IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

ELOUISE PEPION COBELL, et al.,	)	
Plaintiffs-Appellees,	)	
v.	)	No. 02-5374
GALE A. NORTON, Secretary of the Interior, et al.,	)	
Defendants-Appellants.	)	

REPLY IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR EXPEDITED APPEAL AND ARGUMENT

Defendants-appellants, the Secretary of the Interior, et al., respectfully reply to plaintiffs-appellees' response to our motion for expedition.

Plaintiffs agree that, if appellate review is to proceed, it should do so expeditiously. Accordingly, we urge the Court to order (1) that the brief for appellees be filed within an appropriate time; (2) that the government's reply brief be filed within 14 days after appellees' brief; and (3) that oral argument be held at the Court's earliest convenience following the completion of briefing.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Court should grant the government's motion to expedite the appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

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DECEMBER 2002

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 23rd day of December, 2002, I am causing copies of the foregoing reply to be sent to the Court and to be served on the following by hand delivery:

The Honorable Royce C. Lamberth
United States District Court
United States Courthouse
Third and Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

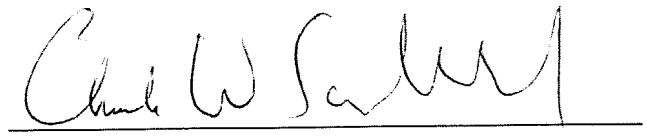
Dennis M. Gingold
1275 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
9th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20004

and to be served by fax upon:

Elliott H. Levitas
1100 Peachtree Street
Suite 2800
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-4530

and to be served by regular mail upon:

Keith Harper
Native American Rights Fund
1712 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-2976



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