



March 8, 2011

Re: Draft NIGC Consultation Policy

Dear Tribal Leader:

On behalf of the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC), we invite you to review and submit comments to the attached draft NIGC Consultation Policy. We know that the best results can be achieved after meaningful consultation with Indian tribes and we look forward to your participation.

The NIGC recognizes and respects the sovereignty of Indian tribes and the government-to-government relationship that exists between the United States and tribal governments. Accordingly, the NIGC committed to implementing the President's November 5, 2009 Executive Memorandum on Tribal Consultation with Indian tribes and Executive Order 13,175 and began a review of its 2004 Consultation Policy. The changes to the draft Consultation Policy are based largely on comments received from Tribal leaders at consultations conducted by the NIGC from June through September of 2010, as well as on written comments submitted by Tribal leaders to the NIGC. We greatly appreciate the tribal participation during the summer consultations and the many thoughtful suggestions and insights received.

We invite all Tribal leaders to share their views on the draft Consultation Policy in person at a consultation scheduled for Thursday, April 7, 2011 in Phoenix, Arizona, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the following location:

Wyndham Phoenix Hotel
50 East Adams Street
Phoenix, Arizona

Chairwoman Tracie Stevens, Vice-Chairwoman Steffani Cochran and Associate Commissioner Dan Little will be present. For those Tribal leaders unable to attend, we invite you to submit written comments by e-mail to consultation.policy@nigc.gov, or by U.S. mail to Kathy Zebell at 1441 L Street, NW, Suite 9100, Washington, DC 20005. *Comments must be received by May 31, 2011.*

All comments received and a transcript of the April 7, 2011 consultation, will be posted on the NIGC website under the heading "Tribal Consultation," on the left-hand side of the NIGC home page, www.nigc.gov.

For planning purposes, and to accommodate all who want to attend the April 7, 2011 consultation, please RSVP to Rita Homa, Executive Secretary, at (202) 418-9807 or by e-mail at consultation.rsvp@nigc.gov. Information regarding the time and location of this consultation will be posted on our website, as will the draft policy.

It is critically important that we work together in a mutually cooperative and respectful government-to-government relationship to maximize the intended benefit of this Consultation Policy. We look forward to meeting with you should your schedule allow.

Thank you for your interest, participation and continuing support of our efforts.

Sincerely,

Three handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is 'Tracie L. Stevens', the second is 'Steffani A. Cochran', and the third is 'Daniel J. Little'.

Tracie L. Stevens
Chairwoman

Steffani A. Cochran
Vice-Chairwoman

Daniel J. Little
Associate Commissioner

Enclosure