WASHINGTON STATE
GAMBLING
COMMISSION

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians

Joint Legislative Hearing – Proposed Compact Amendment

November 7, 2024

The Honorable Eric White, Chair, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians

Tina Griffin, Director, Gambling Commission

Julie Lies, Tribal Liaison, Gambling Commission

“Class III gaming activities shall be lawful on Indian lands only if such activities are located in a State that permits such gaming and are conducted in conformance with a tribal-state compact…”

1988: Indian Gaming Regulatory Act

Department of Interior

Amendment Disapproval

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

JUL 2 4 2024

The Honorable Jay Inslee
Governor, State of Washington
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Governor Inslee:

On June 10, 2024, the Office of Indian Gaming received the Fifth Amendment (Amendment) to the Tribal-State Compact for Class III Gaming Between the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians (Tribe) and the State of Washington (State) for review and approval. The Amendment adds a new Appendix G, Electronic Table Games (ETG), and amends relevant provisions in the compact to reflect the changes. The Amendment also increases the Tribe's required community and problem gambling contributions.

• • •

Conclusion

As a result, I conclude that the proposed modifications to Sections 9 and 10.1 of Appendix G violate IGRA and the Department's regulations because together they provide for increased Tribal payment obligations absent any meaningful concessions by the State. Therefore, pursuant to my delegated authority and Section 11 of IGRA, I am disapproving the Amendment. See 25 U.S.C. § 2170(d)(8)(B)(i-iii).

I regret that my decision could not be more favorable at this time and hope that the Tribe and the State will recognize that the revenue sharing provisions in the Amendment without meaningful concessions are prohibited in a Tribal-State Compact. A similar letter is being sent to the Honorable Eric White Chairman, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians.

Sincerely,

Bryan Newland
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

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Disapproved Sections

SECTION 9. COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

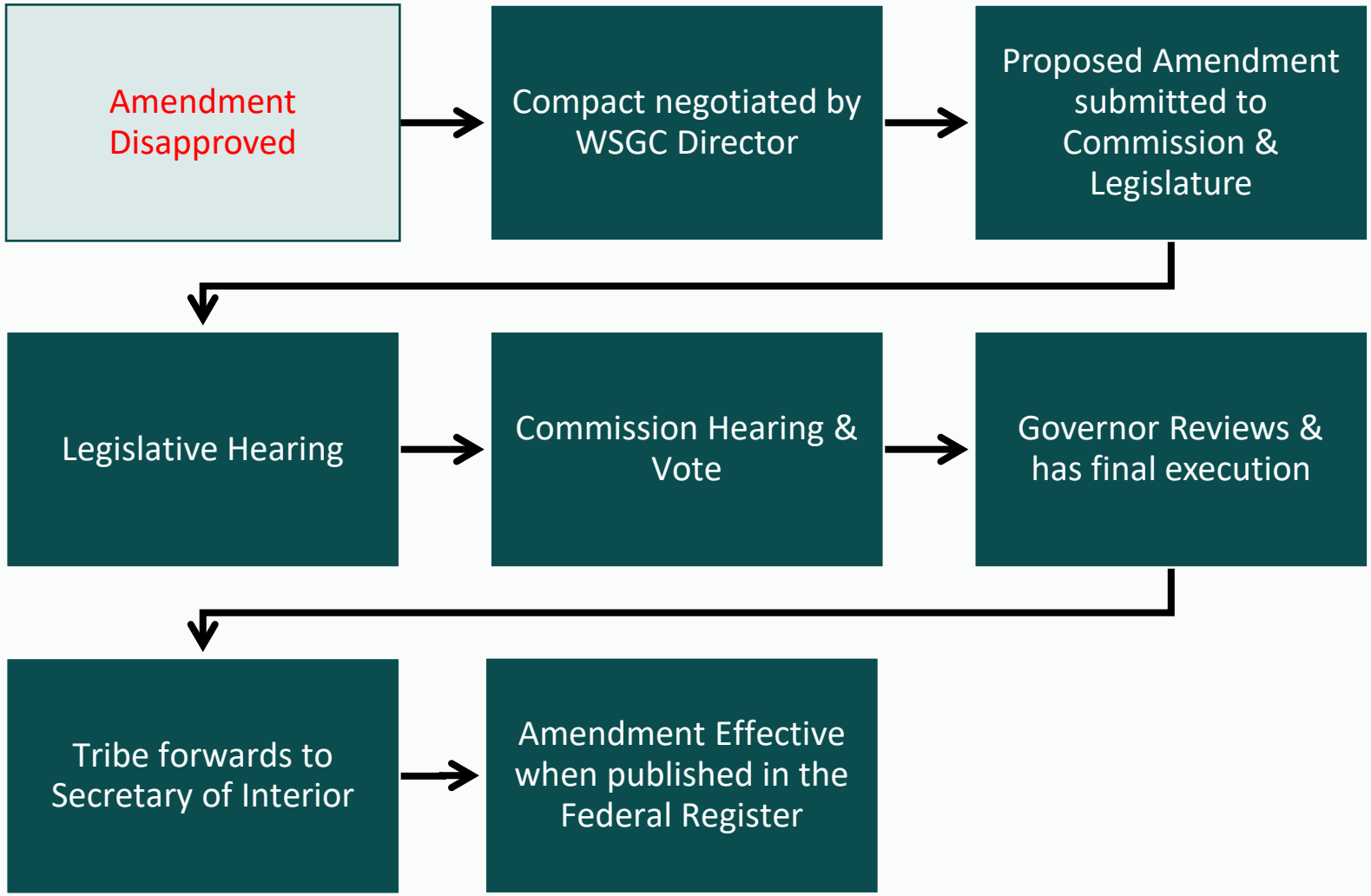
"Net Win from Gaming Stations" as used in Section III.F of the Compact shall include Net Win from ETGs.

