

**Testimony of Tina M. Pierce
Nominee for Chief Financial Officer
at the U.S. Department of Energy
Before the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
May 14, 2025**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Heinrich, and Members of the Committee for the opportunity to appear before you today as President Trump's nominee for Chief Financial Officer of the U.S. Department of Energy.

Before I begin my official remarks, I would like to introduce the members of my family who have joined me today: my husband of 26 years, Scott Pierce, who is a retired Marine Colonel, and someone who at 19 worked in the oil fields of Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, and North Dakota. My stepdaughter Elisa, son Jackson, and daughter Isabel. I would also like to recognize my son Thomas, daughter-in-law Ellen, and my amazing parents Robert and Judy Morgan who are unable to be here today.

I am honored to be nominated by the President and humbled to be considered by the Senate for an office of such great trust and responsibility to the American people – and, if confirmed, to play a role in unleashing American energy dominance to better all human lives.

Energy Secretary Wright asked me what I would consider success if I were to be nominated and confirmed as the Energy Department's CFO. My answer was simple: To provide the Secretary with timely and accurate financial information that allows him to make prudent, well-informed decisions so that we can legally and responsibly steward the taxpayer dollars that the Congress entrusts to us to advance America's energy interests.

I would like to share with you a little bit of the story that brought me here today.

I grew up on a small farm near Rigby, Idaho. I am the first person in my family to earn a college degree. I studied accounting on a Naval ROTC scholarship at the University of Utah. Eager for challenge and discipline, I chose to serve in the United States Marines after graduation.

The Marine Corps wisely put this round peg in a round hole, making me a financial management officer. I proudly led Marines in Hawaii and California and deployed to Kuwait as the comptroller for the contingency Operation Desert Thunder.

I left active duty, a month later exchanged wedding vows, and two days later, my husband Scott and I were on our way to his next assignment in the Netherlands. As the wife of a Marine infantry officer and a mom of three, every couple of years, I had to pack up our house and kids – often by myself – quit my job and start over someplace new. But through it all, I was able to continue to pursue my professional passion—using accounting to drive business decisions.

In Europe, I worked as a financial manager in a multinational IT firm. In North Carolina, we experienced the shock of September 11, 2001. My husband deployed to the Middle East, and I was called back to active duty. In Kansas, I earned an MBA from Colorado State University,

graduating at the top of my class and staying on as a remote instructor, a job I could take with me. In the Sierra of eastern California, I commuted over an 8000-foot mountain pass, with morning sickness and altitude sickness, to serve as a county deputy controller, and in southern California, I worked in the energy sector as a senior financial analyst for a nuclear generation plant and a major public utility. I also became a Certified Public Accountant.

When the Marine Corps brought us to Washington, D.C., we decided it was time to give our children the stability that we had had when we grew up, so we settled down. I started over as a junior contractor, reviewing Army pay records on a laptop at a crowded conference room table with twenty other analysts. I was soon recruited to work on the Air Force health services financial remediation team and then entered the federal work force at the Defense Health Agency (DHA).

My performance at DHA led to a senior executive position with the Department of the Air Force, overseeing financial operations and audit remediation. Since July of last year, I have served as the Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the Department of Defense, where we have made great strides in bringing the entire Department closer to a clean audit opinion.

If confirmed, I look forward to bringing my broad financial experience in both government and the private sector to the Department of Energy. If confirmed, I pledge that I will apply the highest standards of fiduciary responsibility to the funds entrusted by this Congress. I will do everything in my power to work with this committee and Congress to facilitate the oversight required by our Constitution.

And with that, Mr. Chairman, I look forward to answering any questions the Committee may have.