

BLM

Land Issues

Question: Our village is negotiating an agreement with a mining company for the future lease of village lands. How soon can we expect title to the lands?

Answer: If your village has not filed any application for selection of lands within its withdrawals, no work can be done to process the transfer of the land. Once you file a selection, it may take BLM several months to: 1) check the exact location of the townships; 2) check any other claims on the land; 3) determine where access corridors and easements should be across the land; and 4) prepare the documents for patenting the land.

Before a village has title to its lands it is not legal for the village corporation to sell or lease land or resources in or on the land.