

## Trust Commission

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**From:** Charlene Ramirez <sharkeycr45@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 30, 2012 8:29 AM  
**To:** Trust Commission  
**Subject:** issues with the BIA

I have written to Secretary Salazar, and the Honorable Larry Echo Hawk with absolutely no results to address issues identified in my many letters. I recently submitted a request for assistance to the office for government accountability. My purpose is writing to you is to let you know that such an unresponsive administration is part of the "BIA" problem. No one in the BIA has to return phone calls or respond to letters of constituents. If they had the Cobell lawsuit could probably have been prevented. You get absolutely no help in resolving issues with the BIA even when you clearly have documentation identifying an issue that the BIA should be able to resolve. I continue to have issues with the BIA of Fort Berthold. They lease out fee patent land for which they have no federal authority over. When you review issue, please remember this issue. Not only is it illegal under federal law, but they knowingly continue the practice despite clear writing requests that they cease. This is just the tip of the iceberg for the BIA. Taxpayers pour millions into this disfunctional institution, adding more staff by establishing the Special Trustee Office which has no authority to do anything differently and no more responsive than the original BIA staff and administration. The entire concept of the BIA is outdated. Indian people are intelligent enough to handle their own resources. They don't need inept middle men to continue to ignore their concerns and exploit rather than protect their resources. They have already damaged too many families by losing the only resources some have had, and no even being able to account for the money they take in. It is a same when Indian people have fewer protections under the constitution than other people in this country. We get the poorest of service and absolutely no accountability even from the highest levels of the institution. I don't know what the commission will be able to do, but if it's another attempt at window dressing...shame on all of you!