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DOI Strategic Plan Tribal Consultation 10-23-2013

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DOI STRATEGIC PLAN TRIBAL CONSULTATION

TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

1:08 p.m.

Reported by: Gervel A. Watts, CERT\*D

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1 A P P E A R A N C E S

2 Alaska Natives/Tribal Participants  
Courtney Two Lance, Great Plains  
3 Diane Buck, Eastern Oklahoma Region  
Penny Bradford, Osage Nation, Pawhuska, Oklahoma  
4 Stan Speaks, Northwest Regional Office  
Richard Sangrey, Rocky Mountain Tribe  
5 Wendy Morado, Indian Land Consolidation Program  
Heidi Gordon, Indian Land Consolidation Program  
6 Bruce Maytubby, Southern Plains  
Gordon Jackson, Rocky Mountain Regional Office  
7 Jo-Ellen Cree, Rocky Mountain Regional Office  
Ryan Riley, Southwest Regional Office

8

Washington, D.C. Participants  
9 Richard Beck, OPPM  
Michael Black, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
10 Kevin Washburn, Indian Affairs, DOI  
Michael Grant, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
11 Spike Bighorn, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Thomas Thompson, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
12 Ira Newbreast, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Whitney Antone, Bureau of Indian Affairs, OTS  
13 Gail Shumaker, Central Budget Office  
Robert Frazier, Division of Transportation  
14 Ken Reinfeld, Office of Self-Governance  
Dan Deerinwater, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
15 Emerson Eskeet, OFMC  
Dennis Rodriguez, OFMC  
16 John Ashley, Information Resources  
James Schock, Indian Affairs  
17 Jeffrey Caine, Office of Self-Governance  
Marv Keller, Environmental and Cultural Resources  
18 Kim Pardo, Environmental Resource Management  
Wayne Dunbar, Office of Internal Evaluation and  
19 Assessment  
Judy Wilson, OFECR  
20 Les Jenson, Housing Improvement Program  
Thomas Koenig, OPPM  
21 Melvin Gilchrist, OPPM  
Brenda Cannon, OPPM

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MS. CANNON: We're going to go ahead and get  
3 started. Good afternoon or good morning, depending on  
4 the location where you're calling from. First, I'd  
5 like to thank everyone for taking the time out of their  
6 busy schedule to participate in the DOI Strategic Plan  
7 Tribal Consultation WebEx session.

8 Please note, the WebEx session is being  
9 recorded. So we have an opportunity to provide copies  
10 of the transcript of the discussion that will take  
11 place today. My name is Brenda Cannon and I will be  
12 facilitating today's session.

13 At this point, I would like to ask that all  
14 callers do not place the phone on hold, as we will hear  
15 music in the background if you to do so and it will  
16 interrupt the proceeding.

17 I would also like to ask that you place your  
18 phone on mute at this time, in order to keep down  
19 background noises. We will first have introductions,  
20 followed by meeting protocol, comments by Mr. Kevin  
21 Washburn, the assistant secretary of Indian Affairs,  
22 and a presentation by Dr. Richard Beck, DOI Office of

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1 Planning and Performance Management. And then we'll  
2 have suggestions and comments from the tribes.

3 Please note, we also use the term "tribes" in  
4 this discussion to reflect Alaska natives. In  
5 addition, the term "DOI" and "The Department" will also  
6 be used throughout the session when referring to the  
7 Department of the Interior.

8 We will begin introductions by region. I  
9 will announce each region, starting with Alaska, and  
10 the tribes from each region will state their name, the  
11 title, and the tribal affiliation. We ask that you  
12 spell your first and last name and tribal affiliation  
13 for the reporter. Today we have a reporter on the  
14 line; her name is GeGe, and she is from Capital  
15 Reporting.

16 After the tribes from the region announces  
17 themselves, then we will be followed by the BIA  
18 representatives within that region, who will state  
19 their name and their title. Once we have completed  
20 with the regional introductions, we will have  
21 introductions of the DOI and Indian Affairs  
22 participants here in Washington, D.C.

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1 I ask that everyone speak loudly, as the  
2 proceeding, again, is being recorded. We ask that all  
3 tribes who are participating on the call please send an  
4 email to s, as in Sam, P, as in Paul,  
5 consultation@bia.gov (spconsultation@bia.gov). This  
6 will ensure that we have your email address and that we  
7 can provide you a copy of the transcript of this WebEx  
8 session. This is the same address that you would use  
9 if you would like to provide any additional comment  
10 and/or suggestion on this call.

