



STATE OF WASHINGTON

GAMBLING COMMISSION

"Protect the Public by Ensuring that Gambling is Legal and Honest"

February 28, 2007

John Ellis, Chair
Gambling Commission
98 Union Street #606
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Chair Ellis:

I am sending this correspondence to notify you that we have reached a tentative agreement with 27 of the 29 Washington Indian tribes regarding an amendment to the Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compacts. This agreement, entitled Appendix X2, would amend the compacts for the tribes identified in the Addendum attached to this letter. The Squaxin Island Tribe's existing compact would also be amended to allow for renegotiations based upon certain gaming authorizations made to other tribes. In addition, provisions for certain operating limits and payments to third parties in Appendix X2 would be modified for the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.

When a tentative agreement with an Indian tribe is reached within ten days before the commencement of or during the legislative session, the proposed compact or amendment is transmitted for a hearing before a standing committee of the State House of Representatives and the State Senate within 45 days of receipt, with comments forwarded to the Gambling Commission. Within 60 days after receiving the proposed compact or amendment, the Gambling Commission, including ex officio members, will vote to determine whether to forward the proposed compact to the Governor for review and execution or return it to me for further negotiation (RCW 9.46.360).

We have been advised that the legislative hearing will be held on March 8, 2007, at 8:00 a.m. before a standing committee of the State House of Representatives and the State Senate. If you have questions regarding the legislative hearing, please contact Kathleen Buchli, Counsel for the Senate Labor, Commerce, Research & Development Committee, at (360) 786-7488, or Joan Elgee, Counsel for the House Commerce and Labor Committee, at (360) 786-7601.

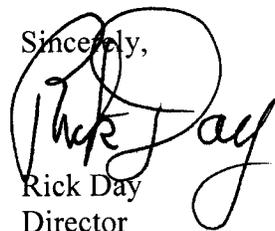
The Gambling Commission plans to hold a public hearing concerning the proposed amendments to the Class III Gaming Compacts on March 9, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia, Washington. The meeting agenda, including the time and location of the meeting, is available on our website (www.wsgc.wa.gov).



John Ellis, Chair
February 28, 2007
Page 2

The hearings provide the public with an opportunity for comment regarding the proposed amendment to the Class III Gaming Compacts. I have enclosed a summary and a copy of the proposed amendments between the Washington Indian tribes and the state of Washington. For additional information, please call me at 360-486-3446, or Melinda Froud, Staff Attorney, at 360-486-3468.

Sincerely,



Rick Day
Director

Enclosures:

- Summary
- Addendum
- Amendment Cover Page (for 25 tribes)
- Appendix X2
- Amendment Cover Page (Squaxin Island Tribe)
- Amendment Cover Page (Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation)

Duplicate Original:

- Tribal Council Chairs
- The Honorable Brad Owen, Lieutenant Governor
- The Honorable Frank Chopp, Speaker of the House
- The Honorable Jeanne Kohl-Welles, Chair, Senate Labor, Commerce, Research & Development Committee
- The Honorable Steve Conway, Chair, House Commerce and Labor Committee
- Commissioners and Ex-Officio Members, Washington State Gambling Commission
- Randy Sitton, NW Regional Director of the National Indian Gaming Commission
- Tribal Attorneys
- Tom Fitzsimmons, Chief of Staff, Governor's Office

cc:

- Tribal Attorneys
- Richard Mitchell, General Counsel, Governor's Office
- Marty Brown, Legislative Director, Governor's Office
- John Lane, Executive Policy Advisor, Governor's Office
- Jerry Ackerman, Senior Counsel, Attorney General's Office
- Kathleen Buchli, Counsel for the Senate Labor, Commerce, Research & Development Committee
- Joan Elgee, Counsel for the House Commerce and Labor Committee