

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ELOUISE PEPION COBELL, et al., )  
 )  
 Plaintiffs, )  
 )  
 v. )  
 )  
 DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Secretary of the Interior, )  
 et al., )  
 )  
 Defendants. )  
 \_\_\_\_\_ )

Case No. 1:96CV01285  
(Judge Lamberth)

**NOTICE OF FILING OF SEPTEMBER 2006 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 September 2006. A copy of the report is attached hereto.

Dated: October 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted,  
PETER D. KEISLER  
Assistant Attorney General  
STUART E. SCHIFFER  
Deputy Assistant Attorney General  
J. CHRISTOPHER KOHN  
Director

/s/ Robert E. Kirschman, Jr.  
ROBERT E. KIRSCHMAN, Jr.  
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Ben Franklin Station  
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on October 16, 2006 the foregoing *Notice of Filing of September 2006 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**  
September 1 - 30, 2006

**PROGRAMMATIC:**

- Labat-Anderson (Labat Indexing Project)

Labat reported that indexing of 2,048 boxes of inactive Indian records was completed in September 2006. The total number of boxes completed through September 2006 is approximately 147,640.

- Movement of Records

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Office of the Special Trustee (OST) moved 1,049 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.

- Boxes Requiring Preservation and/or Remediation

As previously reported, a conservator reviewed six boxes of materials NARA could not repair. The six consist of one box that has about 25% of its contents covered with a tar-like substance; one entire box that had mold and the files are now stuck together; one box of green bar printouts from 1989 oil and gas royalty disbursements that have holes in the printout caused by insects; and three boxes that have extensive water damage and the contents are stuck together. NARA had recommended that the documents should not be separated or further damage will result. The conservator's opinion was that much of the information can be salvaged by either physical stabilization or recovery of the information through reproduction techniques. OTR's conservation contractor will begin work on the contents of these boxes in November 2006.

- Site Assessment Statement

During the month of September, the Office of Trust Review and Audit (OTRA) issued final records assessment reports for Fort Berthold Agency BIA and IIM offices, Rocky Mountain Region BIA offices, and Land Consolidation office. OTRA performed record assessments for Northwest Region BIA and IIM offices, Warm Springs Agency BIA and IIM offices, and Umatilla Agency BIA and IIM offices.

- Records Training

OTR provided records management training for 75 BIA records contacts and 126 tribal employees in September 2006. The August 2006 OTR Activity Report

inadvertently reported that 123 BIA records contacts received training. 137 BIA records contacts received training in August. The August 2006 OTR Activity Report is hereby corrected to reflect the correct number.

- **Equipment**

65 pieces of fireproof filing equipment were delivered to BIA, 9 pieces to OST and 10 pieces to tribal offices in September 2006. The July 2006 OTR Activity Report reported that 22 pieces of equipment were delivered to OST offices; the correct number of pieces delivered to OST offices is 31. The July 2006 OTR Activity Report is hereby corrected to reflect the correct number.

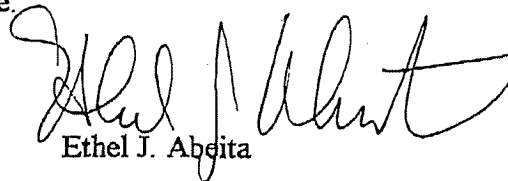
- **Litigation Support and Research Requests**

OTR continued to provide significant support to the Office of the Solicitor, Office of Historical Trust Accounting and its contractors, and the Department of Justice and its contractors. AIRR staff provided responses to 292 research requests from BIA, OST and other requesters.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** General administrative activities continued.

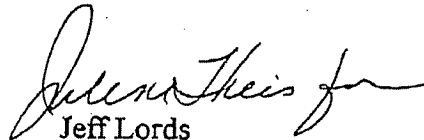
**GENERAL OBSERVATIONS:** None.

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 subsection 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.



Jeff Lords

Director, Office of Trust Review and Audit