11 At this time we will start introduction of  
12 the tribes and regional office BIA participants. I  
13 will state the region and then we will have the  
14 introductions from those regions.

15 Alaska.

16 (No response.)

17 Any tribes from Alaska? Any Alaska Regional Office  
18 personnel?

19 (No response.)

20 Don't forget to remove the "mute" when it's time for  
21 your region to speak.

22 Eastern region. Any tribes from the eastern

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1 region?

2 (No response.)

3 Any eastern region BIA?

4 (No response.)

5 Eastern Oklahoma.

6 (No response.)

7 Great Plains. Any tribes from Great Plains?

8 MS. TWO LANCE: Hello?

9 MS. CANNON: Yes.

10 MS. TWO LANCE: This is the Oglalasioux

11 Tribe.

12 MS. CANNON: Could you spell that, please, as  
13 well as your first and last name?

14 MS. TWO LANCE: It's O-G-L-A-L-A-S-I-O-U-X

15 Tribe. Courtney, C-O-U-R-T-N-E-Y Two Lance, T-W-O --

16 L-A-N-CE.

17 MS. CANNON: Eastern Oklahoma region?

18 MS. BUCK: Diane Buck, acting tribal  
19 government officer, Eastern Oklahoma region.

20 MS. CANNON: Great Plains Tribe.

21 MS. TWO LANCE: Hello?

22 MS. CANNON: Yes. Great Plains Tribe.

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1 MR. JOHNSON: Seminal Nation of Oklahoma,  
2 Assistant Chief Lewis Johnson.

3 MS. CANNON: Okay. Midwest Tribe.

4 MS. TWO LANCE: Did you get our name for  
5 Great Plains?

6 MS. CANNON: I didn't. I just caught that.  
7 Great Plains Regional Office?

8 MS. TWO LANCE: It's not regional. We're the  
9 Oglalasioux Tribe.

10 MS. CANNON: Okay. Could you spell that,  
11 please?

12 MS. TWO LANCE: O-G-L-A-L-A-S-I-O-U-X Tribe.  
13 And my name is Courtney Two Lance. C-O-U-R-T-N-E-Y --  
14 T-W-O -- L-A-N-C-E.

15 MS. CANNON: Okay. Thank you. Any other  
16 Great Plains Tribes? Great Plains Regional Office?

17 (No response.)  
18 Midwest Tribe.

19 (No response.)  
20 Midwest Regional Office.

21 (No response.)  
22 Navaho Tribal.

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1 (No response.)

2 Navaho Regional Office.

3 (No response.)

4 Northwest Tribal.

5 (No response.)

6 Northwest Regional Office.

7 MR. SPEAKS: Yes, we're on board.

8 MS. CANNON: Could you please state your  
9 name?

10 MR. SPEAKS: Stan Speaks, Regional Director.  
11 Bodie Shaw, Deputy Regional Director.

12 MR. SHAW: Yes, Brenda.

13 MS. CANNON: Thank you. Pacific Tribe.

14 (No response.)

15 Pacific Regional Office.

16 (No response.)

17 Rocky Mountain Tribe.

18 MR. SANGREY: Chippewa Cree Tribe. Richard  
19 Sangrey, Rocky Boy, Montana.

20 MS. CANNON: Could you please spell the  
21 tribal name and your name?

22 MR. SANGREY: C-H-I-P-P-E-W-A -- C-R-E-E. R-

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1 I-C-H-A-R-D -- S-A-N-G-R-E-Y.

2 MS. CANNON: Thank you. Southern Plains.

3 (No response.)

4 Rocky Mountain Regional Office?

5 MR. MAYTUBBY: For Southern Plains, this is  
6 Bruce Maytubby, Deputy Regional Director for Trust for  
7 the Southern Plains region.

8 MS. CANNON: Thank you. Rocky Mountain  
9 Regional Office?

10 MR. JACKSON: This is Gordon Jackson, Deputy  
11 Regional Director, Indian Services. And Jo-Ellen Cree,  
12 Housing Specialist.

13 MS. CANNON: Thank you. Southern Plains  
14 Tribe.

15 (No response.)

16 Southwest Tribe.

17 (No response.)

18 Southwest Regional Office.

19 MR. RILEY: Ryan Riley, the Deputy Regional  
20 Director.

21 MS. CANNON: Western Tribe.

22 (No response.)

