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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Indian Affairs****Indian Gaming**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs,  
Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of approval of  
amendment to Tribal-State Compact.

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**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA), Pub. L. 100-497, 25 U.S.C. 2710, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish, in the **Federal Register**, notice of approved Tribal-State Compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands. The Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, through his delegated authority, has approved an Amendment, executed on November 2, 1999, to the Gaming Compact between the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana and the State of Louisiana.

**DATES:** This action is effective  
November 26, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
George T. Skibine, Director, Office of  
Indian Gaming Management, Bureau of  
Indian Affairs, Washington, DC 20240,  
(202) 219-4066.

Dated: November 18, 1999.

**Kevin Gover,**

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 99-30726 Filed 11-24-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

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# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, D.C. 20240

NOV 18 1999

Honorable Lovelin Poncho  
Chairman  
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 818  
Elton, Louisiana 70532

Dear Chairman Poncho:

On November 4, 1999, we received an Amendment to the Compact between the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana and the State of Louisiana, dated November 2, 1999, extending the existing Compact until 5:00 p.m. on May 4, 2000, or until a successor compact is agreed upon and becomes effective, whichever occurs first. We have completed our review of this Amendment and conclude that it does not violate the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA), Federal law, or our trust responsibility. Therefore, pursuant to delegated authority and Section 11 of IGRA, we approve the Amendment. The Amendment shall take effect when the notice of our approval, pursuant to Section 11 (d)(3)(B) of IGRA, 25 U.S.C. § 2710(d)(3)(B), is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

We wish the Tribe and the State success in the continuation of their economic venture.

Sincerely,



Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs

Enclosure

Similar Letter Sent to: Honorable Murphy J. Foster, Jr.  
Governor, State of Louisiana  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9004

**EXTENSION OF THE  
TRIBAL-STATE COMPACT  
FOR THE CONDUCT OF CLASS III GAMING  
BETWEEN THE  
COUSHATTA TRIBE OF LOUISIANA  
AND THE STATE OF LOUISIANA**

**WHEREAS:** in 1988, the Congress of the United States of America enacted the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, which provided a statutory basis for the operation and regulation of gaming by Indian Tribes; and

**WHEREAS:** pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, the Tribal-State Compact for the conduct of Class III Gaming Between the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana** was executed and signed by Chairman Lovelin Poncho on September 4, 1992 (and as amended on October 28, 1992) and by Governor Edwin W. Edwards on September 2, 1992 (and as amended on October 29, 1992); and became effective upon publishing of approval by the Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, in the *Federal Register* on November 4, 1992;

**WHEREAS:** in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Compact, the **State of Louisiana**, through Governor Murphy J. Foster, Jr., has given the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** notice of non-renewal of the Compact;

**WHEREAS:** the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana** mutually desire to negotiate for a successor Class III Gaming Compact, without any alteration or interruption in the terms of the existing Compact; and

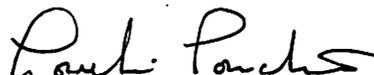
**WHEREAS:** the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana** desire to extend the existing Tribal-State Compact, which will expire on or about November 4, 1999, for a period of time sufficient to permit the parties a reasonable opportunity to negotiate, agree upon, and put into effect a successor compact;

**NOW THEREFORE WE,** the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana**, by virtue of the authority vested through the Constitution and laws of the United States of America and of the **State of Louisiana**, and of the laws and Resolutions of the Tribal Council of the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana**, and in order to *preserve* and protect the health, safety, and welfare of our people, do hereby extend the existing, and hereinabove described Tribal-State Compact for

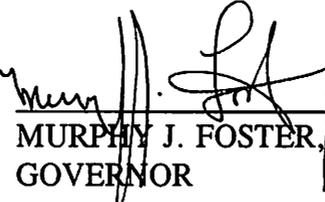
the conduct of Class III gaming, until 5:00 o'clock P.M. Central Standard Time, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2000, or until a successor compact is agreed upon and becomes effective, whichever occurs first. This agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of extending the existing compact, for the time specified in this agreement, and not for the purpose of renewing the existing compact.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, as duly authorized representatives of the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana**, we have hereunto set our hands officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seals of the **Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana** and the **State of Louisiana**.

**COUSHATTA TRIBE OF LOUISIANA**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LOVELIN PONCHO  
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN  
DATE: 27 Nov 99

**STATE OF LOUISIANA**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MURPHY J. FOSTER, JR.  
GOVERNOR  
DATE: 2 November 1999

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
KEVIN GOVER  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY-INDIAN AFFAIRS  
DATE: NOV 18 1999