SECTION 10. PROBLEM AND RESPONSIBLE GAMING

10.1 Monetary Contribution.

Problem Gambling. The Tribe shall contribute an amount as described below to programs for problem gambling education, awareness, prevention, and treatment for tribal and non-tribal citizens in the State of Washington. Contributions shall be made to charitable and/or non-profit organizations, or to governmental organizations which may include the Health Care Authority's Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery or a successor agency with expertise in providing awareness, prevention, education, outreach, treatment, and recovery support services for problem gambling. Beginning on the Implementation Date and until June 30, 2024, the Tribe shall accrue 0.20 percent (0.2%) of the net win derived from all Class III gaming activities, determined on an annual basis. Beginning on July 1, 2024, and subsequent fiscal years, the Tribe shall accrue 0.26 percent (0.26%). The percent of net win accrued shall be paid annually within one year of the close of the Tribe's fiscal year.

Gaming Compact Amendment Approval Process



Summary of Compact Changes – Unchanged

Electronic Table Games:

– Does not allow "play against the machine"

– Played consistent with traditional table game

– Nine (9) ETG stations = 1 traditional table

– Wager limits = $500

– Played with an electronic wagering system

– Joint TGA & SGA field testing

Summary of Compact Updates

- Removed increase to Problem & Responsible Gaming funding
- Acknowledged the Gaming Facility's website – includes self-barring request form
- Added responsible gambling information to cashier stations, entrances/exits, kiosks, and ETG terminals
- Added responsible gambling information on Class III gaming materials
- Removed smoking cessation provision from Appendix X2
- Added "air quality" to clarify importance with International Building Code.

STILLAGUAMISH
TRIBE OF INDIANS

“The Stillaguamish Tribe looks forward to our continued collaboration and partnership with the Washington State Gaming Commission. This relationship underscores a mutual commitment to fostering a sustainable gaming environment that benefits all stakeholders while honoring the Stillaguamish people's cultural heritage and economic aspirations. Together, we aim to set a standard for responsible gaming practices that can serve as a model for others.”

