

the purposes specified in this section and section 1776h of this title.

(Pub. L. 103-444, § 6, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4638; amended Pub. L. 103-435, § 23, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4575.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 103-435 amended subsec. (c) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (c) read as follows: “At the request of the Secretary, the Secretary of the Treasury shall invest all sums deposited into, accruing to, and remaining in, the Crow Tribal Trust Fund in accordance with sections 161a to 161d of this title.”

#### § 1776e. Eligibility for other Federal services

No payments made or benefits conferred pursuant to this subchapter shall result in the reduction or denial of any Federal services or programs to any tribe or to any member of a tribe to which the tribe or member of the tribe is entitled or eligible because of the status of the tribe as a federally recognized Indian tribe or the status of a member of such tribe as a member.

(Pub. L. 103-444, § 7, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4640.)

#### § 1776f. Exchanges of land or minerals

##### (a) In general

(1) Subject to approval by the Secretary, the Crow Tribe may exchange any land or minerals to which its title is recognized in or obtained pursuant to this subchapter for other land or minerals of substantially equivalent value within the Crow Indian Reservation (including parcel number 1).

(2) Lands or minerals received by the Crow Tribe in any exchange made pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be—

- (A) vested in the United States in trust for the sole use and benefit of the Crow Tribe; and
- (B) recognized as part of the Crow Indian Reservation.

##### (b) Ownership by non-Indians

Any land or minerals received by a person who is not an Indian in an exchange referred to in subsection (a) of this section shall be owned in fee.

(Pub. L. 103-444, § 8, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4640.)

#### § 1776g. Applicability

##### (a) In general

This subchapter shall take effect upon the occurrence of the following conditions:

- (1) The Settlement Agreement is approved and executed by the Secretary.
- (2) The Settlement Agreement is approved and executed by the Crow Tribe.
- (3) The Settlement Agreement and the releases and waivers required by section 1776c of this title are approved and duly executed by the Crow Tribe in accordance with the requirements and procedures set forth in the constitution of the Crow Tribe.
- (4) The Settlement Agreement becomes effective in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the Settlement Agreement.

##### (b) Approval of releases and waivers

The United States hereby approves and confirms the releases and waivers required by section 1776c of this title.

(Pub. L. 103-444, § 9, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4640; Pub. L. 104-109, § 9(b), Feb. 12, 1996, 110 Stat. 765.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-109 substituted “This subchapter” for “The subchapter” in introductory provisions.

#### § 1776h. Escrow funds

##### (a) In general

As soon as practicable after November 2, 1994, the Secretary shall make distributions from the 107th meridian escrow fund as follows:

(1) One-half of the fund shall be distributed to the Crow Tribe.

(2) One-half of the fund shall be distributed to the Northern Cheyenne Tribe.

(3) The receipt and acceptance by a tribe of funds distributed under this section shall be deemed to be—

(A) a disclaimer, relinquishment and waiver by such tribe of all right, claim or interest in the 107th meridian escrow fund; and

(B) a release by such tribe of all persons and entities, including the United States, from any liability arising from, or related to, the establishment and administration of the 107th meridian escrow fund.

##### (b) Establishment of Suspension Accounts

As soon as practicable after the Settlement Agreement is executed and approved pursuant to this subchapter, the Secretary of the Treasury shall establish in the Treasury of the United States two interest bearing accounts to be known respectively as the “Crow Tribal Suspension Account” and the “Northern Cheyenne Tribal Suspension Account” (collectively referred to in this section as the “Suspension Accounts”), consisting of—

(1) such amounts as are transferred to the Suspension Accounts under subsection (c) of this section; and

(2) any interest earned on investments of amounts in the Suspension Accounts under subsection (e) of this section.

##### (c) Contributions to Suspension Accounts

###### (1) In general

Beginning with fiscal year 1995, and ending on the date on which the total amount deposited pursuant to this subsection into the Suspension Accounts is equal to \$200,000 for each such account (as specified in subsection (d) of this section), the Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury shall make necessary and proper arrangements for the monthly payment, transfer, or deposit (or any combination thereof) into each of the Suspension Accounts of an amount equal to one-half of the royalties received and retained by the United States for the immediately preceding month, as determined in accordance with section 1776d(b)(1) of this title, by the date specified under section 1776d(b)(3) of this title.

