



Chairman Ron Wyden's Opening Statement: Business Meeting on Sally Jewell's Nomination

Thursday, March 21, 2013

- The Committee will come to order. The Committee meets this morning to consider the nomination of Sally Jewell to be the Secretary of the Interior.
- As senators know, the Committee held a hearing on Ms. Jewell's nomination on March 7, two weeks ago. Late last night, Senator Murkowski, Secretary Salazar and I discussed the Izembek issue in southwestern Alaska once more. The issue has now been resolved to the satisfaction of each of us. I commend Senator Murkowski and Secretary Salazar for their good faith efforts to resolve this important issue. And in just a moment, I'm going to recognize Senator Murkowski to characterize and describe what was agreed to.
- Now just a quick comment with respect to the nominee. I think we all know that senators on this committee have strong views with respect to natural resources issues, and Sally Jewell is not going to agree with each of us on every single issue. What I know for certain is she is going to give each member of this committee her ear and her expertise that comes from having managed to pack a host of professional careers: petroleum engineer, CEO, and banker, to name just a few, into just one lifetime. I have full confidence in Sally Jewell's ability to take on this important assignment and I strongly urge senators to join me in voting this morning to report Sally Jewell's nomination.