

INDIAN AFFAIRS MANUAL

Part 3

Delegations of Authority

Chapter 11

Delegation to the Chief, Division of Trust Land Consolidation

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- 1.1 Purpose.** This chapter provides for the delegation of the authorities of the Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as provided in 230 DM 1, through the Deputy Bureau Director, Office of Trust Services (OTS) as provided in 3 IAM 6, to the Chief, Division of Trust Land Consolidation (DTLC) in order to fulfill responsibilities regarding the acquisition of fractional land interests for consolidation under Tribal ownership. The DTLC replaces the Land Buy-Back Acquisition Center and its responsibilities under the Land Buy-Back Program.¹
- 1.2 Scope.** This chapter applies to the Chief, DTLC in all circumstances where the DTLC is overseeing functions related to acquiring fractional interests in trust or restricted land for consolidation under Tribal ownership.
- 1.3 Program Authorities.** The Chief, DTLC is delegated the general program and administrative authorities specifically related to transactions acquiring fractional interests in trust or restricted land, including the authority to record title documents, for the purpose of consolidation under Tribal ownership, subject to the limitations contained in section 1.5.
- 1.4 Redelelegation of Program Authorities.** Except where redelegation is prohibited by statute, Executive Order, or limitations established by other competent authority, including the limitations in this chapter, the general program and administrative authorities related to the functions and responsibilities of the Chief, DTLC may be further delegated. In the instances of an absence, the Chief, DTLC may redelegate these program and supervisory authorities to an appropriate supervisor/manager.
- 1.5 Limitations on Program Authorities.** The authority of the Chief, DTLC is limited to overseeing the acceptance, review, and approval of returned offer packages, with specifically identified staff operating as would the OTS Division of Realty to carry out this activity. Further, the authority of the Chief, DTLC is limited to overseeing recordation of the title documents for transactions transferring fractionated land interests from an individual to the appropriate Tribe with jurisdiction, with specifically identified staff operating as would the Land Titles and Records Office (LTRO) to carry out this activity.

Approval

Darryl LaCounte

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Date

Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

¹ The Land Buy-Back Program (LBBP) is a Department of the Interior program responsible for implementing the land consolidation component of *Cobell v. Salazar*, No. 96-CV-1285-JR, as confirmed by the Claims Resolution Act of 2010, Pub. L. 111-291, which provided \$1.9 billion to purchase – within a 10-year period ending November 24, 2022 – fractional interests in trust or restricted land from willing sellers at fair market value on behalf of the Tribe with jurisdiction. The Land Buy-Back Acquisition Center was established to carry out the land acquisition and title related functions of the LBBP, and its responsibilities end with the LBBP in November 2022.