

1 Cathie McHenry  
President  
2 W.E. Watch, Inc.  
P.O. Box 830  
3 Solvang, CA 93464  
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8 **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR**  
9 **INTERIOR BOARD OF INDIAN APPEALS**  
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12 W.E. WATCH, Inc.

Appellant,

v.

13 PACIFIC REGIONAL DIRECTOR, BUREAU  
14 OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
15

Appellee.

Case No.

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

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19 W.E. Watch, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) which was organized in 1992. We strive to work with  
20 others to sustain the beauty and environment of the Santa Ynez Valley. We support careful  
21 analysis of proposed land development adhering to a long-term vision for growth that maintains  
22 the quality of life for all.

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24 W.E. Watch, appeals the June 17, 2013, Approval of the Land Consolidation Acquisition  
25 Plan of the Santa Ynez Indians by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the following reasons:

- 26 1. The Approval is not supported by evidence in the record. Instead, the BIA approved the  
27 proposal as submitted by the Santa Ynez Band of Indians.  
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- 1 2. The BIA failed to give notice of the Approval to all interested parties, including W.E. Watch  
2 as required by the regulations. The time to appeal this decision has not started to run.
- 3 3. The purpose of the Approval is to promote fee-to-trust applications by the Santa Ynez  
4 Indians. But they were not a recognized tribe in 1934 and do not qualify for these benefits.
- 5 4. The Approval is contrary to the law governing tribal land acquisitions because the land was  
6 never part of a reservation.
- 7 5. The Santa Ynez Indians have no remaining ancestral or historical title claims to the land  
8 within the proposed acquisition plan area that was approved by the BIA
- 9 6. The Approval will have significant adverse environmental impacts on the Santa Ynez Valley.  
10 The BIA should be required to comply with NEPA before issuing the Approval.
- 11 7. The BIA failed to insure that there was compliance with State and local laws before approving  
12 the Land Consolidation and Acquisition Plan.
- 13 8. Only the Secretary of Interior has the authority to approve a tribal acquisition plan. The BIA  
14 Regional Director does not have that authority.
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18 Dated: September 21, 2013

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20 **CATHIE McHENRY**  
21 **President**  
22 **W.E. Watch, Inc.**  
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DISTRIBUTION:

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