

2 July 2024

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Publication date: 06 December 2016

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ISSN: 0964-8496

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Native Americans deserve stronger resource rights – US congressman

The incoming US government under president-elect Donald Trump could give Native Americans stronger rights to manage resources on their lands, Republican congressman Markwayne Mullin of Oklahoma said in a statement this week.

Recent media reports had claimed that the Trump government might aim to privatise Native American lands, which are estimated to hold up to 20% of the nation's oil and gas reserves. At present, lands are legally state-owned, but tribes have indefinite rights to occupy them and develop certain types of businesses.

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