



# NEWS

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Oil and Gas Lease Sale Largest in History of Anadarko Agency in Oklahoma**

*Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians Supports Leasing  
Oil and Gas Rights for 1550 Tracts of Trust Land*

The Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) regional personnel will assist in verifying deposits made by bidders and provide other support during the sale of oil and gas mining leases on allotted and tribal lands within the area of the Anadarko Agency in Oklahoma. The sale, which includes 1550 tracts, is the largest ever staged in the region.

“The size of this sale requires the efforts of many people to ensure the operation runs smoothly,” said OST Fiduciary Trust Officer (FTO) Mitch Stephens. “In addition to help from my staff at the Anadarko Agency and the OST staff at the Southern Plains Regional Office, FTO Donnie Smith, Osage Agency, and FTO Stephen Coit, Pawnee Agency, will provide assistance.”

OST is assisting the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), which manages, conducts, and oversees lease sales of Indian trust assets.

Additional support to BIA is being provided by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), which is loaning the services of its auctioneers. BLM auctioneers are experienced with oil and gas leases because they auction oil and gas leases for federal lands.

Sealed bids will be opened on December 2, 2008. Tracts that receive more than one bid will be auctioned on December 3-4, 2008. The event will be held at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Information about the sale is available on the BIA website at <http://www.doi.gov/bia/docs/2008OilGasLeaseSaleListing.pdf>.

If Indian trust beneficiaries have questions about this event or other trust related assets and income, they may contact their FTOs using the interactive map on the OST website at <http://www.ost.doi.gov/information/individual/finder.html>, or call OST’s Trust Beneficiary Call Center (TBCC) at 1-888-678-6836. TBCC complements local services with trained operators that have access to various trust systems. The TBCC is open

Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to noon,  
Mountain Time.

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*The mission of OST is to perform our fiduciary trust responsibilities to American Indian tribes, individual Indians and Alaska Natives by incorporating a beneficiary focus and beneficiary participation while providing effective, competent stewardship and management of trust assets.*