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1 Western Regional Office.

2 (No response.)

3 Okay. Now, we will start with the Washington, D.C.  
4 participants. We'll start with the Department of  
5 Interior.

6 DR. BECK: Yes. This is Rich Beck. I'm the  
7 director of Planning and Performance Management.

8 MR. BLACK: And this is Mike Black, Director  
9 of Bureau of Indian Affairs.

10 MR. GRANT: Mike Grant, Deputy Director of  
11 Field Operations, BIA.

12 MR. BIGHORN: Spike Bighorn, Associate Deputy  
13 Director for Indian Services, BIA.

14 MR. SCHOCK: Jim Schock, Acting Chief, Indian  
15 Affairs.

16 MR. THOMPSON: Thomas Thompson, deputy  
17 assistant secretary for management, Indian Affairs.

18 MR. NEWBREAST: Ira Newbreast, BIA and Trust,  
19 Natural Resources.

20 MR. BUG: David Bug, Planning and Performance  
21 for the Department.

22 MS. ANTONE: Whitney Antone, BIA, Office of

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1 Trust Services.

2 MS. CANNON: Okay.

3 MS. MORADO: Wendy Morado, Indian Land

4 Consolidation Program, and Heidi Gordon.

5 MS. CANNON: I'm sorry; the last person,

6 could you please speak up again and say your name?

7 MS. MORADO: Wendy Morado, Indian Land

8 Consolidation Program.

9 MS. CANNON: Okay. Thank you.

10 MS. SHUMAKER: Gail Shumaker, Central Budget

11 Office.

12 MR. FRAZIER: Brenda?

13 MS. CANNON: Yes.

14 MR. FRAZIER: Robert Frazier with the

15 Division of Transportation.

16 MS. CANNON: Okay.

17 MR. REINFELD: Ken Reinfeld, Office of Self-

18 Governance.

19 MR. CAINE: Jeff Caine, Office of Self-

20 Governance.

21 MR. ESKEET: Emerson Eskeet, Office of

22 Facilities Management and Construction in Albuquerque,

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1 Indian Affairs Office.

2 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Dennis Rodriguez, Division of  
3 Program and Planning, Office of Facility Management and  
4 Construction, Albuquerque.

5 MR. PAYSON: Steve Payson, economist.

6 MS. CANNON: Okay. Is there anyone else on  
7 the line?

8 MR. ASHLEY: This is John Ashley, Assistant  
9 Director, acting, for Information Resources.

10 MR. DEERINWATER: This is Dan Deerinwater,  
11 the regional director for Southern Plains.

12 MS. CANNON: Thank you.

13 MR. KELLER: This is Marv Keller, Division of  
14 Environment and Cultural Resources.

15 MR. KOENIG: Tom Koenig, the Office of  
16 Planning and Performance Management.

17 MS. PARDO: Kim Pardo, Division of  
18 Environmental Resource Management.

19 MR. DUNBAR: Wayne Dunbar, Office of Internal  
20 Evaluation and Assessment.

21 MS. WILSON: Judy Wilson, Acting Director,  
22 Office of Facilities Environmental and Cultural

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1 Resources.

2 MR. GILCHRIST: Melvin Gilchrist, Office of  
3 Planning and Performance Management.

4 MS. CANNON: And Brenda Cannon, Office of  
5 Planning and Performance Management. Do we have anyone  
6 from the Bureau of Indian Education on the line?

7 (No response.)

8 Okay. Thank you, everyone, for introducing yourselves.  
9 As for meeting protocols, as mentioned earlier, I ask  
10 that you please place your phones on mute when not  
11 speaking, and please do not put the phone on hold, as  
12 this will start to play music and it will disrupt the  
13 proceeding.

14 When making comments and/or suggestions,  
15 after the presentation, please state your name and  
16 tribal affiliation prior to your comments, suggestions,  
17 or question.

18 Central office program managers are also on  
19 the Web session today, and they can address questions.  
20 If an answer cannot be provided today, the Office of  
21 Planning and Performance Management will work with the  
22 program to provide a response.

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1           The DOI strives to meet its obligations under  
2 President Barack Obama's commitment to engage in  
3 meaningful and regular consultation that impacts tribal  
4 government. A Dear Tribal Leader letter announcing the  
5 two WebEx sessions was signed on September 16th by Mr.  
6 Washburn, and sent out to the regions for dissemination  
7 to all tribes.

