

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
PROPOSED SHINGLE SPRINGS HOTEL AND CASINO PROJECT**

AGENCY: National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC)

ACTION: Finding of no Significant Impact (FONSI)

SUMMARY:

The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians (Tribe) has submitted a request to the NIGC for the approval of a management agreement between the Tribe and Lakes, Kean-Argovitz Resorts for the development, construction and operation of a hotel and class III casino complex on existing tribal land.

The proposed 381,250 square-foot hotel, gaming and entertainment facility is to be developed on 43.9 acres within the 160 acre Shingle Springs Rancheria. The proposed federal action is the approval of the management agreement by the NIGC. Approval of this document will allow the Tribe to construct and operate the proposed gaming facility as planned, subject to the conditions of the existing Tribe/State Gaming Compact and this FONSI.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jim Harriman, Technical Reviewer
National Indian Gaming Commission
1441 L Street NW, Suite 9100
Washington, DC 20005
(703) 625-9164

PUBLIC AVAILABILITY:

The Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) was reviewed during a thirty-day public comment period. The Final EA (FEA) for the project has been prepared in full consideration of the comments received. This FONSI and a copy of responses to the public comments will be distributed to all commenting persons and agencies. Additionally, all individuals and organizations on the initial Draft EA mailing list will receive a copy of the FEA. Copies of the FEA are available upon request at the following address.

Analytical Environmental Services
9309 La Riviera Drive, Suite C
Sacramento, CA 95826

BACKGROUND:

Gaming is a unique opportunity for the Tribe to develop an economic base. This opportunity is afforded the Tribe under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*) and was sanctioned by the State of California through a State/Tribe Gaming Compact approved by the Governor and the Secretary of the Interior.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT:

The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Hotel and Casino Center will be a 381,250 square-foot facility on a 43.9 acre site located in El Dorado County with access from US Interstate 50 via a dedicated interchange. The facility will contain a 142,750 square-foot 250 room hotel, 82,800 square-feet of gaming area, 43,300 square-foot of food and beverage service areas, and

155,700 square-feet of support and administrative facilities. An adjacent five-level parking structure and surface parking will provide 3,000 spaces.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

An EA documenting the planning process and analyzing implementation impacts of the proposed project has been completed. No significant unmitigated adverse environmental impacts are indicated by the EA.

The impact on the quality of the human environment is judged to be of minor adverse impact and significant beneficial economic impact to both the Tribe and the surrounding communities. There are no significant unmitigated impacts on public health and safety. The site contains no eligible or listed National Register of Historic Places sites or any known significant archeological resources. There are no significant unmitigated adverse impacts on endangered species or their critical habitat. The proposed land use will not impact declared wetlands. The proposed land use will not significantly impact water quality or air quality. There are no significant unmitigated impacts on traffic flow.

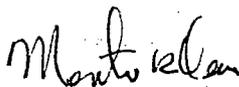
REQUIRED MITIGATION

All mitigation measures described in the Final EA (SECTION 6.0 Mitigation Measures) as being implemented to reduce potentially significant adverse impacts of the project to a point of insignificance, are conditions of the approval of this project. NIGC's approval of the management agreement and signing of this FONSI makes construction and operation of the gaming facility contingent upon implementation of these mitigation measures.

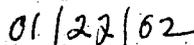
This FONSI is expressly made contingent upon the provision of direct access to the Shingle Springs Rancheria from US Interstate 50 via a dedicated interchange off US 50. The access from US 50 will replace the current existing access through the Grassy Run subdivision. The US 50 interchange is currently the subject of a joint EIR/EA being prepared by the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) under the California Environmental Quality Act and NEPA. This contingency shall be deemed satisfied when CALTRANS and the BIA execute the Cooperative Agreement concerning the design and construction of the interchange.

DETERMINATION:

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and implementing regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1500-1508), I find that the proposed federal action, to approve the management agreement between the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians and Lakes, Kean-Argovitz Resorts, when the mitigation measures are followed, does not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of NEPA. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required for this proposal.



Montie R. Deer, Chairman
National Indian Gaming Commission



Date