



July 30, 2020

Dear Tribal Leader:

This letter is to inform you about enhancements in the annual budget development process for the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC).

The NIGC's commitment to emphasizing accountability in its operations and innovation in its outreach extends to the NIGC budget development process. As the NIGC's Commissioners consider the coming year's budget, this letter requests your input on any views related to the impact from the NIGC budget on your community. In addition, this letter provides information about relevant budget material and announces an NIGC budget briefing for tribal leaders that will take place in September 2020.

Request for Tribal Input

As the Commission develops and finalizes its budget, your input and perspective as a tribal representative are invaluable. Your views will help the Commission to maintain the Agency's emphasis areas and to improve the efficiency and impact of the NIGC annual budget. As a fee-based federal agency, it is important for the NIGC to standardize an opportunity for your input. The process should involve direct outreach to tribes and build trust in the federal relationship with tribal governments.

Tribal leaders have a unique perspective on how the NIGC budget can protect the industry's reputation for integrity and promote long-term resilience as the industry looks to the future. Your views will enhance the Commission's coming Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 budget and any future Commission decision making during FY 2021. As the FY 2021 budget goes into effect on October 1, 2020, please consider sharing your views. Please send any written comments by email to NIGC.Outreach@NIGC.gov before August 31, 2020.

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Budget Background Material

You can find important background material related to the NIGC budget and performance in the *Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Justifications and Performance Information for the United States Department of the Interior*, also known as the *Green Book*. The *Green Book* provides information related to the NIGC's operations and funding, and explains how quarterly tribal fees are based on each gaming operation's gross revenue. You can find the *Green Book* on-line at this link <https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/fy2021-budget-justification-nigc.pdf>.

As part of the Commission's opening comments at an August 11, 2020, NIGC Virtual Training there will be an opportunity for the Commission to overview background material related to the NIGC budget process. For more information about the August 11-13, 2020, NIGC Virtual Training and information on how to register please visit www.nigc.gov.

Commission Budget Briefing for Tribal Leaders

I am pleased to announce that the Commission will hold a budget briefing for Tribal Leaders during the week of September 20, 2020. As part of the briefing, the NIGC leadership will outline budget priorities and anticipate elements that will be included in the final NIGC budget for FY 2021. This briefing will be an opportunity to overview the written feedback the NIGC will receive from tribal leaders by August 31, 2020. More information about the briefing will be available in the coming weeks.

Your input can support a forward looking commitment to ensure that the Agency meets its responsibility to support industry integrity and to protect tribal assets, to address uncertainty, and to ensure a focus on budget sustainability. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Rita Homa at rita.homa@nigc.gov.

Sincerely,



E. Sequoyah Simermeyer
Chairman