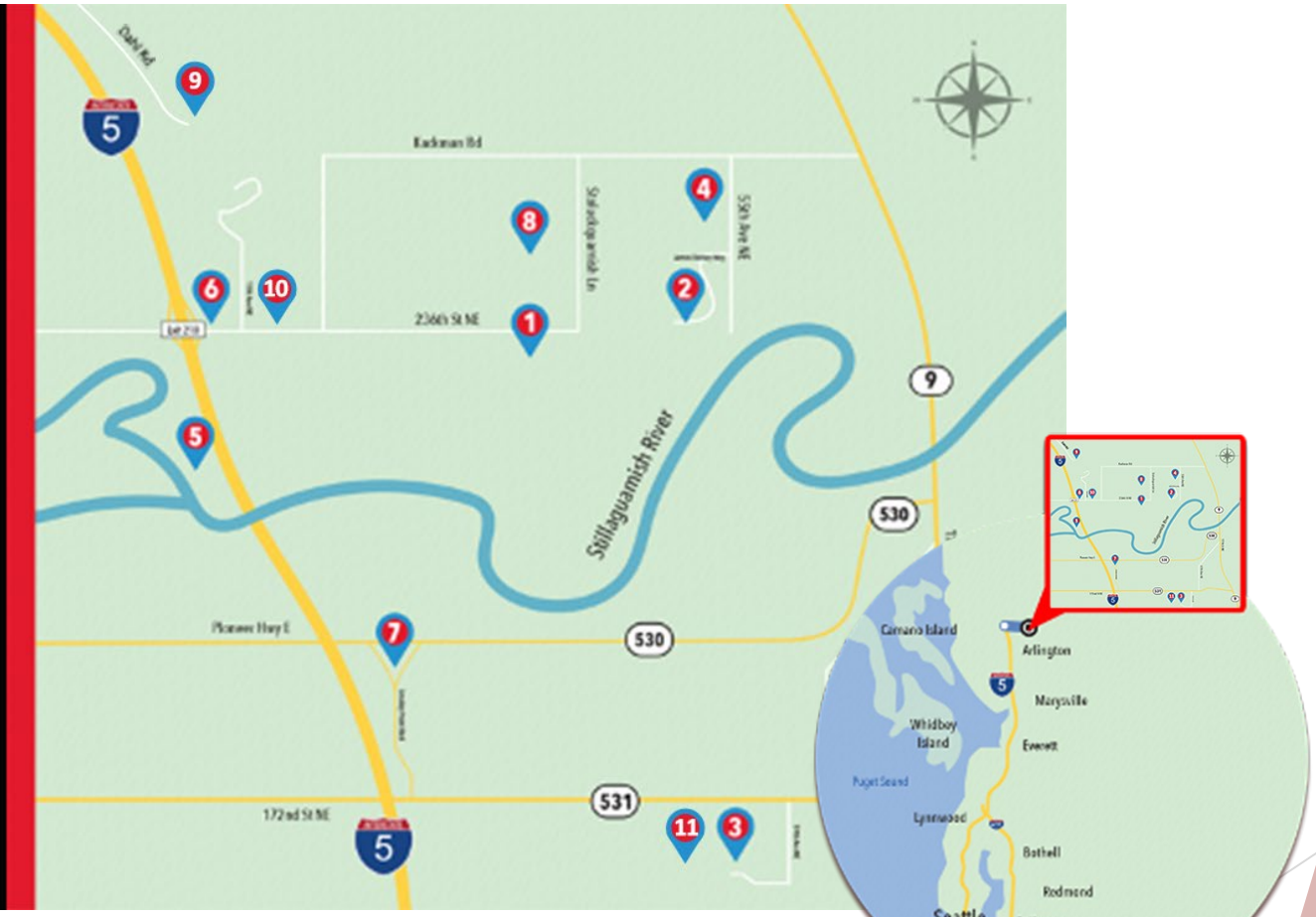
CHAIRMAN, ERIC WHITE

TRIBAL HISTORY

- Stuləgʷábš, English translation known as Stillaguamish
  - Refers to our people who lived along the Stillaguamish River and camped along its tributaries
- 1855 – The Tribe resided on Camano, the mouth and main stem of the Stillaguamish River, as well as the north and south forks
- 1855 – Treaty of Point Elliott
- October 27, 1976 – The Tribe received federal recognition
  - 1974 – Boldt Decision affirmed, recognized treaty rights, made eligible for federal services
- 2014 – The Tribe granted reservation from federal government
  - 64 acres in Snohomish County, WA near the Stillaguamish River

TRIBAL MAP

1. Administration Building
   3322 236th St NE, Arlington, WA 98223
2. Stillaguamish Health Clinic
   24205 James Dorsey Way Suite A, Arlington, WA 98223
3. qʷəlút Healing Center
   5700 172nd St NE, Suite B, Arlington,WA 98223
4. Stillaguamish Tribe Community Center
   24410 55th Ave NE, Arlington, WA 98223
5. Natural Resources Building
   22712 6th Ave NE, Arlington, WA 98223
6. River Rock Tobacco & Fuel
   23704 13th Ave NE, Arlington, WA 98223
7. River Rock Tobacco & Fuel
   21125 Smokey Point Blvd, Arlington, WA 98223
8. Angel of the Winds Casino Resort
   3438 Stoluckquamish Lane, Arlington, WA 98223
9. Angel of the Winds RV Resort
   25525 Dahl Rd, Arlington, WA 98223
10. 210 Cannabis
    1309 236th St NE, Arlington, WA 98223
11. Stillaguamish Tribe Behavioral Health Programs
    5700 172nd St NE, Arlington, WA 98223



TRIBAL GOVERNMENT



- Stillaguamish Tribal Council
- Created in 1953 via the Tribe's constitution
- Six elected members
  - Chairman
  - Vice Chairman
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Two Non-Officer Members
- Providing services to assist every Tribal member

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION



- Tribal Government, Outdoor Media, 210 Cannabis CO, and River Rock Fuel Stations employ a total of 330 Community & Tribal members
