



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

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Indian Gaming; Approval by Operation of Law of the Fourth Amendment to the Tribal-State Compact Between the State of California and the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians of California

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the approval by operation of law of the fourth amendment to the Tribal-State Compact Between the State of California and the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians of California (Amendment) 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 Woodward, Acting Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20240, IndianGaming@bia.gov; (202) 219–4066.

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. 2710(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 extends the compact until December 31, 2026, and adds appendix C which permits off-track wagering. The Secretary took no action on the Amendment 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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