

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior

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negligence in the operation of the facility;

(12) Hearing procedures for licensing purposes;

(13) A list of gaming activities proposed to be offered by the Indian tribe at its gaming facilities;

(14) A description of the location of proposed gaming facilities;

(15) A copy of the Indian tribe's liquor ordinance approved by the Secretary if intoxicants, as used in 18 U.S.C. 1154, will be served in the gaming facility;

(16) Provisions for a tribal regulatory gaming entity, independent of gaming management;

(17) Provisions for tribal enforcement and investigatory mechanisms, including the imposition of sanctions, monetary penalties, closure, and an administrative appeal process relating to enforcement and investigatory actions;

(18) The length of time the procedures will remain in effect; and

(19) Any other provisions deemed necessary by the Indian tribe.

§ 291.5 Where must the proposal requesting Class III gaming procedures be filed?

Any proposal requesting Class III gaming procedures must be filed with the Director, Indian Gaming Management Staff, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, MS 2070-MIB, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

§ 291.6 What must the Secretary do upon receiving a proposal?

Upon receipt of a proposal requesting Class III gaming procedures, the Secretary must:

(a) Within 15 days, notify the Indian tribe in writing that the proposal has been received, and whether any information required under § 291.4 is missing;

(b) Within 30 days of receiving a complete proposal, notify the Indian tribe in writing whether the Indian tribe meets the eligibility requirements in § 291.3. The Secretary's eligibility determination is final for the Department.

§ 291.7 What must the Secretary do if it has been determined that the Indian tribe is eligible to request Class III gaming procedures?

(a) If the Secretary determines that the Indian tribe is eligible to request Class III gaming procedures and that the Indian tribe's proposal is complete, the Secretary must submit the Indian tribe's proposal to the Governor and the Attorney General of the State where the gaming is proposed.

(b) The Governor and Attorney General will have 60 days to comment on:

(1) Whether the State is in agreement with the Indian tribe's proposal;

(2) Whether the proposal is consistent with relevant provisions of the laws of the State;

(3) Whether contemplated gaming activities are permitted in the State for any purposes, by any person, organization, or entity.

(c) The Secretary will also invite the State's Governor and Attorney General to submit an alternative proposal to the Indian tribe's proposed Class III gaming procedures.

§ 291.8 What must the Secretary do at the expiration of the 60-day comment period if the State has not submitted an alternative proposal?

(a) Upon expiration of the 60-day comment period specified in § 291.7, if the State has not submitted an alternative proposal, the Secretary must review the Indian tribe's proposal to determine:

(1) Whether all requirements of § 291.4 are adequately addressed;

(2) Whether Class III gaming activities will be conducted on Indian lands over which the Indian tribe has jurisdiction;

(3) Whether contemplated gaming activities are permitted in the State for any purposes by any person, organization, or entity;

(4) Whether the proposal is consistent with relevant provisions of the laws of the State;

(5) Whether the proposal is consistent with the trust obligations of the United States to the Indian tribe;

(6) Whether the proposal is consistent with all applicable provisions of IGRA; and

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(7) Whether the proposal is consistent with provisions of other applicable Federal laws.

(b) Within 60 days of the expiration of the 60-day comment period in § 291.7, the Secretary must notify the Indian tribe, the Governor, and the Attorney General of the State in writing that he/she has:

(1) Approved the proposal if the Secretary determines that there are no objections to the Indian tribe's proposal; or

(2) Identified unresolved issues and areas of disagreements in the proposal, and invite the Indian tribe, the Governor and the Attorney General to participate in an informal conference, within 30 days of notification unless the parties agree otherwise, to resolve identified unresolved issues and areas of disagreement.

(c) Within 30 days of the informal conference, the Secretary must prepare and mail to the Indian tribe, the Governor and the Attorney General:

(1) A written report that summarizes the results of the informal conference; and

(2) A final decision either setting forth the Secretary's proposed Class III gaming procedures for the Indian tribe, or disapproving the proposal for any of the reasons in paragraph (a) of this section.

§ 291.9 What must the Secretary do at the end of the 60-day comment period if the State offers an alternative proposal for Class III gaming procedures?

Within 30 days of receiving the State's alternative proposal, the Secretary must appoint a mediator who:

(a) Has no official, financial, or personal conflict of interest with respect to the issues in controversy; and

(b) Must convene a process to resolve differences between the two proposals.

§ 291.10 What is the role of the mediator appointed by the Secretary?

(a) The mediator must ask the Indian tribe and the State to submit their last best proposal for Class III gaming procedures.

(b) After giving the Indian tribe and the State an opportunity to be heard and present information supporting their respective positions, the mediator

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must select from the two proposals the one that best comports with the terms of IGRA and any other applicable Federal law. The mediator must submit the proposal selected to the Indian tribe, the State, and the Secretary.

§ 291.11 What must the Secretary do upon receiving the proposal selected by the mediator?

Within 60 days of receiving the proposal selected by the mediator, the Secretary must do one of the following:

(a) Notify the Indian tribe, the Governor and the Attorney General in writing of his/her decision to approve the proposal for Class III gaming procedures selected by the mediator; or

(b) Notify the Indian tribe, the Governor and the Attorney General in writing of his/her decision to disapprove the proposal selected by the mediator for any of the following reasons:

(1) The requirements of § 291.4 are not adequately addressed;

(2) Gaming activities would not be conducted on Indian lands over which the Indian tribe has jurisdiction;

(3) Contemplated gaming activities are not permitted in the State for any purpose by any person, organization, or entity;

(4) The proposal is not consistent with relevant provisions of the laws of the State;

(5) The proposal is not consistent with the trust obligations of the United States to the Indian tribe;

(6) The proposal is not consistent with applicable provisions of IGRA; or

(7) The proposal is not consistent with provisions of other applicable Federal laws.

(c) If the Secretary rejects the mediator's proposal under paragraph (b) of this section, he/she must prescribe appropriate procedures within 60 days under which Class III gaming may take place that comport with the mediator's selected proposal as much as possible, the provisions of IGRA, and the relevant provisions of the laws of the State.