

**For Immediate Release
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NIGC Announces Strategic Realignment of Agency Operations

Washington, DC, October 27, 2011— The National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC or Commission) announced today an organizational realignment of its Agency to enhance the regulation of Indian gaming. The realignment will combine similar functions performed across the Commission to optimize efficiencies and refocus resources to further protect and maintain the integrity of Indian gaming. The realignment will eliminate internal duplication of functions and strengthen internal mechanisms to facilitate compliance with, and enforcement of, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA).

The realignment includes merging the Enforcement and Audits Divisions to better support compliance and enforcement duties, consolidating financial related positions within one Division, and fully utilizing existing contracts for the Commission's human resources functions as well as other necessary key functions. The realignment results in the reduction of eight full-time positions. Combined with the consolidation of functions, the realignment results in a net elimination of four full-time positions in the Washington, D.C., office. The reduction in force is consistent with Office of Personnel Management recommendations provided to NIGC in August 2011. NIGC will aid employees during the transition process and assist with career counseling needs.

Associate Commissioner Daniel Little, who is leading the Commission's Agency Operations review initiative, explained, "This reorganization will focus our resources to more effectively regulate the Indian gaming industry. By streamlining our reporting structure and reducing silos, we are smart-sizing the Agency's structure to foster more effective on-the-ground regulation."

For additional information or questions regarding the restructuring, please contact Paxton Myers, Chief of Staff at (202) 632-7003.

The NIGC is an independent regulatory agency established within the Department of the Interior pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988.

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