

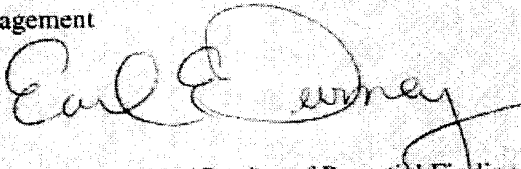


United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL  
Washington, DC 20240

APR 6 2005

Memorandum

To: Kathleen Clarke, Director  
Bureau of Land Management

From: Earl E. Devaney   
Inspector General

Subject: IT Security Penetration Testing – Notification of Potential Finding  
and Recommendation

I am attaching with this Memorandum a copy of the Notification of Potential Finding and Recommendation that we have provided to your Chief Information Officer (CIO) regarding unauthorized access to three Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Indian Trust systems.

During the course of an Office of Inspector General (OIG) Information Technology Penetration Test, we were able to obtain unauthorized access to BLM's networks and systems. We used this access to successfully discover and probe three systems identified by BLM as housing Indian Trust data (see the enclosed Potential Notice of Findings and Recommendations for more details).

Given the poor state of network security at the BLM and the weak access controls we encountered on many systems, it is safe to say that we could have easily compromised the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the identified Indian Trust data residing on those systems. However, due to the various court orders protecting Indian Trust data, the OIG carried out no further testing that could have jeopardized BLM's Indian Trust systems. No information was collected, no data was manipulated, and no system was actually compromised.

Your CIO is copied on this memorandum to review our recommendations for corrective actions and to make the necessary corrections. We are also providing, under separate cover, the full report on the results of our penetration testing to your CIO. We stand ready to assist you and your staff with any question you may have to better understand and correct the noted deficiencies.

We are also bringing this directly to the attention of the Associate Deputy Secretary, James Cason, for any necessary notification to the Department of Justice and the Court for the *Cobell* litigation. We ask that you provide us with a copy of any notification you make.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 208-5745.

Attachment

cc: Sue Ellen Wooldridge, Solicitor  
James Cason, Associate Deputy Secretary  
P. Lynn Scarlet, Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget  
W. Hord Tipton, Chief Information Officer  
Ronnie Levine, Bureau of Land Management, Chief Information Officer