United States Department of the Interior 
ASSISTANT SECRETARY – INDIAN AFFAIRS 
Washington, DC 20240 

APR 13 2006

Honorable Brian Schweitzer 
Governor, State of Montana 
State Capitol 
P.O. Box 200801 
Helena, Montana 59620-0801

Dear Governor Schweitzer:

On March 21, 2006, we received the Amendment to Interim Compact between the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation (Tribe) and the state of Montana (State) executed on November 21, 2005 (Amendment), regarding Class III Gaming on the Rocky Boy's Reservation.

We have completed our review of this Amendment and conclude that it does not violate the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), any other provision of Federal law that does not relate to jurisdiction over gaming on Indian lands, or the trust obligations of the United States to Indians. Therefore, pursuant to my delegated authority and Section 11 of IGRA, we approve the Amendment. This Amendment shall take effect when the notice of our approval, pursuant to Section 11(d)(3)(B) of IGRA, 25 U.S.C. (d)(3)(B), is published in the Federal Register.

A similar letter is being sent to the Honorable John Houle, Chairman, Chippewa Cree Business Committee. We wish the Tribe and State continued success in their economic venture.

Sincerely,

George T. Skibine 
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary 
for Policy and Economic Development
March 14, 2006

George Skibine
Attn: Paula Hart
Office of Indian Gaming Management
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW
MS 2070-MIB,
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Amendment to Rocky Boy's Class III Compact

Dear Mr. Skibine and Ms. Hart:

Enclosed please find one original and two copies of the fully executed amendment to the existing gaming compact between the Chippewa Cree Tribe and the State of Montana. It recently came to our attention that you may not have received the original when it was signed. As I can only provide the original for approval for your official use, I am also including two copies. Please also approve the copies and return to us a copy with the Secretary's approval.

The substance of the amendment is the same as others we have executed with Tribes and which the Secretary has approved. Please return one approved copy to me here at the Governor's Office, and I will distribute copies to the Attorney General's Office and Tribe. We appreciate your consideration. Sarah Bond, Assistant Attorney General, indicated that she spoke with you about this by telephone. However, if you have any questions or need anything further, please feel free to call me directly at 406-444-5553. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Deanne L. Sandholm
Legal Counsel
Governor's American Indian Nations Council

c: Dan Belcourt
Sarah Bond
A RESOLUTION

NO 112-05

TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE CHAIRMAN JOHN C. HOULE TO SIGN THE AMENDMENT TO INTERIM COMPACT BETWEEN THE CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBE OF THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION AND THE STATE OF MONTANA REGARDING CLASS III GAMING ON THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION

WHEREAS, the Chippewa Cree Business Committee is the governing body of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of Rocky Boy's Reservation by authority of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Chippewa Cree Tribe, approved on the 23rd day of November 1935; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to their inherent sovereignty and Constitution and By-Laws of the Chippewa Cree Tribe, the Chippewa Cree Business Committee is charged with the duty to promote and protect the health, security and general welfare of the Chippewa Cree Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Business Committee desires to amend the interim compact between the tribe and State of Montana regarding Class III gaming on the Rocky Boy’s Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Business Committee desires to amend certain provisions of the Gaming Compact to provide for similar terms to what the other tribes in the state have; and

WHEREAS, the Business Committee desires to amend the gaming compact to provide for: 1) prize payouts of $1500; 2) 300 machines available for play on the reservation; 3) up to $5.00 wagers per play; 4) all video gaming machines shall meet the requirements and specifications contained in Appendix A; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Business Committee approves and authorizes the Chairman John C. Houle to sign the amendment to interim compact between the Chippewa Cree Tribe and the State of Montana regarding Class III gaming on the Rocky Boy’s Reservation.