###### (2) Subsequent deposits

At such time as the amount deposited pursuant to this subsection into the Suspension Ac-

counts is equal to \$200,000 for each such account (as specified in subsection (d) of this section), in accordance with section 1776d(b)(1) of this title, the Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury shall thereafter deposit any remaining amounts determined under section 1776d(b)(1) of this title in the Crow Tribal Trust Fund established under section 1776d(a) of this title.

**(d) Limitation**

The Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury shall not transfer more than a total amount equal to \$200,000 to each of the Suspension Accounts from the amounts determined under section 1776d(b)(1) of this title.

**(e) Investment**

All sums deposited in, accruing to and remaining in the Suspension Accounts shall be invested by the Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury in interest bearing deposits and securities in accordance with the Act of June 24, 1938 (52 Stat. 1037, chapter 648; 25 U.S.C. 162a).

**(f) Withdrawals and termination**

**(1) In general**

(A) Beginning on the date that is 5 years after November 2, 1994, the Crow Tribe and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe may each submit a duly authorized request to the Secretary for the withdrawal of all of the funds from the Suspension Account of the tribe established under subsection (b) of this section.

(B) Not later than 60 days after receiving a request for the distribution of funds from a Suspension Account made by a tribe under subparagraph (A)—

(i) the Secretary shall, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Treasury, withdraw and distribute such funds in accordance with such request; and

(ii) the Secretary of the Treasury shall terminate the Suspension Account.

**(2) Other means of termination**

With respect to a Suspension Account established under subsection (b) of this section that is not terminated pursuant to paragraph (1), at such time as the corpus and the accrued interest of the Suspension Account of the Crow Tribe or the Northern Cheyenne Tribe is approximately equal to the amount specified in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of the Treasury shall terminate the Suspension Account and the Secretary of the Interior shall distribute the funds from the Suspension Account to the tribe.

(Pub. L. 103-444, §10, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4641; Pub. L. 104-109, §9(c), Feb. 12, 1996, 110 Stat. 765.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act of June 24, 1938, referred to in subsec. (e), is act June 24, 1938, ch. 648, 52 Stat. 1037, which enacted section 162a of this title, repealed section 162 of this title, and enacted provisions set out as a note under section 162a of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-109 substituted “referred to in this section” for “referred to in this subsection”.

**§ 1776i. Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868**

Except for the adjustment to the eastern boundary of the Crow Indian Reservation, nothing in this subchapter or in the Settlement Agreement shall affect or modify the terms and conditions of the treaty between the United States of America and the Crow Tribe of Indians concluded May 7, 1868 (commonly known as the “Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868”; 15 Stat. 649).

(Pub. L. 103-444, §11, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4642.)

**§ 1776j. Satisfaction of claims**

The benefits available to the Crow Tribe under the terms and conditions of this subchapter and the Settlement Agreement shall constitute full and complete satisfaction of all claims by the Crow Tribe and the members of the Crow Tribe arising from or related to the erroneous survey of the 107th meridian described in section 1776(a)(3) of this title.

(Pub. L. 103-444, §12, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4642.)

**§ 1776k. Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of the Interior such sums as are necessary to carry out this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 103-444, §13, Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4643.)

SUBCHAPTER XI—SANTO DOMINGO  
PUEBLO LAND CLAIMS SETTLEMENT

**§ 1777. Findings and purposes**

**(a) Findings**

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) For many years the Pueblo of Santo Domingo has been asserting claims to lands within its aboriginal use area in north central New Mexico. These claims have been the subject of many lawsuits, and a number of these claims remain unresolved.

(2) In December 1927, the Pueblo Lands Board, acting pursuant to the Pueblo Lands Act of 1924 (43 Stat. 636) confirmed a survey of the boundaries of the Pueblo of Santo Domingo Grant. However, at the same time the Board purported to extinguish Indian title to approximately 27,000 acres of lands within those grant boundaries which lay within 3 other overlapping Spanish land grants. The United States Court of Appeals in *United States v. Thompson* (941 F.2d 1074 (10th Cir. 1991), cert. denied 503 U.S. 984 (1992)), held that the Board “ignored an express congressional directive” in section 14 of the Pueblo Lands Act, which “contemplated that the Pueblo would retain title to and possession of all overlap land”.

(3) The Pueblo of Santo Domingo has asserted a claim to another 25,000 acres of land based on the Pueblo’s purchase in 1748 of the Diego Gallegos Grant. The Pueblo possesses the original deed reflecting the purchase under Spanish law but, after the United States assumed sovereignty over New Mexico, no action was taken to confirm the Pueblo’s title to these lands. Later, many of these lands were treated as public domain, and are held today by Federal agencies, the State Land Commis-