

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1913

AN ACT

To require the valuation of nontribal interest ownership of subsurface rights within the boundaries of the Acoma Indian Reservation, and for other purposes.

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1913

AN ACT

To require the valuation of nontribal interest ownership of subsurface rights within the boundaries of the Acoma Indian Reservation, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. PUEBLO OF ACOMA LAND AND MINERAL CON-**
2 **SOLIDATION.**

3 (a) VALUATION.—Not later than 6 months after the
4 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of the
5 Interior shall determine the extent and the value of the
6 nontribal interest ownership of the subsurface rights, in-
7 cluding mineral rights, within the boundaries of the
8 Acoma Indian Reservation.

9 (b) LAND EXCHANGES.—Upon completion of the
10 valuation required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall,
11 unless the Secretary exercises an option under subsection
12 (c), negotiate an exchange with any willing sellers of inter-
13 ests in nontribal land (including interests in mineral or
14 other surface or subsurface rights) within the boundaries
15 of the Acoma Indian Reservation for interests in Federal
16 land that is—

17 (1) located within the boundaries of the State
18 of New Mexico;

19 (2) identified by the Bureau of Land Manage-
20 ment as available for disposal; and

21 (3) of approximately the same value as the in-
22 terest in land for which it is being exchanged.

23 (c) PURCHASE OPTION.—At the discretion of the
24 Secretary, instead of a land exchange under subsection
25 (b), the Secretary may acquire interests in nontribal land
26 (including interests in mineral or other surface or sub-

1 surface rights) within the boundaries of the Acoma Indian
2 Reservation through—

3 (1) direct cash purchase of the interests in non-
4 tribal land for the fair market value determined
5 under subsection (a); and

6 (2) issuance to any owner of the interests in
7 nontribal land of a Certificate of Bidding Rights in
8 such form and manner as provided for under regula-
9 tions promulgated by the Secretary under provisions
10 of the Act of February 25, 1920 (commonly known
11 as the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.))
12 or the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43
13 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) for mineral leasing and bidding
14 rights equal to the fair market value determined
15 under subsection (a).

16 (d) COST SHARING.—The costs of the valuation re-
17 quired under subsection (a) and any land exchange under
18 subsection (b) shall be equally shared between the owners
19 of the interests in nontribal land and the Secretary. This
20 subsection shall apply to the cost of the valuation under
21 subsection (a) even if the Secretary elects to exercise the
22 options for acquisition under subsection (c).

23 **SEC. 2. TIMELINE; LAND TAKEN INTO TRUST.**

24 The Secretary shall complete such negotiations and
25 exchanges not later than 3 years after the date of the en-

1 actment of this section and shall place interests in land
2 within the boundaries of the Acoma Indian Reservation
3 that are acquired under this section into trust for the
4 Pueblo of Acoma.

Passed the House of Representatives November 27,
2001.

Attest:

Clerk.