DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs.
Interior.
ACTION: Notice of amendment to approved Tribal-State Compact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA),
Pub. L. 100–497, 25 U.S.C. 2710, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish, in
the Federal Register, notice of approved Tribal-State Compacts for the purpose of
engaging in Class III gaming on Indian lands. The Assistant Secretary—Indian
Affairs, Department of the Interior, through his delegated authority, has
approved the Amendment to the Interim Agreement with the State of Montana
and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, which was executed on

DATES: This action is effective May 12, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
George T. Skibine, Director, Office of
Indian Gaming Management, Bureau of
Indian Affairs, Washington, DC 20240.
(202) 219-4066.


Kevin Gover,
Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.
[FR Doc. 00–11943 Filed 5–11–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–52–P
United States Department of the Interior
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, D.C. 20240

MAY 3 2000

Honorable Marc Racicot
Governor of Montana
Helena, Montana 59620

Dear Governor Racicot:

On March 23, 2000, we received an Amendment to the Interim Agreement between the State of Montana (State) and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (Tribes), dated March 21, 2000. We have completed our review of this Amendment and conclude that it does not violate the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA), Federal law, or our trust responsibility. Therefore, pursuant to Section 11(d)(8)(A) of IGRA, 25 U.S.C. § 2710(d)(8)(A) and delegated authority in 209 DM 8.1, we approve the Amendment. The Amendment shall take effect when the notice of our approval, pursuant to Section 11(d)(3)(B) of IGRA, 25 U.S.C. § 2710(d)(3)(B), is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

We wish the Tribe and the State continued success in their economic venture.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs

Enclosure

Identical Letter Sent to: Honorable D. Fred Matt
Chairman
Confederated Salish and Kootenai
Tribes of the Flathead Nation
Pablo, Montana 59855
AMENDMENT TO INTERIM AGREEMENT AND RENEWAL BETWEEN THE CONFEDERATED SALISH KOOTENAI TRIBES AND THE STATE OF MONTANA REGARDING CLASS III GAMING ON THE FLATHEAD RESERVATION

RECITALS

The state of Montana ("Montana") and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes ("Tribes") entered into an Agreement ("Agreement") dated March 14, 1997, to authorize under specific conditions Class III gaming on the Flathead Reservation. The Agreement expires May 8, 2000. Montana and the Tribes are engaged in on-going discussions and preparations to negotiate another long-term compact. The Tribes are continuing its investigation of viable options for Tribal gaming operations to provide needed revenue and jobs to the Reservation community.

To enable current gaming on the reservation pursuant to the existing Agreement while discussions and negotiations continue, the parties have determined to extend the Agreement on the terms and conditions set forth below.

This Amendment is entered into in furtherance of Montana Governor Marc Racicot’s Proclamation dated March 10, 1993 affirming the principle and integrity of government-to-government relationships between the State of Montana and federally-recognized tribes located within the borders of Montana.

Agreement

In furtherance of good relations and mutual cooperation between the parties, and in accordance with Article XI (A), "Effective Date and Term," of the existing Agreement, by this writing the parties hereby renew and extend the term of the Agreement to November 7, 2000. Further, the parties agree that the Tribes may continue to attempt to negotiate proposed changes in the Agreement and Montana will engage in good faith negotiations with respect to the proposed changes. All terms and conditions of the Agreement remain in full force and effect and shall govern the conditions of Class III gaming on the Reservation until November 7, 2000, or until a revised or a new compact has been executed by the parties, whichever first occurs.
Montana and the Tribes indicate their consent to be bound to this Renewal by signature of their authorized representatives below.

STATE OF MONTANA

Marc Racicot, Governor
State of Montana

FLATHEAD TRIBE

D. Fred Matt, Chairman
Confederated Salish-Kootenai Tribes


Joseph P. Mazurek, Attorney General
State of Montana

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR