

Journal #3141

from sdc

6.24.14

Draft rule implementing mandate to establish standards for leasing and fundraising at BIE-schools.

How Burning Man Spawned a Solar ‘Gold Rush’

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Little Passports

Is Coding the New Literacy?

Nuclear waste dump plan on Aboriginal land abandoned

Annals of Enterprise: The Disruption Machine - What the gospel of innovation gets wrong

June 26th is the 2nd annual Leonard Peltier Day

University of Utah - S.J. Quinney Law Library Resources

Attached for immediate distribution is the Tribal Leader letter signed by Assistant Secretary Washburn dated June 19, 2014, announcing the draft rule which would implement a mandate from Congress to establish standards for leasing and fundraising at BIE-operated schools.

Attachments: [June 19 BIE Leasing Fundraising Draft Rule.pdf](#)

Thank you for your assistance!

Steve F. Lowery, U.S. Department of the Interior, Writer/Editor for Indian Affairs

Office of the Executive Secretariat (202) 208-5291

How Burning Man Spawned a Solar ‘Gold Rush’

At the end of Nevada’s annual arts festival in 2007, a small group of volunteers donated a solar power array to a local school. Since then, they’ve built more than 70 installations and changed state law in the process.

When the nonprofit [Food Bank of Northern Nevada](#) scraped together enough donations to expand to a brand-new 61,000-square-foot facility in McCarran, Nev., in 2008, organizers hoped to power the place with the state’s omnipotent rays.

It was a pipe dream, though. The Food Bank, a distribution and outreach center, didn’t have enough funding left over to pay for a solar project, even one that would eventually pay for itself, as such installations can over time. And even if they could get a rebate from the state utility to help pay for the project, Nevada law at the time capped those incentives to solar installations smaller than 30 kilowatts — not nearly enough to make sense for a facility as large as the food bank. That’s when [Black Rock Solar](#) stepped in. The Reno-based nonprofit, spawned at the [Burning Man](#) arts festival in 2007, provides low-cost energy to underserved communities. Black Rock put relentless pressure on the state’s Public Utility Commission to remove the cap, according to Food Bank’s president and CEO, Cherie Jamason. Their efforts paid off, and when the agency flipped on the lights a few months later, the juice came from a 150-kilowatt solar array on the roof, installed by the very group that had started out as a bunch of “burners.”

Black Rock Solar was a tiny nonprofit back then, cobbled together by a dozen volunteers after the 2007 “burn,” the weeklong event held in Nevada’s Black Rock Desert where thousands of artists, musicians and creative types gather each August. That year, a solar installation was

donated to Burning Man, and the leave-no-trace ethic behind the gathering meant that the volunteers had to find a home for the array once the festival ended. They did — at a local school in Gerlach, Nev., on the edge of the desert 10 miles from the festival. In the process, the volunteers also discovered a substantial portion of utility company rebates for which almost no one was applying. The group, which became Black Rock Solar, sought to combine their new knowledge of the system with the desire to help organizations in need.

MORE: [Crowdfunding Solar Power](#)

Tom Price, Black Rock's former executive director and one of its founders, says the nonprofit was founded as a sort of "experiment...to see whether we can continue to express these values outside of the playa [the dried-up lake bed where Burning Man is held] in a different context. Inherent in it is this idea that we're all in this together, and we have to take care of each other."

That small cadre of volunteers — with backgrounds in solar energy and construction — discovered that they could position themselves as the ideal middlemen between [NV Energy](#), the state-run utility handing out incentives for solar installations, and Nevada groups that didn't know money existed or how to take advantage of it.

Now, seven years later, Black Rock Solar has 28 employees and has built more than 80 projects worth roughly \$20 million, pushing more than 4.7 megawatts onto the grid, enough to power 1,365 homes. About a third of the projects have gone to Indian tribes, says Patrick McCully, Price's successor and Black Rock's executive director. The rest went to schools, community colleges, churches, food banks, homeless shelters and even some government buildings such as wastewater treatment plants. Black Rock Solar — funded entirely by utility rebates, grants and donations — is now the nation's second-largest nonprofit installer of solar arrays.

