November 3, 2011

Re: Notice of Regulatory Review Schedule

Dear Tribal Leader:

On behalf of the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC or Commission), we invite you to participate in a consultation meeting on the Notice of Regulatory Review Schedule Groups One, Two, Four and Five regulations. This Schedule is the result of the NIGC’s review and consideration of comments received in response to the Notice of Inquiry published in the Federal Register on November 18, 2010. We greatly appreciate the tribal participation during the January and February 2011 consultations. We know that the best results can be achieved after meaningful consultation with Indian tribes and we look forward to your participation.

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 committed to implementing the President’s November 5, 2009 Executive Memorandum on Tribal Consultation with Indian tribes and Executive Order 13,175 prior to and during any rulemaking process.

Group 1 will include a review of:
(a) A Buy Indian Act regulation;
(b) Part 523 – Review and Approval of Existing Ordinances or Resolutions;
(c) Part 514 – Fees;
(d) Part 559 – Facility License Notifications, Renewals, and Submissions; and
(e) Part 542 – Minimum Internal Control Standards for Class III Gaming.

Group 2 will include a review of:
(a) Part 573 – Enforcement; and
(b) Regulations concerning proceedings before the Commission, including: Parts 519 – Service, Part 524 – Appeals, Part 539 – Appeals, and Part 577 – Appeals Before the Commission.

Group 4 will include a review of:
(a) Part 556 – Background Investigations for Primary Management Officials and Key Employees;
(b) Part 558 – Gaming Licenses for Key Employees and Primary Management Officials;
(c) Part 556 – Background Investigations “Pilot Program”;
(d) Part 571 – Monitoring and Investigations;
(e) Part 531 – Collateral Agreements;
(f) Part 537 – Background Investigations for Persons or Entities with a Financial Interest in, or Having Management Responsibility for a Management Contract; and

(g) Part 502 – Definitions.

Group 5 will include a review of:
(a) Part 518 – Self Regulation of Class II Gaming;
(b) A Sole Proprietary Interest regulation; and
(c) Part 542 – Minimum Internal Control Standards for Class III Gaming.

Accordingly, we invite all Tribal leaders to share their views with the Commission on Groups One, Two, Four and Five regulations at a consultation scheduled for December 5, 2011 in Suquamish, WA, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the following location:

Clearwater Casino Resort
15347 Suquamish Way NE
Suquamish, Washington
Kitsap Hall

For those Tribal leaders unable to attend this consultation, we invite you to submit written comments by e-mail to reg.review@nigc.gov, or by U.S. mail to National Indian Gaming Commission, Attn: Regulatory Review, 1441 L Street, NW, Suite 9100, Washington, DC 20005.

The Commission intends to post comments received and transcripts of each consultation on the NIGC website under the heading “Tribal Consultation,” on the left-hand side of the NIGC homepage, www.nigc.gov.

For planning purposes, and to accommodate all who want to attend the consultation, please RSVP to Rita Homa, Executive Secretary, at (202) 418-9807 or by e-mail at consultation.rsvp@nigc.gov. Information regarding the time and location of each tribal consultation will be posted on our website.

We are committed to working together on a government-to-government basis to maximize the results of this regulatory review process. We look forward to meeting with you should your schedule allow.

Thank you for your interest and participation in this regulatory review process.

Sincerely,

Tracie L. Stevens  Steffani A. Cochran  Daniel J. Little
Chairwoman  Vice-Chairwoman  Associate Commissioner