8           Although the consultation today is not face-  
9 to-face, this session still serves as a commitment for  
10 the Department to honor its responsibility to consult  
11 the tribes and gain tribal leaders' input on the  
12 proposed strategic plan.

13           At this time we will proceed with the agenda  
14 topics and we will have comments from Mr. Kevin  
15 Washburn, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs,  
16 followed by a presentation from Dr. Richard Beck, DOI  
17 Office of Planning and Performance Management.

18           DR. BECK: Brenda, this is Rich Beck. I  
19 think Kevin has been held up, so he's not here right  
20 now. So how about if I just basically start going into  
21 my presentation and give folks some background?

22           MS. CANNON: Yes. That would be great.

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1 DR. BECK: Okay then.

2 DR. BECK: So I'm happy to be with you all  
3 today. What I would like to talk about is that  
4 basically, across the government, right now, all  
5 government agencies are in the process of basically  
6 looking at their present strategic plan, seeing to what  
7 extent they need to be updated and to be able to bring  
8 those forward.

9 So I just want to give you all some  
10 background about what we're doing here at the  
11 Department of the Interior. What we're doing is that  
12 we're looking at our present strategic plan that covers  
13 2011 to 2016. We're looking at updating it so that we  
14 can then turn it into basically our strategic plan for  
15 2014 to 2018.

16 A lot of what we're doing is basically done  
17 under the provisions of the GPRA Modernization Act --  
18 do you have control on the --

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't have control  
20 on the --

21 MS. CANNON: Yes, I have control.

22 DR. BECK: Ah, you do. Okay, Brenda. So

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1 anyway, so the guidelines for what we're doing, as far  
2 as strategic planning and performance recording across  
3 the government, was revised by Congress in early 2011,  
4 and that takes the form of the GPRA modernization Act.  
5 GPRA refers to the government performance Results Act,  
6 which was originally passed in 1993, I think it was.

7           So under the Modernization Act, basically  
8 what we do is that we establish a strategic plan for  
9 the Department, across all the bureaus, and that  
10 includes a description of what the bureaus and  
11 Department does. It specifies our mission as basically  
12 a strategic level and then it includes a collection of  
13 goals that we align with the strategic goals of the  
14 secretary of the Interior and the President that define  
15 what we're trying to achieve in quantifiable terms.

16           Also along with those goals, so that  
17 basically the American public and members of Congress  
18 and you all can see what we're trying to achieve  
19 basically as a whole government organization, it is  
20 what we call strategic objectives. Those objectives  
21 try to capture how the organization will achieve those  
22 that we specify in the strategic plan. And we try to

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1 link those goals -- I'm sorry -- we try to link those  
2 objectives with our budge and our budge initiatives.

3           Along with the goals, we talk about where  
4 we're going and the strategic objectives to try to  
5 explain how we're going to get there. We have a set of  
6 performance metrics and with those performance metrics,  
7 we use to track our annual progress toward achieving  
8 basically a predefined quantifying target value.

9           While the strategic plan establishes the  
10 goals and the objectives, when I discussed this -- when  
11 I mentioned about the performance measures that talk  
12 about tracking our annual progress, that progress is  
13 basically reflected in an annual performance plan and  
14 report which we also produce, and that helps us assess  
15 where the organization has been progressing and  
16 relative funding investment associated with it, and  
17 then it talks about, you know, what we've been able to  
18 achieve so far. And it includes prospects for the next  
19 two years, as far as what we're trying to do to move  
20 ahead.

21           We try to include the annual performance plan  
22 and report, the corresponding programs that go along

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1 with those achievements, try to describe the next step,  
2 the future actions we're taking relative to the  
3 performance that we've done in the past, and then any  
4 results from management reviews, across agency  
5 collaborations and evaluations that we're able to  
6 conduct.

7           So what you basically have is we have, in a  
8 sense, kind of a nice system where we're able to  
9 develop, amongst ourselves, and convey to the public,  
10 and even to the organization and to managers and  
11 executives across the organization, we get a chance to  
12 say, okay, here's where we're going, here's how we've  
13 been doing so far and here's what we're going to do  
14 next.

15           And we try to basically do that at a  
16 department level, at a government level. And so it's  
17 pretty high level. And so it's pretty strategic across  
18 all of our organization.

