DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian Gaming

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of approved Class III Tribal-State Compact.

SUMMARY: This notice publishes approval of the First Amendment to the Tribal-State Compact between the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and the State of Nevada.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 21, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George T. Skibine, Director, Division of Indian Gaming, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary—Policy and Economic Development, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219-4066.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA, Public Law 100-434, 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 activities on Indian lands. This Amendment allows for a one year extension of the current compact.

Dated: March 7, 2005.

Michael D. Olesen,
Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 05-5481 Filed 3-18-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-44-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-660-05-1220-DU]

South Coast Resource Management Plan Amendment for the San Diego County Border Mountains

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: In compliance with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) planning regulations, Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 1610.5-5, this provides notice that the BLM Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office proposes to prepare an amendment to the South Coast RMP with an associated environmental assessment (EA) or, if needed, an environmental impact statement (EIS) for BLM-administered public lands in the Border Mountains portion of the San Diego County Management Area. The plan amendment proposes to establish management guidelines for lands acquired since 1994 and designate a route of travel network. This planning activity encompasses approximately 60,000 acres of federally managed public land, including the Otay Mountain Wilderness, the Hauser Mountain Wilderness Study Area, the Kuchumaa Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), and the MacAlmond Canyon/Hauser Mountain Wildlife Management Area.

The BLM invites the public to participate in this planning effort. Citizens are requested to help identify issues or concerns and to provide input on BLM’s proposed planning criteria as described below under SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

DATES: This notice initiates the public scoping process. All comments received shall be taken into consideration prior to issuance of the Decision Record. Please submit any scoping or proposed planning criteria comments in writing, by April 20, 2005, to ensure inclusion in the draft plan/EA. Comments on issues and planning criteria may be submitted in writing to the address listed below.

Public Participation: Public meetings will be held during the plan scoping and document preparation period. In order to ensure local community participation and input, public meetings will be held in Dulzura, located within and adjacent to the planning area in southwestern San Diego County. Early and ongoing participation is encouraged and will help determine the future management of federally managed public lands within the San Diego County Management Area. All public meetings will be announced through the local news media, newsletters, and the BLM Web site (http://www.ca.blm.gov) at least 15 days prior to the event. The minutes for each meeting will be available to the public and open for 30 days to any participant who wishes to clarify the views they expressed. Upon publication of the draft Plan Amendment/EA, additional public meetings will be announced to provide the public opportunities to comment on the alternatives and submit oral comments. Written comments will be accepted and considered throughout the planning process. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Gail Achen—Field Manager, Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office, Bureau of Land...
Honorable Arlan D. Melendez
Chairman, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
98 Colony Road
Reno, Nevada  89502

Dear Chairman Melendez:

On December 27, 2004, we received the First Amendment to the Compact between the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (Tribe) and the State of Nevada (State) Governing Class III Gaming, executed on December 7, 2004 (Amendment). We have completed our review of this Amendment and conclude that it does not violate the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), Federal law, or our trust responsibility. 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.

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

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Identical Letter Sent to:  Honorable Kenny Guinn
Governor, State of Nevada
FIRST AMENDMENT
TO THE
COMPACT BETWEEN
THE RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY
AND THE STATE OF NEVADA
GOVERNING CLASS III GAMING
FIRST AMENDMENT
TO THE
COMPACT BETWEEN
THE RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY
AND THE STATE OF NEVADA
GOVERNING CLASS III GAMING

This First Amendment is made by and between the RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY (Tribe) and the STATE OF NEVADA (State), pursuant to Public Law 100-497, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, codified at 25 U.S.C. §§ 2701-2721 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 1166-1168.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Tribe and the State as separate sovereigns, each recognizing and respecting the laws and authority of the other, entered into a Tribal-State Gaming Compact (Compact) which became effective on February 6, 1996, a copy of which is attached and made a part hereof, to provide a regulatory framework for the operation of certain Class III gaming on the Indian lands of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Article XI of the Compact provides that “[t]his Compact may be amended only with the consent of both parties and only by written instrument signed by both parties. If applicable law is amended in a substantial way affecting the provisions contained in this Compact, the parties agree to negotiate in good faith to amend this Compact so as to achieve the objectives provided for and to ensure compliance with all applicable laws.”; and
WHEREAS, the Tribe and the State invoke the authority provided within Article XI and amend Article IX of the Compact, so that the Compact will have a total effective period of five (5) years, instead of the four (4) years that is currently provided for within Article IX; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe and the State agree and provide that except as provided herein for the amendment of Article IX, all of the terms, conditions, requirements and obligations of the Compact as it was originally executed and became effective on February 6, 1996, shall remain in full force and effect.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and other good and valuable consideration, the parties agree as follows:

1. The RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY and the STATE OF NEVADA as separate sovereigns, hereby invoke the authority set forth within Article XI of the Tribal-State Gaming Compact, which provides for the operation of certain Class III gaming on the Indian lands of the RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY, and amend the Compact so that Article IX provides as follows: "[t]his Agreement shall take effect upon approval by the Secretary of the Interior (or his designee) and shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years from commencement of gaming operations or until modified or terminated by mutual agreement. If during the term of this Agreement the Tribe develops plans for a full scale casino operation that involve long term commitments from lenders, the State and the Tribe may mutually
agree to extend the term of this Agreement to be coterminous with the term of the financing agreement. Such agreement to extend the term of this Agreement shall not be an amendment requiring federal approval. In the event the State and Tribe fail to mutually agree to extend the term of the Agreement to be coterminous with the term of the financing agreement, and the Tribe believes the State is not acting in good faith in such deliberations, the Tribe reserves the right to assert that the State has not negotiated in good faith as required by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act."; and

2. All of the other and remaining terms, conditions, requirements and obligations set forth within the Tribal-State Compact as originally agreed upon by the RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY and the STATE OF NEVADA, which became effective on February 6, 1996, shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this First Amendment to the Tribal-State Compact to be duly executed.

RENO-SPARKS TRIBE COLONY

ARLAN D. MELENDEZ, Chairman
Dated: 10-19-04

PATRICK SMITH, Tribal Counsel
Dated: ________________
STATE OF NEVADA

DENNIS NEILANDER, Gaming Control Board Chairman

KENNY GUINN, Governor

BRIAN SANDOVAL, Attorney General

MICHAEL E. WILSON, Assistant Chief Deputy Attorney General

BOARD OF EXAMINERS

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs

State of Nevada
Carson City

This instrument was acknowledged before me on December 7, 2004, by Michael E. Wilson, as Assistant Chief Deputy Attorney General.

Notary Public