



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

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Indian Gaming; Approval by Operation of Law of the Eighth Amendment to the Tribal-State Compact for Class III Gaming Between the Nooksack Indian Tribe and the State of Washington

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the approval by operation of law of the eighth amendment to the Tribal-State compact for class III gaming between the Nooksack Indian Tribe and the State of Washington governing the operation and regulation of class III gaming activities.

DATES: The amendment takes effect on [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Troy M. Woodward, Acting Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20240, IndianGaming@bia.gov; (202) 208–6284.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988, 25 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*, (IGRA) provides the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) with 45 days to review and approve or disapprove the Tribal-State compact governing the conduct of class III gaming activity on the Tribe’s Indian lands. *See* 25 U.S.C. 2710(d)(8). If the Secretary does not approve or disapprove a Tribal-State compact within the 45 days, IGRA provides the Tribal-State compact is considered to have been approved by the Secretary, but only to the extent the compact is consistent with IGRA. *See* 25 U.S.C. 2710(d)(8)(D). The IGRA also requires the Secretary to publish in the *Federal Register* notice of the approved Tribal-State

compacts for the purpose of engaging in class III gaming activities on Indian lands. *See* 25 U.S.C. (d)(8)(D). As required by 25 CFR 293.4, all compacts and amendments are subject to review and approval by the Secretary. The Amendment makes several changes including revising age restrictions on gambling and permitting electronic table gaming and sports wagering. The Secretary took no action on the Eighth Amendment to the Tribal-State Compact for Class III Gaming between the Nooksack Indian Tribe and the State of Washington within the 45-day statutory review period. Therefore, the amendment is considered to have been approved, but only to the extent it is consistent with IGRA. *See* 25 U.S.C. 2710(d)(8)(C).

William Henry Kirkland III,

Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs.

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