"We went from no one applying for the utility rebates to them being applied for 10 times more than what was available." Tom Price, one of Black Rock Solar's founders

But back in 2007, even as renewable energy was getting buzz around the globe, even as state governments across America had begun to adopt standards that required energy portfolios include renewables, and even as obvious as the concept of solar might be in Nevada, one of the sunniest states in the country, it simply wasn't taking off there.

"Renewable energy had been seen as complicated and expensive," Price says. "It was for the rich or well connected."

In part, that's because most institutions didn't have the money to pay for a solar project.

"Northwest Nevada is very poor," said David Shearer, another founding member of Black Rock Solar and vice president of its board. "NGOs, schools, hospitals, Indian reservations and food banks just didn't have the money to invest up front."

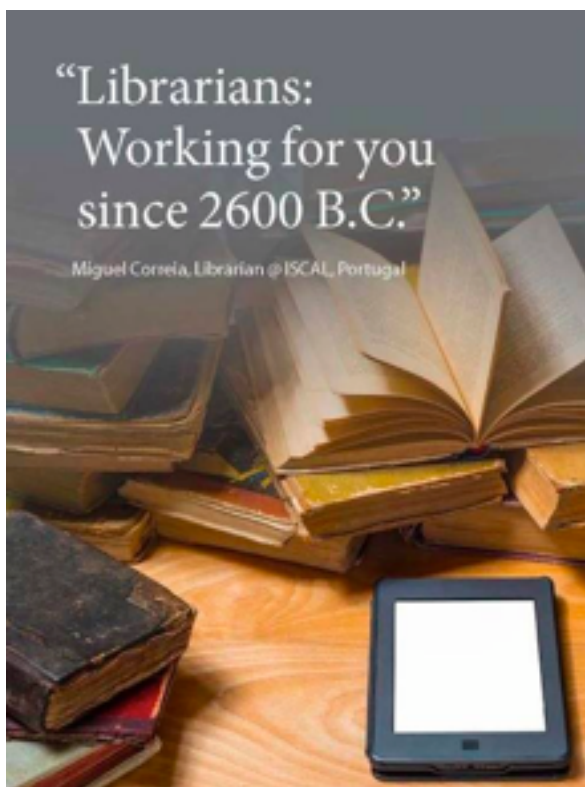
Price and the other founders believed if the group started putting solar panels on highly visible institutions, like tribes and food banks, those projects would inspire cognitive dissonance among companies and citizens across the state.

“[We wanted people to ask] why is it that the Boys and Girls Club, the home for battered women, this Indian rural health clinic can have solar, but I can’t put it in my home or business?” Price says. “We wanted to change the narrative of the conversation around renewable energy. That’s going to echo throughout the community in ways you can’t imagine.”

At the time, Price says, solar-power distribution was dominated “by a few very small interests. Organized labor groups were charging a lot for solar and getting away with it,” because there wasn’t much competition, he says. “Few jobs were getting done, and they were making a lot of money.”

But Black Rock Solar had a few advantages. The cost of solar panels had begun to drop, and the group had a passel of eager volunteers. With a \$50,000 loan from Burning Man’s limited liability

company, which organizes the festival, to pay Price and two other staffers’ salaries, Black Rock Solar launched with most of its “employees” paid only in housing, groceries, beer and cigarettes.



Most of the initial volunteers were completely untrained, but Black Rock Solar did have a few key players. One of its early backers and board chairman, Matt Cheney, ran a \$50-million solar development company, and he could get panels at competitive prices. Cheney happily brought both clout and expertise to the project, and he convinced suppliers to front the fledgling nonprofit \$300,000 worth of panels for the first job, at the [Pershing General Hospital](#) in rural Lovelock, Nev. Another early contributor, Joe Pizur, a solar consultant and designer, put up his contracting license so the nonprofit would be qualified to sign contracts, build projects and be connected to the energy grid.

“Everyone else, including me, was a complete beginner” in the solar business, Price says — which is not to say they didn’t have talent. A graphic designer volunteered to sketch a logo. A lawyer helped draft the necessary paperwork. “We had not one, but five different friends who worked at NV Energy. Everywhere we turned, there was someone in our community saying ‘Let me help.’ It became not just easy; it became inevitable. The moment we had the idea and articulated it, it became inevitable.”

