

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

07/15/2020

LAND ZIN TRIBAL NATIONS

Buy-Back Program Contingent Offer In Reply Refer To: 344U000000 Grantor Identification Number Offer Number: 100

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

Dear JOHN DOE:

We are writing to you about the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations (Buy-Back Program), which is part of the Cobell Class Action Settlement Agreement. The Buy-Back Program seeks to consolidate highly fractionated tracts of Indian land, allowing for better use of the land for social, economic, or cultural purposes benefitting the tribal community. Purchased interests are transferred to the Tribe in trust.

Offer Amount, Appraisal Date, and Scope. This package is an offer to purchase certain fractional ownership interests at Fair Market Value and is non-negotiable. Your offer amount reflects the Fair Market Value as of a specific appraisal effective date, the Tract Appraisal Date. Please note this date on the enclosed Exhibit A – Purchasable Interest Inventory. In deciding whether to sell, please consider that changes may have occurred in the market or to the tract(s) since the Tract Appraisal Date. You may request a copy of the appraisal(s) by contacting your local Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) or by calling the Trust Beneficiary Call Center (Call Center) at 1-888-678-6836. 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 elect to sell some, all, or none of your interests included in this offer. The total value of all interests included in this offer is \$6,843.00. 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, Time and Resource-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 08/29/2020. Your documents will be reviewed for approval and processed if sufficient funds remain available in the Buy-Back Program's **Trust Land Consolidation Fund.**

Package Contents. Enclosed you will find Instructions for completing the required documents, a onepage 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.

Financial Planning. Financial planning assistance is available through 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.

For more information visit www.doi.gov/buybackprogram

Some Important Terms of Sale. Approval of your sale is contingent upon available Buy-Back Program funds and our verification of the information in this offer, including but not limited to legal descriptions and any ownership interests you choose to sell. Lack of sufficient Buy-Back Program funds available for purchasing interests, as well as changes to the information in your offer, may render all or part of the offer and/or your acceptance null and void or prevent us from approving your sale. 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. If the Buy-Back Program determines a completed sale was based on incorrect information, we reserve the right to recoup any overpayment made. The Program seeks to avoid instances where its lack of funding will prevent approval of sales. For example, the Program limits the number of offers it mails after considering expected landowner response rates along with the amount of remaining funds available to the Buy-Back Program. Even so, we cannot guarantee your sale will be approved.

<u>Processing Information and Direct Deposit</u>. This package has been mailed to the most current address we have on file for you. Please contact the 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. If your sale is processed, you will receive an acknowledgement notice in the mail. 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.

<u>Taxation and Other Benefits</u>. Payment for any ownership interests you choose to sell will be deposited into your Individual Indian Money (IIM) account after the sale is approved. This payment is considered tax exempt under the Claims Resolution Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-291, Section 101(f). 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.

<u>Do You Live on the Land, or Want to Sell Additional Interests</u>? 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.

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

Sincerely,

Jama Bakky

Acting 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.