizational leadership, human resource management, strategic management, renewable energy applications, public relations,

accountability, performance metrics, planning, setting defined goals, and adherence to budgetary mandates.

Should I have the high honor of being confirmed by the U.S. Senate, I will look forward to working closely with Member of this committee and staff to ensure we continue to grow a culture of inclusivity. My hope is that together we will continue to inspire and integrate a new generation of scientists and engineers to develop the technology that is needed to meet the challenges of the future of this great nation.

Again, Chairman Murkowski, Ranking Member Cantwell, Members and staff of this Committee, thank you again for this opportunity to appear before you as the President's nominee for the Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact.

Thank you for your time today. I look forward to answering your questions as you consider my nomination.