Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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LINCOLN, CALIF. — The sixth government-to-government tribal consultation regarding the draft report on Indian Affairs Administrative Organizational Assessment and Bureau of Indian Affairs/Bureau of Indian Education streamlining plans starts Thursday, May 17, 2012, at the Thunder Valley Casino Resort in Lincoln, Calif. The two-day consultation is the sixth of seven that will take place around the country in Arizona, Florida, South Dakota, Washington, Oklahoma and Alaska. The first was held in Miami on April 12 and 13, 2012.

Tribal leaders have said that organizational changes are needed in the administration of Indian Affairs programs and services to better meet the needs of the federally recognized tribes throughout Indian Country. The Department of the Interior's Indian Affairs officials have heeded these concerns and undertaken an extensive review of the organization of the Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE).

The culmination of this review will be a draft Administrative Organizational Assessment Report compiled by an independent, third-party contractor. The draft report identifies several ways to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of delivering services to Indian Country. The goal is to support a consolidated organization while improving Interior responsiveness to all Tribal needs. The BIA and BIE are seeking tribal input on ways to streamline their respective organizations to meet budgetary constraints and increase efficiency.

More information and materials can be found at:
http://www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/ASIA/Consultation/index.htm

WHO:	Anthony Walters, Counselor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, DOI Mike Black, Director, BIA, DOI Brian Drapeaux, Chief of Staff to the BIE, DOI Tribal Leaders from the Pacific Region and other regions
WHAT:	Sixth Regional Tribal Consultation on the Indian Affairs Administrative Organizational Assessment Draft Report and BIA & BIE Streamlining Plans.
WHEN:	Thursday, May 17, and Friday, May 18, 2012 Registration will begin at 7:00AM (local time) Consultation will begin at 8:00AM
WHERE:	Thunder Valley Casino Resort 1200 Athens Avenue Lincoln, CA 95648

CREDENTIALS: All media must present government-issued photo I.D. (such as a driver's license) and valid media credentials.

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