DON’T MISS: [Tapping the Power of Instagram for a Litter-Free World](#)

Black Rock Solar soon became an unstoppable force in the statewide solar movement. In 2007, distributed renewable energy like solar couldn’t be owned by a third party, according to state law. Because nonprofits, schools and cities didn’t have the same freedom as businesses or residents to apply for the tax credits upon which most solar incentives are based, the law stifled development.

As it turned out, though, there were “burners” in the Nevada Legislature, including Assemblyman David Bobzien. After one brokered brunch meeting with Bobzien, State Senator Debbie Smith and Black Rock representatives, Smith agreed to carry a bill to the house floor to get the third-party law reversed. The result? An immediate increase in solar projects and jobs in the economically struggling state.

Clamoring for solar power has indeed become contagious, just as Price and others had hoped. “We went from no one applying for the utility rebates to them being applied for 10 times more than what was available,” Price says. “It really changed the market in Nevada, dramatically.”

Many of Black Rock Solar’s installations are on State Highway 447, which the state of Nevada declared in 2010 as “America’s Solar Highway,” lauding the route’s distinction of having more watts of solar power per mile — 17 — than anywhere in the United States.

“They’re [Black Rock] timely, they’re neat, they clean up after themselves well,” says Jim Peckham, executive director of [Friends in Service Helping](#), a nonprofit in Carson City, Nev., that runs thrift stores, a counseling center, a dining room and food pantry, shelter facilities and a medical clinic. The agency worked with Black Rock on two different solar installations, each worth more than \$100,000 but costing the company a total of \$16,000, thanks to utility rebates and private donations. Peckham expects the panels to cut his power bill in half, saving \$5,000 a year.

The installation at the Food Bank of Northern Nevada cost \$735,388, according to Cherie Jamason. After the rebates, the nonprofit paid a mere \$45,388. Jamason estimates that the resulting cost savings allowed the food bank to provide 1.5 additional million meals to its clients, who numbered 200,000 in 2012.

“That’s a pretty amazing return on investment,” she says.

Read more: <http://nationswell.com/burning-man-spawned-solar-gold-rush/#ixzz35FOOKFzQ>

THE WHITE HOUSE Office of the Press Secretary June 20, 2014

Fact Sheet: The Economic Challenge Posed by Declining Pollinator Populations

Pollinators contribute substantially to the economy of the United States and are vital to keeping fruits, nuts, and vegetables in our diets. Over the past few decades, there has been a significant loss of pollinators—including honey bees, native bees, birds, bats, and butterflies—from the environment. The problem is serious and poses a significant challenge that needs to be addressed to ensure the sustainability of our food production systems, avoid additional economic impacts on the agricultural sector, and protect the health of the environment.

Economic Importance of Pollinators:

- Insect pollination is integral to food security in the United States. Honey bees enable the production of at least 90 commercially grown crops in North America. Globally, 87 of the

leading 115 food crops evaluated are dependent on animal pollinators, contributing 35% of global food production.

- Pollinators contribute more than 24 billion dollars to the United States economy, of which honey bees account for more than 15 billion dollars through their vital role in keeping fruits, nuts, and vegetables in our diets.
- Native wild pollinators, such as bumble bees and alfalfa leafcutter bees, also contribute substantially to the domestic economy. In 2009, the crop benefits from native insect pollination in the United States were valued at more than 9 billion dollars.

The Challenge of Pollinator Declines :

