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Tracie Stevens (Tulalip)
June 2010
Chairwoman

Steffani Cochran (Chickasaw)
January 2010
Vice-Chairwoman

Dan Little
April 2010
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Larry Roberts (Oneida of Wisconsin)  
*General Counsel*

Paxton Myers (Eastern Band Cherokee)  
*Chief of Staff*

Dawn Houle (Chippewa Cree)  
*Deputy Chief of Staff*

Lael Echo-Hawk (Pawnee)  
*Counselor to the Chair*
Policy of IGRA

Sec. 2702. Declaration of policy
The purpose of this chapter is -

• (1) to provide a statutory basis for the operation of gaming by Indian tribes as a means of promoting tribal economic development, self-sufficiency, and strong tribal governments;
Major Initiatives

1. Consultation & Relationship Building
2. Technical Assistance & Training
3. Regulatory Review
4. Agency Operations Review
Consultation & Relationship Building

Through meaningful consultation, the NIGC is committed to renewing and building strong collaborative relationships with Tribes to safeguard the Indian gaming industry and foster economic self-sufficiency and strong tribal governments.
Consultation & Relationship Building

Support Administration’s commitment to Indian Country
- Nation Building
- Empowerment of Tribal Governments
- Honor Tribal Sovereignty & Self-Determination
- Engage in Meaningful Consultation with Tribes
- Assist tribal leaders build safer, stronger, healthier and more prosperous communities
Consultation & Relationship Building

New Approach:

- **Group consultations**
  - Broad policies that affect ALL tribes throughout Indian Country

- **Individual meetings**
  - At the tribes’ request to address matters specific to their needs
Consultation & Relationship Building

- **Executive Order 13175, Sec. 3, Policy Making Criteria**
  - Discuss with tribes the NEED for change prior to beginning rulemaking process
- **NIGC Consultation Policy Revision**
  - Summer 2010 Consultation
- **Department of Interior Tribal Consultation Team (DOI TCT)**
Consultation & Relationship Building

Relationship Building
- Day-to-day course of business with tribes via our DC office AND Field offices
- Sister agencies
- State Regulatory Agencies
- Stakeholders
The Commission views training and technical assistance as an essential component of our mission and our commitment to collaboration with Tribes. Successful regulation depends upon a properly trained and informed workforce. Well targeted training and technical assistance programs provide a foundation that maintains the integrity and success of Indian gaming.
Technical Assistance & Training

- Statutory Requirement
- Preventative Measure
  - Preempt violations
  - Decrease enforcement actions & compliance issues
  - Reduce need for additional regulations
  - Enhance operations & performance
  - Cost effective measures
Technical Assistance & Training

- Survey 2011 (what we know since 2008)
  - Course offerings
  - Locations
  - Regional trainings
- Review & Evaluation
  - Tribal needs and obstacle
  - Agency resources
- Partnerships
- On-line Registration
Agency Operations Review

The NIGC is as concerned with how it runs its own operations as we are about how Tribes run their operation

Top-down review of Agency
Agency Operations Review

- **Budget**
  - Funded primarily by tribal fee assessments. Agency must be good stewards of these fees

- **Internal Policies & Procedures**
  - Top to bottom review

- **Indian Preference**
  - Primary mission of Agency benefits tribes

- **Strategic Plan**
  - GPRA compliance

- **Operations**
  - Streamline, Human Capital Assessment, DC HQ Move, Website
Notice of Inquiry (NOI) - What is it?

- Method to engage with stakeholders
  - Ask questions
  - Solicit input
  - Prior to initiating Rulemaking Process

- Published in the Federal Register

- EO 13175 Sec. 3
Regulatory Review

- **November 18, 2010 Publication**
  - 86 Day Comment Period
  - Comment Deadline February 12, 2011

- **Agency’s Assessment of Regulations**
  - Changes NIGC identified that would further assist our responsibilities

- **Questions to Tribes:**
  - WHICH regulations need to be addressed?
  - In what order (PRIORITY)?
  - How should we do this (PROCESS)?
Regulatory Review

- Cast a wide outreach net
- Posted on Website
  - Link to NOI & Regs
  - Link to submit comments on-line
- Consultations
  - 8 cities in January & February 2011
Regulatory Review

- Compile & review all comments
- Create & publish a priority list, timetable & transparent process
- Then the FUN begins….
  - Engage in the process
  - Limited time to accomplish priority regulations
  - EO 13175 Sec. 3, Policy Making Criteria
Closing

1. Consultation & Relationship Building
   • Engage through consultations & day-to-day

2. Technical Assistance & Training
   • Return the Survey

3. Regulatory Review
   • Participate & provide feedback

4. Agency Operations Review
   • Efficiency & better service
Contact Information

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