CERTIFICATION


Chairman, Business Committee

Secretary/Treasurer

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AMENDMENT TO INTERIM COMPACT BETWEEN THE CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBE OF THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION AND THE STATE OF MONTANA REGARDING CLASS III GAMING ON THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION

THIS AMENDMENT TO INTERIM COMPACT BETWEEN THE CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBE OF THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION AND THE STATE OF MONTANA REGARDING CLASS III GAMING ON THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION is entered into by the State of Montana (hereinafter "State") and the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation (hereinafter "Tribe").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the State and the Tribe entered into the INTERIM COMPACT BETWEEN THE CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBE OF THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION AND THE STATE OF MONTANA REGARDING CLASS III GAMING ON THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION (hereinafter "Agreement") on April 19, 1993; and

WHEREAS, the term of the Agreement was extended by agreement of the parties until such time as another compact is agreed upon between the State and the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement may be amended by the parties pursuant to Section IX of the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to amend certain provisions of the Agreement until such time as another compact is agreed upon by the parties;

NOW THEREFORE, the State and the Tribe agree to amend the Agreement as follows:

Section V. B. of the Agreement is amended to read as follows:

B. All video bingo, video poker and video keno machines, licensed by the Tribe shall also comply with the following conditions:

1) No prize may exceed the value of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($1,500.00) for each award;

2) No more than Three Hundred (300) tribally owned machines shall be available for play on the Rocky Boy's Reservation;

3) No more than Five Dollars ($5.00) may be wagered per play on a tribally owned machine; and

4) Video bingo, video poker and video keno machines shall meet the requirements and specifications contained in Appendix A as amended and attached hereto.
Appendix A of the Agreement is replaced by the following:

APPENDIX A
VIDEO GAMBLING MACHINES

I. Technical Standards for Electronic Games of Chance

a. The State and the Tribe agree that all class III electronic games of chance will comply with the technical standards of the Montana Department of Justice, Gambling Control Division as set out in the Administrative Rules of Montana 23.16.1901 through 23.16.1911, 23.16.1920 and where applicable the definitions in 23.16.1802, subject to the exceptions as set forth in section II below.

b. The State and the Tribe agree that the State will timely notify the Tribe of any subsequent changes to the above listed Administrative Rules of Montana and upon such notification said changes will become a part of Appendix A by reference.

II. Exceptions to the Technical Standards for Electronic Games of Chance

a. Any definitions of bingo or electronic bingo that are electronic, computer or other technological aids to the Class II game of bingo, as defined by IGRA or Rules of the National Indian Gaming Commission (25 CFR Part 502).

b. Any definitions or rules relating to the licensing or permitting of video gambling machine owners or operators.

c. A video gambling machine authorized under this agreement shall be tested and approved by the Tribe before placement on the Reservation. Any gambling device approved and licensed by the Tribe under this agreement must meet all technical requirements as set forth in the Administrative Rules of Montana as referenced in Section I of this Appendix. The Tribe may contract with the State for certification and inspection of video gambling machines under a contract separate and apart from this Agreement.

Appendix I, Section II, part (4) of the Agreement is replaced by the following:

(4) Except as provided in subsection (6):
(a) The price for an individual keno card may not exceed 50 cents;
(b) a prize may not exceed the value of $1,500.00 for each individual keno card; and,
(c) It is unlawful to, in any manner; combine any awards so as to increase the ultimate value of the award.

Appendix I, Section II, part (6) is replaced by the following:

(6) Variations of the game of keno, as authorized in section III, in which a player selects three or more numbers and places a wager on various combinations of these numbers is permissible if:
   (a) no more than 50 cents is wagered on each combination of numbers; and
   (b) A winning combination does not pay more than $1,500.00.

As required by Section IX of the Agreement, the parties’ signatures are set forth below. Except as expressly amended hereby, all terms and conditions of the Agreement remain in full force and effect until another compact is executed.

CHIPEEWA CREE TRIBES OF THE ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION

John "Chance" Houle
Chippewa Cree Business Committee

Date: 11-6-05

STATE OF MONTANA

Brian Schweitzer
Governor

Date: 11-18-05

Approved pursuant to § 18-11-105, MCA:

Mike McGrath
Attorney General

Date: 11-21-05

Deputy Assistant Secretary
Policy and Economic Development

Date: 4-13-06