- The number of managed honey bee colonies in the United States has declined steadily over the past 60 years, from 6 million colonies (beehives) in 1947 to 4 million in 1970, 3 million in 1990, and just 2.5 million today. Given the heavy dependence of certain crops on commercial pollination, reduced honey bee populations pose a real threat to domestic agriculture.
- Some crops, such as almonds, are almost exclusively pollinated by honey bees, and many crops rely on honey bees for more than 90% of their pollination. California's almond industry alone requires the pollination services of approximately 1.4 million beehives annually—60% of all U.S. beehives—yielding 80% of the worldwide almond production worth 4.8 billion dollars each year.
- Since 2006, commercial beekeepers in the United States have seen honey bee colony loss rates increase to an average of 30% each winter, compared to historical loss rates of 10 to 15%. In 2013–14, the overwintering loss rate was 23.2%, down from 30.5% the previous year but still greater than historical averages and the self-reported acceptable winter mortality rate.
- The recent increased loss of honey bee colonies is thought to be caused by a combination of stressors, including loss of natural forage and inadequate diets, mite infestations and diseases, loss of genetic diversity, and exposure to certain pesticides. Contributing to these high loss rates is a phenomenon called colony collapse disorder (CCD), in which there is a rapid, unexpected, and catastrophic loss of bees in a hive.
- Beekeepers in the United States have collectively lost an estimated 10 million beehives at an approximate current value of \$200 each. These high colony loss rates require beekeepers to rapidly, and at substantial expense, rebuild their colonies, placing commercial beekeeping in jeopardy as a viable industry and threatening the crops dependent on honey bee pollination. The loss rates have driven up the cost of commercial pollination: for instance, the cost of renting honey bee hives for almond pollination rose from about \$50 in 2003 to \$150-\$175 per hive in 2009.
- Some of the viral agents that are impacting honey bee colonies are also now reported to be adversely affecting native pollinators, such as bumble bees, and the pollination services they provide.
- Population declines have also been observed for other contributing pollinator species, such as Monarch butterflies, which migrate from Mexico across the United States to Canada each year, returning to overwinter in the same few forests in Mexico. The Monarch butterfly migration, an iconic natural phenomenon that has an estimated economic value in the billions of dollars, sank to the lowest recorded levels this winter, with an imminent risk of failure.

Administration Actions:

In response to the challenges to commercial bee-keeping, the President’s 2015 Budget recommends approximately \$50 million across multiple agencies within USDA to: enhance research at USDA and through public-private grants, strengthen pollinator habitat in core areas, double the number of acres in the Conservation Reserve Program that are dedicated to pollinator health, and increase funding for surveys to determine the impacts on pollinator losses.

Building on this budget initiative, President Obama today issued a Presidential Memorandum on *Creating a Federal Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators* that takes a number of important steps to tackle the problem of pollinator declines, including:

- Directing the Federal Government to use its research, land management, education, and public/private partnership capacities to broadly advance honey bee and other pollinator health and habitat;
- Establishing a new Pollinator Health Task Force, co-chaired by United States Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency, to develop a National Pollinator Health Strategy. The Strategy will include: a coordinated research action plan to understand, prevent, and recover from pollinator losses, including determining the relative impacts of habitat loss, pesticide exposure, and other stressors; a public education plan to help individuals, businesses, and other organizations address pollinator losses; and recommendations for increasing public-private partnerships to build on Federal efforts to protect pollinators;
- Directing Task Force agencies to develop plans to enhance pollinator habitat on federal lands and facilities in order to lead by example to significantly expand the acreage and quality of pollinator habitat, consistent with agency missions and public safety; and
- Directing Task Force agencies to partner with state, tribal, and local governments; farmers and ranchers; corporations and small businesses; and non-governmental organizations to protect pollinators and increase the quality and amount of available habitat and forage.

In line with these efforts, the Federal Government will also work to restore the Monarch butterfly migration using research and habitat improvements that will benefit Monarchs as well as other native pollinators and honey bees. These actions support the February 2014 Joint Statement by President Obama, Prime Minister Harper of Canada, and President Peña Nieto of Mexico to renew and expand collaboration between North American nations to conserve the Monarch butterfly.

Last week at Interior

Secretary Jewell announces \$102 million in coastal resilience grants aimed at helping communities protect themselves from severe storms; the Secretary joins Massachusetts Governor

Deval Patrick to announce the nation's largest offshore wind energy area available for commercial development; researchers discover an endangered fish species spawning in the lower Colorado River within the Grand Canyon; campers stumble on the skull and tusks of a prehistoric elephant in New Mexico; and the President makes a historic visit to Indian Country.

[Click here to watch this week's episode.](#)

Little Passports (Why not one tribal community a month?)

Sponsored · [Edited](#) · Inspire Children to Learn About the World. One country a month, packages arrive in the mail filled with letters, stickers, souvenirs, photos & more! All for as little as \$10.95 / month



Join & Discover ► www.LittlePassports.com

Is Coding the New Literacy?

Tasneem Raja, Mother Jones

Why computer literacy is key to winning the 21st century.

Nuclear waste dump plan on Aboriginal land abandoned

Several Aboriginal tribal groups challenged the deal gulfnews.com

A very long, but important article:

Annals of Enterprise: The Disruption Machine

What the gospel of innovation gets wrong.