19           As you go to the next slide, you'll see that  
20 the plan that we developed for 2011 to 2016 has been  
21 pretty useful for us. We've been able to integrate  
22 program activities across the bureau into this

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1 overarching department government level framework. And  
2 we're able to cross similar program activities. And  
3 what that does, that basically helps demonstrate the  
4 extent to which we do coordinate across our  
5 organizations.

6           And one of the things that goes on these days  
7 in Washington is there is a lot of emphasis going on  
8 looking for where there may be duplicative programs.  
9 Maybe there is some fragmentation or overlapping in  
10 that there may be some efficiency that could be  
11 provided by basically eliminating the duplication or  
12 helping to, you know, to basically pull together those  
13 fragmented items.

14           So we've been able to use the strategic plan  
15 to help identify those areas to create some potential  
16 for the duplication of the fragmentation.

17           It also basically gives us a chance, routine  
18 cross organizational assessment of our progress against  
19 these goals. In several cases, in our strategic plan,  
20 there are goals -- they rely on more than one program.  
21 So we're able to see how those programs work together,  
22 basically to help achieve those goals.

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1           The other thing that we were able to do with  
2 the 2011 to 2016 plan is that we tried to focus more on  
3 performance measures that were in terms of key  
4 indicators. So they were broader in scope, not  
5 necessarily down to low level of detail, but basically  
6 aggregated what was happening at the lower level of the  
7 details. And because we use these key indicators, we  
8 were able to reduce the number of performance measures  
9 from 200 to about 116. And that allows for a certain  
10 amount of visibility and a better understanding of  
11 what's happening across the Department.

12           We have been able to demonstrate our  
13 accountability and transparency to the American public  
14 in a more readily understandable way rather than  
15 blogging folks through a whole bunch of details. What  
16 we try to do is we try to give them this overarching  
17 perspective. So our present strategic plan has been  
18 able to help us with that. Meanwhile, we also use the  
19 mixture that we do comply with the GPRA Modernization  
20 Act.

21           So the present strategic plan has been pretty  
22 useful for basically the Department as a whole and for

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1 our organization. One thing I wanted to focus on  
2 particularly is that when we were developing the 2011  
3 and 2016 plan, we did engage in more tribal  
4 consultation than we had with the previous version. And  
5 so we would think that Indian Affairs programs and the  
6 tribes and the Alaska natives are basically better  
7 represented in this present version, the strategic plan  
8 that we used for 2011 and 2016.

9           In the next chart or two, I tried to show a  
10 little bit of the comparison of what we have as a  
11 present plan that we're looking at with where we were  
12 prior to that. And this increased visibility and  
13 recognition that we have in the present plan -- I think  
14 this is about Slide 4, where are right now on the WebEx  
15 slide, is that while previously, we had basically  
16 tribes, Alaska natives in Insular areas combined with  
17 Wildland, fire, public safety, USGS natural hazards  
18 programs in what was called a serving missions  
19 community area.

20           In the present strategic plan, what we were  
21 able to do was that we basically put tribes and Alaska  
22 natives Insular areas in a dedicated mission area. And

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1 that was the mission area that you probably all saw in  
2 the framework or the strategic plan that basically  
3 Brenda's office had passed around, which was dedicated  
4 to advancing government-to-government relationships  
5 within the insular areas.

6           To the extent that we have a more dedicated  
7 missionary, I think that helps bring more visibility,  
8 basically to the Indian Affairs program. As far as the  
9 meat of what's in that mission area, a good portion of  
10 that was built on the basis of the tribal consultation  
11 that were folks in this room even participated in back  
12 in 2010.

13           And we did that in accordance with the deal  
14 on policy on tribal consultation. That was basically  
15 conducted at the Office Indian Affairs. We had  
16 basically DOI leadership was there. We also included  
17 regional representatives from all bureaus and we did  
18 basically visit seven different locations. We went to  
19 Anchorage, Seattle, Sacramento, Rapid City, Oklahoma  
20 City, Providence, and Las Vegas.

21           And a lot of the input that we received  
22 helped us basically feel comfortable with the expansion

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1 of the representation of Indian Affairs programs in the  
2 present strategic plan. And as you go to the next  
3 slide, you'll see there where while there were certain  
4 topics, or what I call strategic objectives, that in  
5 the prior plan that we had used the earlier plan, we  
6 basically went through pretty much the top five.

