



CITY OF SAN PABLO

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Office of the Mayor

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September 25, 2006

Chairman Philip Hogen
Comments on Class II Classification
Standards
National Indian Gaming Commission
1441 L Street, Suite 9100
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Comments on Proposed Class II Classification Standards

Dear Chairman Hogen:

These comments are being submitted on behalf of City of San Pablo, California (City of San Pablo) in regard to the National Indian Gaming Commission's (NIGC) proposed classification standards for Class II gaming (Classification Standards).

The City of San Pablo is located approximately 20 miles north of San Francisco. The City of San Pablo is home to Casino San Pablo, a facility owned and operated by the Lytton Band of Pomo Indians (Tribe).

The City is deeply concerned regarding the NIGC'S proposed Classification Standards as such standards include language that will prohibit possession and use of the Tribe's currently acceptable Class II bingo devices. Such prohibitions will have devastating economic impacts to both the Tribe and the City of San Pablo as all of the Class II devices currently operated at the Tribe's gaming facility will be prohibited by the proposed Classification Standards.

Since opening the doors to its Casino, the Tribe has been able to institute programs to benefit its tribal members and help raise them out of the poverty and unemployment that they have faced throughout their lifetimes. The Casino also provides approximately 500 much-needed jobs to the local community. The majority of these jobs are non-professional positions. The ability to provide the local community with these job opportunities is immensely important given that the City of San Pablo is an impoverished area. In addition, the Casino also gives the Tribe the means to provide financial assistance to the City of San Pablo and its citizens. The Tribe has been able to provide significant financial support to the City of San Pablo to assist with law

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enforcement, provide programs for the City's neediest citizens and to reduce taxes for all of the City's citizen's. Currently, 67% of the City of San Pablo's general fund comes from money received from the Tribe.

It is the City of San Pablo's understanding that if the Classification Standards are adopted as currently written, all of the Tribe's currently acceptable electronic bingo games would be prohibited, requiring the Tribe to replace all of its games. Because the Tribe operates only Class II devices, the proposed Classification Standards would effectively shut down the Tribe's Casino. Obviously, such result would have a devastating economic impact on the Tribe and the surrounding community.

In light of the above, the City of San Pablo urges the NIGC to reconsider the proposed Classification Standards and requests that the NIGC undertake a comprehensive economic study in consultation with Indian tribes before it seeks to implement any new regulations governing Class II gaming.

The City of San Pablo appreciates the NIGC's time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Genoveva Garcia Calloway
Mayor

cc: San Pablo City Council
City Manager