

February 12, 2014

Notice of Consultation

Dear Tribal Leader:

On behalf of the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC or Commission), we invite you to participate in a consultations occurring this March, April, and May. The Commission seeks comment and discussion on two topics; the applicability of the National Environmental Policy Act to certain NIGC actions, and technological advancements in the gaming industry.

In December of 2009, the NIGC published a draft NEPA manual in the Federal Register and requested comments. Some of the comments received questioned whether the approval of a management contract actually triggered a NEPA review. The comments also suggested that the NIGC should either conclude that NEPA does not apply or it should adopt a categorical exclusion for the approval of management contracts. Based on those comments, the Commission would like to consult on what level of environmental review, if any, is required before the Chairman can approve a management contract.

The Commission will also consult on technology in the Indian gaming industry. The NIGC realizes that constant technologic advances are not only changing the face of Indian gaming, but also necessitate that the NIGC continue to adapt to meet the regulatory needs of the industry. As tribal gaming evolves, the NIGC wants to continue to play a relevant role in tribal gaming and ensure that it can meet the demands of new regulatory issues in a timely manner. The Commission is eager to hear the industry's suggestions for doing so.

The NIGC recognizes and respects the sovereignty of Indian tribes and the government-to-government relationship that exists between the United States and tribal governments. Accordingly, the NIGC is committed to implementing the President's November 5, 2009 Executive Memorandum on Tribal Consultation with Indian tribes and Executive Order 13175 prior to and during any rulemaking process.

We invite all tribal leaders to share their views with the Commission on these topics at the consultations listed below.

March 20, 2014 at the Mandalay Bay Casino Hotel

April 2, 2014 at Mystic Lake Casino

May 8, 2014 at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum

May 14, 2014 at the San Diego Convention Center

For those tribal leaders unable to attend consultation in person, the May 14, 2014 consultation will be accessible via telephone. For additional information on the time and location of the consultations, including teleconference information, please consult the NIGC's web site at www.nigc.gov/Tribal_Consultation.aspx. We also invite you to submit written comments by e-mail to consultation@nigc.gov or by U.S. mail to National Indian Gaming Commission, Attn: Consultation, 1441 L Street, NW, Suite 9100, Washington, DC 20005.

For planning purposes, and to accommodate all who want to attend the consultations, RSVP to Rita Homa, Executive Administrator, at (202) 418-9807 or by e-mail at consultation.rsvp@nigc.gov. We look forward to meeting with you.

Thank you for your interest and participation.

Sincerely,

Jonodev Chaudhuri

Acting Chairman

Daniel J. Little

Associate Commissioner