

Summary: Investigation of alleged diversion of right-of-way payment by members of the Chippewa Cree Tribe

Report Date: December 1, 2015

OIG investigated allegations that members of the Chippewa Cree Tribe (CCT) diverted a right-of-way payment from NorthWestern Energy to tribal bank accounts.

The allegations that members of the Chippewa Cree Tribe diverted a right-of-way payment from an energy company into tribal bank accounts were unfounded. We confirmed that the payment was diverted, however Tribal officials approved the funds transfer.

This is a summary of an investigative report that was issued to the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Montana, who had been consulted during the investigation but declined to pursue this matter. We also issued a summary of our report to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and did not require a response.

