## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ELOUISE PEPION COBELL, et al.,	)	
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	
v.	)	Case No. 1:96cv01285(JR)
	)	
KEN SALAZAR, Secretary of the Interior,	)	
<u>et</u> <u>al.</u> ,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

#### NOTICE OF FILING OF AUGUST 2009 STATUS REPORT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF TRUST RECORDS

The Department of the Interior Office of Trust Records hereby submits its status report for activity in August 2009. A copy of the report is attached hereto.

Dated: September 15, 2009 Respectfully submitted,

TONY WEST
Assistant Attorney General
MICHAEL F. HERTZ
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
J. CHRISTOPHER KOHN
Director

/s/ Robert E. Kirschman, Jr.
ROBERT E. KIRSCHMAN, JR.
Deputy Director
(D.C. Bar No. 406635)
JOHN R. KRESSE
Trial Attorney
Commercial Litigation Branch
Civil Division
P.O. Box 875, Ben Franklin Station
Washington, D.C. 20044-0875
Telephone: (202) 616-0328

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that, on September 15, 2009 the foregoing *Notice of Filing of August 2009 Status Report by the Department of the Interior Office of Trust Records* was served by Electronic Case Filing, and on the following who is not registered for Electronic Case Filing, by facsimile:

Earl Old Person (*Pro se*) Blackfeet Tribe P.O. Box 850 Browning, MT 59417 Fax (406) 338-7530

/s/ Kevin P. Kingston
Kevin P. Kingston

# ACTIVITY REPORT OFFICE OF TRUST RECORDS

August 1-31, 2009

#### **PROGRAMMATIC:**

#### Indexing

OTR staff completed indexing of 82 boxes in August 2009. The total number of boxes completed through August 2009 is approximately 193,500.

#### • Movement of Records

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Office of the Special Trustee (OST) moved 1,383 boxes of inactive records from various field locations to Lenexa, Kansas, for indexing and subsequent storage at the American Indian Records Repository (AIRR) during this reporting period.

#### • Site Assessments Statement

Beginning with this reporting period, when OTRA performs a records assessment for a location that was previously assessed, OTRA reviews all aspects of records management, not just issues identified in a previous report.

During the month of August, OTRA performed seven records assessments, one each at the following locations: Fort Berthold Agency BIA office; Fort Berthold Agency OST IIM field office; NBC, Office of Appraisal Services, Southern Plains Region; NBC, Office of Appraisal Services, Eastern Oklahoma Region; Cherokee Agency OST IIM field office; Chickasaw Agency OST IIM field office; and NBC, Office of Appraisal Services, Great Plains Region. OTRA issued three records assessment reports, one each at the following locations: Puget Sound Agency BIA office; Chickasaw Agency OST IIM field office; and Cherokee Agency OST IIM field office.

### Records Training

In August 2009, OTR provided records management training for 80 BIA records contacts and 19 Tribal employees. OTR provided training on vital records for 21 BIA employees.

## • Litigation Support and Research Requests

OTR continued to provide significant support to the Office of the Solicitor, Office of Historical Trust Accounting and its contractors, the Department of Justice and

its contractors, and tribal attorneys and their contractors. OTR continued to receive requests for information regarding litigation-related document requests. Many of these requests have very short deadlines.

During August 2009, OTR AIRR staff provided responses to 111 non-litigation research requests from BIA, OST and other requesters.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** General administrative activities continued.

#### **GENERAL OBSERVATIONS:** None.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I express no opinion on the content of the Site Assessments Statement described above.

Ethel J. Abeita

I declare under penalty of perjury that the content of the Site Assessments Statement described above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I express no opinion on the contents of other sections/subsections of the report.

Birector, Office of Trust Review and Audit