

DONNA CAMPBELL, M.D.

TEXAS STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 25

April 25, 2014

The Honorable Neil Kornze Director, Bureau of Land Management U.S. Department of the Interior 1849 C Street NW, Rm. 5665 Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Kornze:

As a State Senator elected to protect the rights of Texas citizens, I am greatly concerned about the Bureau of Land Management's recent attempts to "ascertain the boundary" between federally owned land in Oklahoma and the private property of Texans.

Private property is essential to a free society and our Constitution goes to great lengths to protect private property rights. More than anything, private property must be protected from arbitrary seizure by government, or the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I am in agreement with Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott that federal law provides that the boundary between Texas and Oklahoma is "the vegetation on the south bank of the Red River" as outlined and ratified by Congress in the Red River Boundary Compact of 2000. Given this compact, there appears to be no basis for the BLM to claim federal ownership of property along the Red River in the State of Texas.

I join other Texas officials in requesting that the BLM clarify its intentions and respect the private property rights of Texans. Thanks for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Senator Donna Campbell, M.D.

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Texas Senate District 25