7           We were doing fiduciary trusts, judiciary  
8 systems, making the community safer, strengthening  
9 Indian education, manage and develop resource assets,  
10 but then in the present strategic plan, the 2011/2016  
11 version, we started to basically add other areas,  
12 including treaty and subsistence rights, self-  
13 governance, self-determination, create economic  
14 opportunity, the protection of water rights and the  
15 efficiency of those operations, and then a section on  
16 respecting Indian culture.

17           Those are the expanded areas that weren't  
18 represented before, but are represented in the present  
19 plan of this 2011 and 2016 version, along with those  
20 areas being represented, there is also, as you see,  
21 where there were additional focus provided through some  
22 more performance measures that basically were in the

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1 area that you see on the chart that is right in front  
2 of you right now.

3           So previously we didn't have these, but we  
4 did add them to the present plan, which we have right  
5 now. So you do have these measures for subsistent  
6 individual Indian money case records being reviewed. I  
7 think you can see the list there of the performance  
8 measures that we're basically using to track our  
9 progress so that we can report that and to show that.

10           Anyway, so when you get a sense of this is  
11 kind of what we did with the last of the tribal  
12 consultation. So where we are now, as I mentioned,  
13 this is under the Modernization Act. We are in the  
14 process of basically taking a look at our strategic  
15 plan. And that's why we're basically having these  
16 conversations with all of you.

17           We're taking, basically, the present plan,  
18 the 2011 to 2016, and we're using that as our starting  
19 point for developing our 2014 to 2018 plan. We've been  
20 using the 2011 to 2016 plan, obviously, for the last  
21 three years. It seems to have done us pretty well, but  
22 I guess the question we want to ask all of you, as far

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1 as, you know, what have you seen in it, and when you  
2 look at it, is there anything that we should  
3 particularly be paying attention to and we should be  
4 focusing on as we look at basically updating the 2011  
5 plan for 2013 to 2018.

6           So I just kind of wanted to give you an idea  
7 of what we were doing in the process while we're  
8 basically talking to you all at this point in time. So  
9 that kind of gives you an overview of what we're trying  
10 to do in this process right now.

11           I guess I would like to turn it over to  
12 Kevin, who has joined us now. And I would like to  
13 basically ask for your comments and your observations  
14 to share with those who are assembled.

15           MR. WASHBURN: Thank you very much. Thank  
16 you for your hard work. And thank all of you who are  
17 on the WebEx. I'm really grateful that you're  
18 participating. This is an important process for us.  
19 This is Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary for Indian  
20 Affairs.

21           We need to refresh the strategic plan. It's  
22 a good strategic plan, but it needs to be constantly --

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1 we always need to be looking at it. This is our chance  
2 to look at it and refresh it. And this is important  
3 stuff. The strategic plan helps to guide our  
4 priorities and helps us determine what we're going to  
5 be accountable for and what our performance measures  
6 are going to be.

7           We've got a lot of duties and a lot of  
8 responsibilities. Some of those aren't very  
9 measurable, honestly. Some of them are easier to  
10 measure than others, but I will tell you that when the  
11 Department says they're going to start measuring  
12 something, everybody in the Department tries to perform  
13 around those matters so that they will be measured well  
14 and so that they will be viewed as successful. So it  
15 really does matter what you measure and those  
16 performance measures make a difference.

17           Just to give you an example, one of the areas  
18 that the administration have had great success in, in  
19 the last four years is land-into-trust. And it's  
20 partially because that's very measurable and the  
21 Department made land-into-trust a priority goal, a  
22 priority of the Department. And so we have been very,

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1 very successful in Indian Affairs in taking landing the  
2 trust for Indian tribes and the surrounding tribal  
3 homeland again, you know, in part because it's been  
4 defined as a priority of the Department.

5           So these plans turn out to be very, very  
6 important in how we manage things and having a  
7 strategic plan, knowing where you're going is very,  
8 very important.

9           The plan that we have before us, again, we do  
10 need to look at it again, but it represents a dramatic  
11 step forward then what we had before, and from an  
12 Indian Affairs perspective. Indian Affairs is much  
13 more represented as the part of the Department's  
14 mission in this strategic plan and that was a big step  
15 forward and we're very grateful for the Department for  
16 recognizing the importance of Indian tribes to the  
17 overall mission of the Department.

18           Like I said, there is always more work to be  
19 done and it always deserves another look. So we  
20 definitely think it's important to take careful  
21 consideration to the plan and what we're measuring or  
22 what our goals are and what our strategies for meeting

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1 those goals are. We take this very seriously.

