



United States Department of the Interior
Land Buy Back Program for Tribal Nations
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

02/05/2015



In Reply Refer To: 344U000000
Grantor Identification Number

JOHN DOE
P.O. BOX 000
WOUNDED KNEE, SD 57794

Dear JOHN DOE:

We are pleased to include you in the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations (Buy-Back Program), which is part of Class Action Settlement Agreement often referred to as the Cobell Settlement. The intent of the Buy-Back Program is to consolidate highly fractionated tracts of Indian land, allowing for better utilization of the land for social, economic, or cultural purposes benefitting the tribal community. Interests purchased under the Buy-Back Program will be transferred to the Tribe in trust.

Offer Amount. This package is an offer to purchase your ownership interests in certain fractionated trust or restricted Indian lands. The offer includes fractional ownership interests with their corresponding Fair Market Value, and is non-negotiable. **Please note that this offer may not include all of your ownership interests**, as not all Indian trust or restricted lands have been valued or identified as eligible for purchase under the Buy-Back Program. You may choose to sell some, all, or none of your interests included in this offer. If you choose to sell all of your listed interests, you will be paid \$6,937.57. An additional base payment of \$75.00 will be included with final payment if you sell any or all interests included in the offer. You will no longer receive lease revenues or other benefits derived from those interests you sell.

Voluntary and Time-Limited Program. Participation in the Buy-Back Program is voluntary; if you are not interested in selling your fractional ownership interests, please disregard this letter and enclosures. However, if you are interested, this offer is active for 45 calendar days from the date of this letter. **You must return your completed documents on or before 03/23/2015.** If you do not, the Buy-Back Program may not be able to purchase your interests and you might not receive another offer due to limited funding.

Taxation and Other Benefits. Payment for any ownership interests you choose to sell will be deposited into your Individual Indian Money (IIM) account after we approve the sale. Under the Claims Resolution Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-291, Section 101(f), this payment is considered tax exempt. Also, for a one year period starting on the date you receive payment, the payment will not impact benefits you receive or are eligible to receive under any federal or federally-assisted program. **If you receive non-federal benefits, contact the providing office to see if your benefits could be impacted by the payment.** Be sure to make the office aware of the Claims Resolution Act of 2010, or provide a copy of this letter.

Package Contents. Enclosed you will find **Instructions** for completing the required documents, a one-page **Deed**, an **Inventory** of your interests eligible for sale, **Maps** showing the general location of the tracts of land in which you own an interest, and a **Business Reply Mail Envelope** for returning your completed documents. Please read the instructions carefully before filling out your documents.

Processing Information. This package has been mailed to the most current address we have on file for you. Please contact the Trust Beneficiary Call Center (Call Center) at **1-888-678-6836** to provide any updates to your personal information, including telephone number and email address, so we may contact you directly with any questions regarding your returned documents. After your payment is processed, you will receive an acknowledgement notice in the mail confirming completion of the sale. **Allow at least 60 calendar days for approval of the sale and processing of your payment.** You may want to consider setting up direct deposit, so the payment for your interests is securely transferred to your bank account and available to you more quickly. The Call Center can assist you with this.

Do You Live on the Land, or Want to Sell Additional Interests? If you currently live on or utilize any of the tracts of land included in this offer and wish to sell your interests in these tracts, contact your local Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) office, or the Call Center at **1-888-678-6836**, for information on what impact, if any, the sale will have on you. If you own and are interested in selling additional interests not included in this offer, contact the Call Center to register as a willing seller. If you do contact your local BIA office or the Call Center, please be prepared to provide your Grantor Identification Number, which is located in the top right corner of this letter.

Scholarship Contribution. As an additional incentive for landowners to participate in the Buy-Back Program, the Cobell Settlement provides for the establishment of a \$60 million educational scholarship fund for Native American students. For each fractional ownership interest purchased, the Buy-Back Program will make a contribution to the Cobell Scholarship Fund until it reaches \$60 million. **The Program's contribution to the Fund will not impact the payment you receive for your interests.**

Financial Planning. Financial planning assistance is available through the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST). If you are interested in information on savings, budgeting, managing credit or debt, avoiding scams and fraud, or estate planning, we encourage you to contact your local OST office or the Call Center at **1-888-678-6836**.

Some Important Terms of Sale. Finally, the closing of your sale is contingent upon our verification of the information in this offer, including but not limited to legal descriptions and any ownership interests you choose to sell. Any changes to this information may render all or part of the offer and/or your acceptance null and void. In such an instance, the Buy-Back Program may revoke all or part of the offer before acceptance, or cancel all or part of an accepted offer. In either case, the Program may proceed to close and pay you for the parts not revoked or cancelled, and you may be provided with a corrected offer. If the Buy-Back Program determines a completed sale was based on incorrect information, we reserve the right to recoup any overpayment made.

Thank you for considering participation in the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations.

Sincerely,



Director, Acquisition Center

NOTICE: This offer is not open to landowners who have been determined to be incapable of managing their affairs and whose IIM accounts are restricted as a result, including but not limited to landowners subject to a Guardianship. The offer is null and void under those circumstances.