



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, D.C. 20240

NOV 18 1999

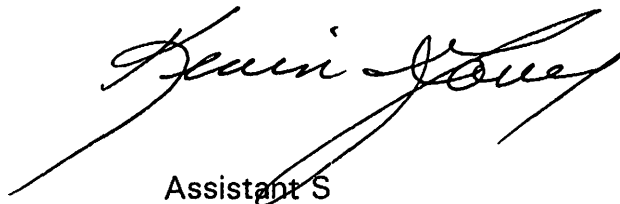
Honorable Lovelin Poncho
Chairman
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 818
Elton, Louisiana 70532

Dear Chairman Poncho:

On November 4, 1999, we received an Amendment to the Compact between the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana and the State of Louisiana, dated November 2, 1999, extending the existing Compact until 5:00 p.m. on May 4, 2000, or until a successor compact is agreed upon and becomes effective, whichever occurs first. 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 delegated authority and Section 11 of IGRA, 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 success in the continuation of their economic venture.

Sincerely,



Assistant Secretary

Enclosure

Similar Letter Sent to: Honorable Murphy J. Foster, Jr.
Governor, State of Louisiana
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9004

**EXTENSION OF THE
TRIBAL-STATE COMPACT
FOR THE CONDUCT OF CLASS III GAMING
BETWEEN THE
COUSHATTA TRIBE OF LOUISIANA
AND THE STATE OF LOUISIANA**

WHEREAS: in 1988, the Congress of the United States of America enacted the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, which provided a statutory basis for the operation and regulation of gaming by Indian Tribes; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, the Tribal-State Compact for the conduct of Class III Gaming Between the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana** was executed and signed by Chairman Lovelin Poncho on September 4, 1992 (and as amended on October 28, 1992) and by Governor Edwin W. Edwards on September 2, 1992 (and as amended on October 29, 1992); and became effective upon publishing of approval by the Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, in the *Federal Register* on November 4, 1992;

WHEREAS: in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Compact, the **State of Louisiana**, through Governor Murphy J. Foster, Jr., has given the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** notice of non-renewal of the Compact;

WHEREAS: the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana** mutually desire to negotiate for a successor Class III Gaming Compact, without any alteration or interruption in the terms of the existing Compact; and

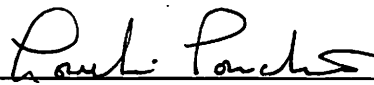
WHEREAS: the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana** desire to extend the existing Tribal-State Compact, which will expire on or about November 4, 1999, for a period of time sufficient to permit the parties a reasonable opportunity to negotiate, agree upon, and put into effect a successor compact;

NOW THEREFORE WE, the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana**, by virtue of the authority vested through the Constitution and laws of the United States of America and of the **State of Louisiana**, and of the laws and Resolutions of the Tribal Council of the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana**, and in order to *preserve* and protect the health, safety, and welfare of our people, do hereby extend the existing, and hereinabove described Tribal-State Compact for

the conduct of Class III gaming, until 5:00 o'clock P.M. Central Standard Time, on the 4th day of May, 2000, or until a successor compact is agreed upon and becomes effective, whichever occurs first. This agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of extending the existing compact, for the time specified in this agreement, and not for the purpose of renewing the existing compact.

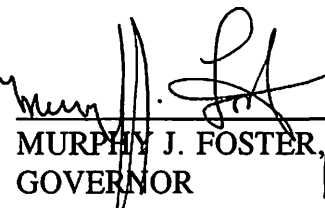
IN WITNESSS WHEREOF, as duly authorized representatives of the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana**, we have hereunto set our hands officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seals of the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana**.

COUSHATTA TRIBE OF LOUISIANA



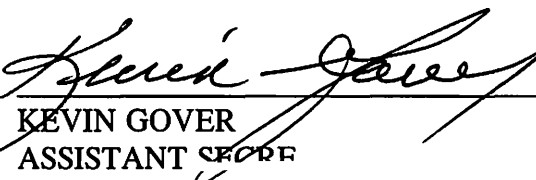
LOVELIN PONCHO
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN
DATE: 2nd Nov 99

STATE OF LOUISIANA



MURPHY J. FOSTER, JR.
GOVERNOR
DATE: 2 November 1999

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



KEVIN GOVER
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
DATE: NOV 1999