2           As you've heard, this is a little bit  
3 different process for us to go through this. When we  
4 put together the original strategic plan, I wasn't  
5 there then yet, but I gather we traveled all over the  
6 country and met with numerous different people and had  
7 wide consultation sessions.

8           This isn't a brand new strategic plan; this  
9 is sort of to freshen up our existing strategic plan  
10 and we are in different fiscal environment than we were  
11 when this one was put together. So we appreciate all  
12 of you for being willing to do it in this format, this  
13 WebEx format.

14           We really have been traveling a heck of a lot  
15 less since the sequestration happened on the theory  
16 that we really need to be saving our money as best we  
17 can so that people who absolutely have to travel have  
18 enough money to do so.

19           So very services for Indian tribes, law  
20 enforcement, social services and that sort of thing. So  
21 we really held back our travel, so this is a reflection  
22 of that. We have this great technology and we're going

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1 to try to learn to use it more and more because it will  
2 save everybody and it saves a lot of wear and tear on  
3 bodies when you try to travel. So thank you all for  
4 being willing to try this new format, as we do travel  
5 consultations around the strategic plan. We're very  
6 grateful for those of you who are participating and  
7 we'll try this out.

8 We got this session and we got one again in  
9 one week. We're going to try this. Again, it is  
10 mandated largely by budgetary consideration. But we  
11 really hope that it works because this is an important  
12 task. Thank you for being online to help us with it. I  
13 think that I said about all that I had to say at this  
14 point.

15 MS. CANNON: Thank you, Mr. Washburn. Mr.  
16 Thompson or Mr. Black, did you have anything that you  
17 wanted to add?

18 MR. BLACK: No, I don't. This is Mike.

19 MR. THOMPSON: Nor do I.

20 MS. CANNON: Okay. Thank you. I ask that if  
21 others came on the line after we did the introductions,  
22 if you could please state your name, your tribal

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1 affiliation, spelling it, please, and also the same for  
2 any regional personnel that may have come on after the  
3 introduction.

4 MR. JENSON: Hi. Good morning. Good  
5 afternoon, Brenda. This is Les Jenson in the  
6 Washington Office, Housing Improvement Program, housing  
7 officer.

8 MS. CANNON: Thank you, Les. Anyone else?

9 MS. BRADFORD: Yes. Hi. My name is Penny  
10 Bradford. I'm the compliance officer -- excuse me.  
11 Compliance manager with the Osage Nation in Pawhuska,  
12 Oklahoma.

13 MS. CANNON: Okay. Thank you. Anyone else?

14 (No response.)

15 Okay. At this time we would like to open the call to  
16 all tribes to provide comments, suggestions, or  
17 questions. And remember to state your name, your  
18 tribal affiliation prior to speaking. Any comments or  
19 suggestions at this time?

20 (No response.)

21 If anyone is speaking, please remember to take your  
22 phone off of mute.

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1 (No response.)

2 Okay. At this time I will just give some closing  
3 remarks. If everyone could please put their phone on  
4 mute. Thank you.

5 As stated throughout the WebEx session,  
6 tribes provided valuable input in the framework and  
7 development of the Department of Interior Strategic  
8 Plan for fiscal years 2011 to 2016.

9 We would like to take this opportunity to  
10 thank you again for your invaluable support during this  
11 effort. You, as well as your tribal leaders who are  
12 not present on today's WebEx session can provide  
13 additional comments via the email:

14 [spconsultation@bia.gov](mailto:spconsultation@bia.gov). Thank you and have a  
15 wonderful evening. And this concludes the DOI  
16 Strategic Plan Tribal Consultation WebEx session for  
17 October 23, 2013.

18 (Whereupon, at 1:42 p.m., the meeting  
19 concluded.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC

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4 I, GERVEL A. WATTS, the officer before whom the  
5 foregoing telephone conference was taken, do hereby  
6 certify that the testimony that appears in the  
7 foregoing pages was recorded by me and thereafter  
8 reduced to typewriting under my direction; that said  
9 telephone conference is a true record of the  
10 proceedings; that I am neither counsel for, related to,  
11 nor employed by any of the parties to the action in  
12 which this testimony was taken; and further, that I am  
13 not a relative or employee of any counsel or attorney  
14 employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or  
15 otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.

16

17

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19 GERVEL A. WATTS  
Notary Public in and for the  
20 State of Maryland

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22

23

24 My commission expires: June 7, 2016

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