

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Proposed United Auburn Indian Community
Gaming and Entertainment Facility Placer County, California

AGENCY: National Indian Gaming Commission

ACTION: Finding of No Significant Impact

SUMMARY:

The United Auburn Indian Community (TRIBE) has submitted a request to the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) for the approval of a management agreement between the Tribe and Station Casino Inc. to manage a gaming facility on existing tribal trust land.

The proposed 200,000 square foot Class II and Class III gaming facility is to be developed on a 49- acre site located near the northwestern corner of Athens Avenue and Industrial Avenue in the Sunset Industrial Area of unincorporated Placer County, California, south of the City of Lincoln and north of Rocklin, California.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared for the Fee to trust acquisition and approval of a Class II and Class III gaming operation project to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA).

Based on the Environmental Assessment (EA) of June 2000 the BIA signed a FONSI on January 19, 2001, and took the land into trust on February 5, 2002. The NIGC participated as a cooperating agency (40 CFR 1501.6) during the BIA's determination process. The NIGC's proposed federal action is the approval of the management agreement. Approval of this agreement will allow the tribe to construct and operate the proposed gaming facility as planned, subject to the conditions of the existing Tribal/State Gaming Compact.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christine Nagle
NEPA Coordinator
National Indian Gaming Commission
1441 L Street NW, Suite 9100
Washington D.C. 20005
(202) 632-7003

PUBLIC AVAILABILITY:

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and the EA on which it is based will be available to all interested persons and agencies at the following locations:

Analytical Environmental Services
9309 La Riviera Drive, Suite C
Sacramento, CA 95826
Mr. David Zweig, Project Manager

United Auburn Indian Community
661 Newcastle Road, Suite 1
Newcastle CA 95658

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/Tribal Gaming Compact approved by the Governor and the Secretary of the Interior.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT:

The proposed project, the United Auburn Indian Community Gaming and Entertainment Facility, will result in a 200,000 square foot facility on a 49-acre site located near the towns of Rocklin and Lincoln in an unincorporated area of Placer County California adjacent to Athens Avenue and close to State Highway 65. The project site will include approximately 3500 parking spaces plus 200,000 square feet of area for casino, restaurants, lounge, Bingo area. It is anticipated that an average of 8,000 patrons and 1,100 employees will visit the site daily.

The proposed project will have a beneficial economic impact for the United Auburn Indian Community. Benefits to the Tribe and its individual members would result from employment opportunities at the proposed facility and an improved quantity and quality of social services offered by the Tribal government.

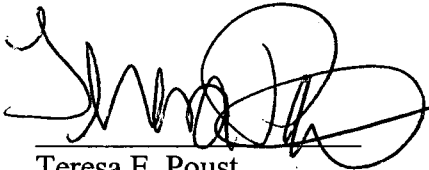
PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT:

The Environmental Assessment was circulated for public comments by the BIA from September 2000 to November 28, 2000. See EA section 6.0 Consultation and Coordination for a list of agencies and individuals contacted. Copies of documents and comment letters from agencies that identified issues are in Appendices A,B,C,D,E, F, G, and H. Written comments received during that period are included in a separate binder entitled Auburn Rancheria Public Comments Environmental Assessment September 2000. Consultation occurred with two tribal governments and both replied that no problems exist in regards to the American Indian Religious Freedom Act. There are no impacts to historic properties. Protective measures have been agreed to minimize socio-economic conditions to surrounding communities. The project was analyzed on a resource by resource basis.

DETERMINATION:

The June 2000, EA upon which the BIA based its decision to issue a FONSI answers the concerns of the National Indian Gaming Commission. The NIGC formally adopts this EA as its own for the purpose of approval of a management agreement.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the implementing regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR 1500-1508), I find that implementation of the proposed action as specified in the EA would have no significant affect on the quality of the natural or human environment within the meaning of NEPA. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Teresa E. Poust', written over a horizontal line.

Teresa E. Poust
Vice-Chair

10/29/02

Date