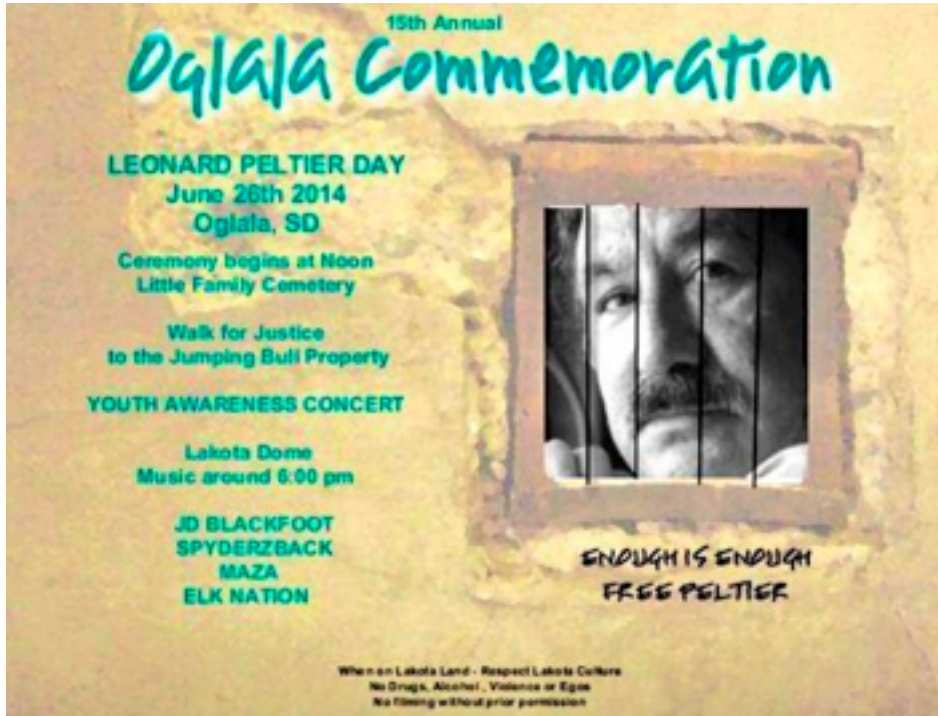
by [Jill Lepore](#) June 23, 2014 [http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2014/06/23/140623fa_fact_lepore?](http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2014/06/23/140623fa_fact_lepore?currentPage=all&utm_source=pocket&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pockethits)

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June 26th is the 2nd annual Leonard Peltier Day, the 15th annual Oglala Commemoration, the 39th anniversary of that fateful day at Oglala, South Dakota within the Pine

Ridge Reservation that brought about the unlawful arrest and subsequent wrongful incarceration of Leonard Peltier >> <http://www.oglalacommemoration.com/...> See [More](#)

Bonnie Walker



We've posted live events here that will be taking place for Leonard during June 23-27. Please scroll down the page and if you can please attend. We may have missed a few as there is no centralized place that we've found that lists them all. If you are aware of any, please feel free to post them HERE! We've heard that other events may be happening and once confirmed we'll add them!!

BUT...if YOU can't make a Live event, NO WORRIES!! That's why WE Are HERE!! If YOU have access to a phone, a computer (or other devices to access the Internet), or a pen & paper THIS is the place to be!! In Solidarity & Good Faith WE Thank YOU all so very much!! . LOVE

This event is happening in Topeka Kansas on June 27, 2014 >> <http://cjonline.com/news/2014-06-22/scroggins-hold-friday-night-candlelight-vigil-peltier#.U6dJ9C2BaeU.facebook> . LOVE

[Scroggins to hold Friday night candlelight vigil for Peltier](#)

Activist Sonny Scroggins is inviting the public to join him in a candlelight prayer vigil this week in support of a man he says is wrongly imprisoned for a 1975 shooting on an Indian reservation. CJOnline.com

A run for FREEDOM for Leonard & All Other Political Prisoners! All you runners > June 27-29 from Dayton, Ohio to Covington KY. Take it to the limit! > <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10151960484265814&set=gm.226186524237229&type=1>

[Walk a Mile In Leonard Peltier's Shoes](#)

