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**Elouise Cobell to Discuss Cobell Settlement
in South Dakota on March 7 and 8**

March 4, 2009 -- Washington, DC -- Elouise Cobell will be in South Dakota next week to explain the Cobell Settlement and answer questions. Among other things, she will be talking about the \$3.4 billion dollar settlement, the land consolidation Fund, and the Indian education scholarship fund. The scheduled events are as follows:

Date: Sunday March 7

Location: Oglala Lakota College at the Pejuta Haka College Center

Time: 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Date: Monday, March 8

Location: Sinte Gleska University Gym

Time: 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Background: A Settlement Agreement has been announced between Individual Indian Money (IIM) beneficiaries and the Secretary of the Interior, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior-Indian Affairs, and the Secretary of the Treasury in a long-running class action lawsuit, *Cobell v. Salazar*. The lawsuit claims that the federal government mismanaged individual Indians' trust accounts. Under the terms of the Settlement, the federal government will create a \$1.4 billion Accounting/Trust Administration Fund and a \$2 billion Trust Land Consolidation Fund. The Settlement also creates an Indian Education Scholarship fund of up to \$60 million to improve access to higher education for Indians.

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