



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240



APR 18 2008

Honorable Lonnie Martin, Jr.  
Chairman  
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 661  
Charenton, Louisiana 70523

Dear Chairman Martin:

On April 14, 2008, we received a letter from the Tribal Gaming Commission of the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana informing us of the automatic renewal of the Tribal-State Compact between the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana and the State of Louisiana (Compact).

We are acknowledging receipt of that notice and informing you that neither our approval nor publications of a notice of approval in the Federal Register are necessary in order for the terms of the Compact renewal to take effect under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Section 15 (C) of the 2001 Compact, provides that the Compact "shall automatically be extended for terms of seven (7) years, unless the Tribe or the State provides written notice of non-renewal not less than 180 days prior to the expiration of the original term of this Compact or any extension thereof." Although former Governor Blanco gave notice on October 22, 2007, Governor Jindal's Special Counsel withdrew that notice on April 7, 2008. Therefore, we are acknowledging the renewal of the Compact which will now expire on April 20, 2015.

We wish the Tribe and the State continued success in this economic venture.

Sincerely,

George T. Skibine  
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary --  
Policy and Economic Development



SOVEREIGN NATION OF THE CHITIMACHA  
**TRIBAL GAMING COMMISSION**

April 10, 2008

Director, Office of Indian Gaming  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
MS 3657 MIB  
Washington, DC 20240

**Re: Notice of Concurrence for Automatic Renewal of Tribal-State Compact  
between the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana and the State of Louisiana**

Dear Director:

Greetings from the Chitimacha Tribe! At the direction of the Chitimacha Tribal Council, we are writing today to formally notify the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Indian Gaming, that the Chitimacha Tribe and the State of Louisiana have concurred regarding the automatic Compact renewal provision in our existing Tribe-State Compact.

Our existing Compact, at Section 15(C), required a 180-day advanced written notice to the April 20, 2008, expiration date if either party wished to amend, modify or object to an automatic renewal of the existing Compact terms and provisions. Absent such an objection, the existing Compact, by it's own terms (which were themselves approved by the BIA, pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act at Section 11(d)(8) of 25 USCA 2710(d)(8) would automatically renew for another seven (7) year term.

As the advance notice requirement date fell at the end of the term of previous Governor Blanco, the latter wished to preserve the rights of incoming and present Governor Jindal to review the Compact. As such, the State initially notified the Tribe of an objection to automatic renewal. Governor Jindal's office thereafter conducted such review, inclusive of engaging in discussions with the Tribe. After same, in a letter dated April 7, 2008, the State formally advised the Tribe that it was withdrawing the State's initial objection to the automatic renewal provision, thus allowing the existing Tribal-State Compact's terms and provisions to continue as written for another seven (7) year term.

Enclosed herewith please find the following documents evidencing the above actions:

- 1) Initial letter from Governor Blanco dated October 22, 2007

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- 2) Letter from Governor Jindal's office dated April 7, 2008, withdrawing the State of Louisiana's initial objection to automatic renewal
- 3) Resolution CHI-TC #19-08 of the Chitimacha Tribal Council authorizing Tribal Chairman Martin to notify the State of the Tribe's concurrence to the automatic renewal provision;
- 4) Copy of the existing and to be renewed Tribal-State Compact;

In light of the respective parties' concurrence to the automatic renewal, we now forward these documents to your attention for your agency's review. Please advise if you need any additional information regarding same.

In closing, the Chitimacha Tribe looks forward to a continuation of the many years of harmonious and mutually respectful relationship with the State of Louisiana.

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of Robert J. Carroll in black ink, with the initials "BJC" written to the right of the signature.

Robert J. Carroll, Esq.

Handwritten signature of Guy S. Michael in black ink, with the initials "GSM" written to the right of the signature.

Guy S. Michael, Esq.  
Attorney's for the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana

:bsm

Enc

cc Chairman Lonnie Martin and Members of the Chitimacha Tribal Council  
Honorable Bobby Jindal, Governor of the State of Louisiana  
Mr. J. Terry Ryder, Special Counsel to Governor Jindal for Indian Gaming  
Deputy Attorney General James Smith, Louisiana Attorney General's Office  
Paula Hart, Deputy Director, Office of Indian Gaming, U.S. Department of the Interior



State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Baton Rouge

70804-9004

POST OFFICE BOX 94004  
(225) 342-7015

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO  
GOVERNOR

October 22, 2007

**CERTIFIED MAIL/ RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED &  
VIA FACSIMILE 337-923-6848**

Honorable Lonnie L. Martin  
Tribal Chairman  
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana  
PO Box 661  
Charenton, LA 70523

Dear Chairman Martin:

As you know, the Class III Gaming Compact (Compact) existing between the state of Louisiana and the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, which became effective on April 20, 2001, provides that it, "*shall automatically be extended for additional terms of seven (7) years, unless the Tribe or the State provides written notice of non-renewal not less than 180 days prior to the expiration for the original term of this Compact or any extension thereof*" [Compact Section 15 (c)].

Based on the language in the present Compact and based on legal advice by the Attorney General, I find I have no choice but to preserve the right of the state and my successor to discuss various possible changes in the Compact with you. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 15 (c) of the compact, "*notice of non-renewal*" is hereby given that the state of Louisiana does not consent to automatic renewal of the Compact. As you are aware, I have chosen not to seek re-election as Governor of the state of Louisiana and, therefore, I will not be Governor after January 14 and so my successor will renegotiate the existing Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact in effect between the Chitimacha Tribe and the state.

I am confident that my successor will stand ready to enter negotiations with the Chitimacha Tribe at an early date for a revised and extended Compact to continue the amicable and productive relationship. Please advise my successor of a convenient time to begin negotiations.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco  
Governor

jw

cc: Honorable Charles C. Foti, Jr.



BOBBY JINDAL  
Governor

State of Louisiana  
Office of the Governor

April 7, 2008

Honorable Lonnie L. Martin  
Tribal Chairman  
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana  
PO Box 661  
Charenton, LA 70523

RE: TRIBAL-STATE CLASS III GAMING COMPACT

Dear Chairman Martin:

Greetings to you and the members of the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana. I write to you on behalf of Governor Bobby Jindal as his Special Counsel for Indian Gaming.

Shortly before leaving office, Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco sent you a notice of non-renewal of the Tribal-State Class III gaming compact between the state of Louisiana and your Tribe. Governor Blanco acted to preserve the opportunity for the next Administration to review and consider the Compact and seek any amendments felt to be appropriate. After having completed review and evaluation of the situation with the Compact, this Administration has asked that I advise you of its decision, with your concurrence, to allow the Compact to automatically renew, under its present terms. Accordingly, please accept this as formal withdrawal of the state's October 2007 notice of non-renewal.

Governor Jindal looks forward to a cordial and productive relationship between the Chitimacha Tribe and the state of Louisiana in the years ahead.

Yours truly,

J. Terry Ryder  
Special Counsel for Indian Gaming

jw