



Committee: Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee
Event: [Business Meeting to Consider Nominations and Pending Legislation](#)
Date: March 4, 2026
Time: 9:30 AM
Place: 366 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Executive Summary:

On Wednesday, March 4, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a business meeting to consider the nominations of **Stevan Pearce** to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management, **David LaCerte** to continue as a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and **Kyle Haustveit** to be Under Secretary of Energy. All three nominations were reported out of the Committee on partisan votes. The only notable variation was from Sen. **Angus King** (I-ME), who voted against the nominations of Haustveit and Pearce but supported LaCerte's re-nomination.

Member Toplines:

Chair Mike Lee (R-UT): Lee emphasized all three nominees' commitment to ensuring reliable and affordable energy, highlighting what he described as their demonstrated ability to help the United States meet rising electricity demand. In addition to expressing his support of the nominations, Lee also pointed to the Committee's consideration of an equal number of Republican and Democratic bills, contrasting this with the Committee's operations under former Committee Chair **Joe Manchin** (I-WV). He stated that under Sen. Manchin, there was not a single markup with an even split of Democratic and Republican bills and argued that when Democrats held the majority, more Democratic bills were considered than Republican bills. Lee said he is proud of the Committee's current bipartisan cooperation under his leadership.

Ranking Member Martin Heinrich (D-NM): Heinrich expressed opposition to all three nominees before the Committee. Regarding former Rep. Steven Pearce's nomination, Heinrich said he intends to hold Pearce to his stated commitments to follow the law but noted that similar commitments from Trump administration nominees have at times proven unreliable. Heinrich raised concerns about Pearce's record on opposing national monument designations and proposals related to public lands sales. Heinrich also referenced his prior vote in favor of Haustveit's nomination to serve as Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy last year, but argued that Haustveit's stated support for a "best of the above" energy approach, rather than an "all of the above" strategy, is not consistent with the broader responsibilities of the Under Secretary of Energy role. Heinrich further criticized actions taken by the administration that he argued are undermining energy reliability and creating risks for the electric grid. He said that until the administration respects the will of Congress, he cannot, in good conscience, support the nominees, including LaCerte.

Agenda Items:

Nomination of Stevan Pearce to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management

- Final Votes on Pearce's Nomination – Ayes: 11 | Nays: 9
 - **Ayes:** Lee; Barrasso; Risch; Daines; Cotton; McCormick; Justice; Cassidy; Hyde-Smith; Murkowski; Hoeven;
 - **Nays:** Heinrich; Wyden; Cantwell; Hirono; King; Cortez Masto; Hickenlooper; Padilla; Gallego
- Nomination is reported favorably to the Senate.

Nomination of David LaCerte to be a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Term expiring June 30, 2031)

- Final Votes on LaCerte's Nomination – Ayes: 12 | Nays: 8
 - **Ayes:** Lee; Barrasso; Risch; Daines; Cotton; McCormick; Justice; Cassidy; Hyde-Smith; Murkowski; Hoeven; King
 - **Nays:** Heinrich; Wyden; Cantwell; Hirono; Cortez Masto; Hickenlooper; Padilla; Gallego
- Nomination is reported favorably to the Senate.

Nomination of Kyle Haustveit to be Under Secretary of Energy

- Final Votes on Haustveit's Nomination – Ayes: 11 | Nays: 9
 - **Ayes:** Lee; Barrasso; Risch; Daines; Cotton; McCormick; Justice; Cassidy; Hyde-Smith; Murkowski; Hoeven;
 - **Nays:** Heinrich; Wyden; Cantwell; Hirono; King; Cortez Masto; Hickenlooper; Padilla; Gallego
- Nomination is reported favorably to the Senate.