

FINAL VERSION OF NATIVE
CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT
AS OF DECEMBER 8, 1971

ANALYSIS OF THE BILL

LAND: Native title to 40 million acres of land would be confirmed. This would be a full fee interest in 40 million acres, surface and sub-surface. The lands would be selected within a four year period beginning with the date of enactment. All selections would have priority over new State selections since the bill sets aside certain townships for selection by Natives and other townships for selections by the State.

An initial selection of 22 million acres would be made by the villages. The amount of land allocated to each village would depend on the population of that village. All selections would be compact and contiguous lands taken from a 25 township withdrawal around each village. Villages located on the coastline as well as villages in the interior would have a full 25 township withdrawal. Villages located in Wildlife Refuges and Pet 4 would not have a full 25 township withdrawal but would be limited to selections within a full 9 township withdrawal. Furthermore, villages in those restricted areas could select only a maximum of 4 townships and no mineral rights would be available in those areas.

Because of the restrictions on surface and subsurface rights in Wildlife Refuges and Petroleum Reserve No. 4, certain villages would not receive their full entitlement to surface and subsurface estate out of the 9 or 25 township withdrawals. In this case, there would be additional "in lieu" selections. The shortage in both surface and subsurface estate would be selected from the public lands closest to

the village and at the same time outside the restricted area. Thus villages in Wildlife Refuges would select additional surface lands and their sub-surface entitlement out of the lands immediately surrounding the Wildlife Refuge. The in lieu provision guarantees a full entitlement of 22 million acres of land during this phase of selections.

The 22 million acres of village land would be selected during a 3 (?) year period after enactment. During that time no State selections could be made in the 25 township withdrawal. Villages would be entitled to select no more than 3 townships of tentatively approved land per village.

At the end of the 3 year period the regional corporations

would be entitled to select 16 million acres of land on a "land loss" basis. The total of village selections within a particular region and the regional selections for that region would, as closely as possible, be proportionate to the size of the region. In the event village selections for one or more regions exceeded the region's "land loss" allocation, the excess would be deducted from other regions which still have land entitlements. The deduction will be apportioned on a "land loss" basis.

The 16 million acres will be selected out of the same 25 township withdrawals available for village selection. However, Natives will select from alternating townships and the State will select from the other townships

within the 25 township withdrawal. Thus Natives and the State will select from a checkerboard withdrawal pattern. These selections must be made within the one year following the three year village selection period.

An additional 2 million acres will be available for allocation under "hardship" provisions.

These lands will be selected from the withdrawals made for villages which later prove to have less than 25 residents and thus not be qualified for village land selections, and from additional withdrawals to be determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

MONEY: A total of \$962.5 million will be paid as compensation for the extinguishment of

other land rights. This consists of a 2 per cent royalty which continues until \$500 million is paid and a Federal appropriation of \$462.5 million. The Federal appropriation would be paid over an 11 year period according to the following schedule:

FISCAL YEAR —AMOUNT

1972	\$12,500,000
1973	50,000,000
1974	70,000,000
1975	70,000,000
1976	70,000,000
1977	40,000,000
1978	30,000,000
1979	30,000,000
1980	30,000,000
1981	30,000,000
1982	30,000,000

TOTAL \$462,500,000