Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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WASHINGTON – The Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform will hold its next public meeting on April 29, 2013, in Nashville, Tennessee. An online component of the meeting will be available for those who are unable to attend.

"The Department of the Interior has a very important role to play in administering the federal trust responsibility, and the Commission is looking forward to discussing with the public how we can work together on ways to improve the Department's management of Indian trust lands and assets," said Commission Chair Fawn Sharp.

Commission members will hear from invited speakers on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and international trust models, and the vision of the Department's Trust Management model. The Commission also will hear from representatives of the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) who will discuss advancing the federal trust responsibility into the future.

Members of the public who wish to participate via virtual meeting should register by 7:00 a.m. CDT on April 29 at https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/893317865. Virtual participation will be limited to 100 participants. For more information about the Commission's work and the April 29 meeting, visit http://www.doi.gov/cobell/commission/index.cfm.

The Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform was established in 2011 to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the Department's management and administration of nearly $4 billion in American Indian trust assets over two years and to offer recommendations on improvements in the future. Building on progress made with the historic Cobell Settlement, the Commission will help to establish a new era of trust administration: one that stresses responsive, accountable, transparent, and customer-friendly management of these substantial funds and assets. All of the Commission's meetings are open to the public.

WHO: DOI Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform Members:

- Fawn Sharp (Quinault), Chair
- Tex G. Hall (Three Affiliated Tribes), Member
- Stacy Leeds (Cherokee Nation), Member
- Dr. Peterson Zah (Navajo Nation), Member
- Robert Anderson (Minnesota Chippewa Tribe-Boise Forte Band), Member
- Lizzie Marsters, Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary and Designated Federal Officer for the Commission, DOI

WHAT: Public meeting Number Five of the DOI Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform

WHEN: Monday, April 29, 2013, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CDT.

WHERE: One Century Place Conference Center, Conference Room #104, 26 Century Blvd., Nashville, Tenn. 37214.

ONLINE ACCESS: To participate via virtual meeting, please register by 7:00 a.m. CDT on April 29, 2013, at https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/893317865. Once you register, you will receive an email with a link to access the meeting online. The call number is 1-866-642- 0396. Use access code 563322.

CREDENTIALS: This invitation is extended to credentialed media representatives, who must display sanctioned media credentials for admittance to the event.

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