Thursday, June 26 at 12:00pm in UTC+02
Global Event

Paris, France...A good place to educate and honor Leonard! Leonard is know throughout the world and France steps up to support him. Soooo, if you should happen to be in Paris on June 26, check it out! > https://www.facebook.com/events/282019721970046/?ref_newsfeed_story_type=regularFree Leonard Peltier : Projection du film Incident à Oglala

Thursday, June 26 at 7:00pm in UTC+02
[Cinema La Clef](#) in [Paris, France](#)

[FREE LEONARD PELTIER! picket](#)

Thursday, June 26 at 5:00pm in CDT
corner of Lake Ave. & Superior St. in Duluth, MN

Albuquerque, unwavering support for Leonard; if you are in the vicinity Please drop by!! > https://www.facebook.com/events/609944725763772/?ref_dashboard_filter=upcoming

Do you know the way to San Jose? (couldn't help myself)....San Jose always stands up for Leonard; if you are in the area please check it out! > https://www.facebook.com/events/1441231789470503/?ref_dashboard_filter=upcoming . LOVE

[Honoring Leonard Peltier on the 39th Anniversary Shootout at Oglala](#)

Willow Street Frank Bramhall Park, corner of Willow Street and Camino Ramon, San Jose, CA [47 people are going](#)

[Bonnie Walker](#) shared [Oglala Commemoration's event](#).

ONE WEEK FROM TODAY (June 26, 2014) IS LEONARD PELTIER DAY!! What YOU gonna do??? If YOU are in the neighborhood of Oglala, South Dakota check out their 15th annual Commemoration > https://www.facebook.com/events/643826065672748/?ref_dashboard_filter=upcoming . LOVE

[Oglala Commemoration](#)

Thursday, June 26 at 12:00pm in MDT

[Bonnie Walker](#)

Very Loving
Supporters of
Leonard's
went up to the
summit of Mt Shasta
where they said
Prayers for his
Release and left a
Sign on the Mountain

KOLA > 17 June 2014 = 14,011 days of illegal imprisonment! Free [#LeonardPeltier](#) !!!
@WhiteHouse @BarackObama
[pic.twitter.com](#)

/
[wysgOHATd1](#)

<https://www.anchortex.com/> - seeking part-time help

Anchortex is a leading GSA supplier of safety apparel and equipment to military, public safety, and industrial professionals across the USA

University of Utah - S.J. Quinney Law Library Website

The S.J. Quinney Law school was founded in 1913 to meet the growing legal needs of Utah and the western United States. As one of the oldest and most well-respected law schools in the west, the S.J. Quinney College of Law has left a lasting mark on the American legal system. The library houses more than 340,000 volumes of law and law-related material and serves as a depository for US government documents. Eight librarians (six with law degrees) teach the research component of the Legal Methods course.

Description of Skibine holdings:

Professor Skibine received a B.A. in political science and French literature from Tufts University and a J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law. Before joining the faculty at the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law in 1989, Professor Skibine served as Deputy Counsel for Indian Affairs for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. Professor Skibine has published many articles in the area of federal Indian law and he is frequently invited to speak on federal Indian law issues at venues around the country. He is a member of the Illinois and District of Columbia bar associations

Journal of Energy Law and Policy, 1981-42

Table of Contents: The Environmental Impacts of Synthetic Fuels; Constitutionality of State Economic Incentives for Energy Development; Congressional Power, Trust Responsibilities and Judicial Review in Indian Affairs; Reforming the Provision of Utility Service to the Low-Income Consumer: Congressional, Judicial and Administrative Remedies; Indian Water Rights, the Central Arizona Project and Water Policy in the Lower Colorado River Basin; FDA's Planning for Radiological Emergencies; Interstate and Intrastate Pipeline Transportation and Sales of Gas Under 311 of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978; Mining in the Public Parks; The Ute Indian Water Compact; Mitigating Boom Town Effects of Energy Development: A Survey; Alice in Wexpro-land

Rebecca Tsosie, Lincoln Professor of Native American Law and Ethics and Executive Director, Indian Legal Program, Arizona State University, presents on Tribalism, Constitutionalism and Cultural Pluralism: Where do Indigenous Peoples fit within Civil Society? 2002-04-22

Larry Echohawk (Class of 1973) Collection