United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, D.C. 20240

AUG 29 2003

Honorable Arlyn Headdress
Chairman, Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes
of the Fort Peck Reservation
P. O. Box 1027
Poplar, Montana 59255

Dear Chairman Headdress:

On July 17, 2003, we received the Extension to the Class III Compact between the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation (Tribe) and the State of Montana (State). We have completed our review of this Extension and conclude that it does not violate the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA), Federal law, or our trust responsibility. Therefore, pursuant to my delegated authority and Section 11 of IGRA, we approve the Extension. This Extension shall take effect when the notice of our approval, pursuant to Section 11(d)(3)(B) of IGRA, 25 U.S.C. § 2710(d)(3)(B), is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

We wish the Tribe and the State success in their economic venture.

Sincerely,

Aurene M Martin

ACTING Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Enclosure

Similar Letter Sent to: Honorable Judy Martz
Governor of Montana
State Capital
Helena, Montana 59620

cc: Rocky Mountain Regional Director
National Indian Gaming Commission
Montana United States Attorney

EXTENSION AND AMENDMENT OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ASSINIBOINE AND SIOUX TRIBES OF THE FORT PECK RESERVATION AND THE STATE OF MONTANA REGARDING CLASS III GAMING ON THE FORT PECK RESERVATION

RECITALS

The State of Montana ("Montana") and the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation ("Tribes") entered into an Agreement ("Agreement") dated April 6, 1992, to authorize under specific conditions Class III gaming on the Fort Peck Reservation. This Agreement was extended by letter amendments to July 5, 2002, September 30, 2002, December 30, 2002 and June 30, 2003. The Tribes and the State are continuing their good faith negotiations to agree on terms and conditions for another long-term compact.

To enable the Tribes and others to continue gaming on the Reservation pursuant to the existing Agreement while the parties continue to negotiate, the parties hereby agree to extend the Agreement for approximately ninety days, until September 30, 2003, on the terms and conditions set forth below.

This Renewal is entered into in furtherance of the goals of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, 25 U.S.C. § 2701 et seq. and Montana Governor Judy Martz's Proclamation affirming the principle and integrity of government-to-government relationships between the State of Montana and federally recognized tribes located within the borders of Montana.

AGREEMENT

In furtherance of good relations and mutual cooperation between the parties, and in accordance with Article VIII. A., "Effective Date and Term," of the existing Agreement as previously amended and extended, by this writing the parties hereby renew and extend the term of the Agreement to September 30, 2003.

All other terms and conditions of the Agreement remain in full force and effect and shall govern the conditions of Class III gaming on the Reservation until September 30, 2003, or until a revised or new compact has been executed by the parties, whichever first occurs.

Montana and the Tribes indicate their consent to be bound to this Extension and Amendment by signature of their authorized representatives below.

ASSINIBOINE AND SIOUX TRIBES OF THE FORT PECK RESERVATION

ARLYN HEADRESS, Chairman

STATE OF MONTANA

JUDY MARTZ, Governor

Approved Pursuant to Montana Code Annotated § 18-11-105 (2001).

MIKE McGRATH, Attorney General
State of Montana

APPROVED:
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BY: Woodrow W. Hopper Jr. DATED: 8-29-03, 2003
for Aurene M. Martin
Acting Assistant Secretary--Bureau of Indian Affairs