Background

Why does the NIGC have a strategic plan?

Under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, the NIGC develops a strategic plan pursuant to the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act Modernization Act of 2010.

A federal agency’s strategic plan reflects the Agency’s current priorities and initiatives and how it will accomplish them. The NIGC’s strategic plan presents its long-term goals and strategies for achieving effective federal regulation of Indian gaming in coordination with regulatory partners.

How does the NIGC develop a strategic plan?

In addition to consulting with tribal governments about its strategic plan, the NIGC, led by the NIGC Chairman conducts a comprehensive review of the Agency, its mission, and current initiatives in order to outline a plan for review. The NIGC also engages with the Office of Management and Budget to formulate the objectives and strategies based on goals established from the NIGC’s current mission, priorities, and emphasis areas.

What is the time line for publishing the NIGC strategic plan?

The NIGC updates its strategic plan every four years. The Office of Management and Budget’s schedule impacts the NIGC’s timeframe for developing the strategic plan. Specifically, the Office of Management and Budget advises on strategic goals and objectives along with detailed performance information such as performance goals and indicators. The NIGC anticipates a late fall or early winter 2021 submission to the Office of Management and Budget and that the final four year strategic plan for 2022-2026 will be transmitted to the U.S. Congress and made available to the public in February 2022.

What strategic goals will be relevant to the NIGC’s future work?

Currently the Agency is considering building on the work related to past strategic plans in order to broaden and strengthen the Agency’s focus around four strategic goals that focus primarily on the emphasis areas of the NIGC and articulate the Commission’s priorities. The four strategic goals are the following: Agency Accountability, Preparedness in the Regulatory Community, Indian Gaming Industry Integrity, and Innovative Outreach and Collaboration.

Proposed Questions for Tribal Leaders

What external risk factors highlight possible challenges the NIGC may encounter in achieving its goals?
How can the NIGC goals address opportunities and challenges unique to the regulation of Indian Gaming at the regional level?

What long-term trends in the Indian gaming industry and in the gaming regulatory community could exceed the next four years and how should the NIGC’s strategic plan account for these long-term trends?