- Transportation Department
  - Provides transit services to the Tribal community
- Planning Department
  - Works on land use issues, utility management, road maintenance, grant writing

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION





- Family Resources Department
  - Offers services to Tribal families
- Cultural Resources Department
  - Plans cultural events, preserves cultural sites, and keeps history
- Tribal Enrollment Department
- Police Department
  - Provides security and resources for the Tribal community and Tribal enterprises

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION





- **Housing Department**
- In 2016 the Tribe, with its Tribal citizens, went through a series of hands-on interactive workshops to envision a new Stillaguamish Village. Based on the workshops, a final master site plan was developed. This project was fully Tribal funded without the use of grants. In addition to the 15 housing units created within the Stillaguamish Village, the Tribe has 49 additional scattered site homes that are fully Tribal funded and subsidized through Tribal hard dollars.
- **Canoe House-Carving Shed** – This building provides a space to engage in our canoe and carving practices. The Tribe's carvers host classes such as tool making, canoe building, totem pole carvings, carving art. The canoe family gathers here for training and social events, as well as stores their canoes in this location.
- **Holistic Healing Center** – This building hosts the Tribe's health practitioners, such as family practice doctors, mental health counselors, and massage therapists. This building also has a community room, which is open for community-based gatherings, such as weaving, cooking, and language classes.
- **Elders Campus** – The Elders Campus is comprised of six units: the elders longhouse, four elders cottages, and the elders park. These units are all ADA compliant, highly energy efficient, and come with a whole house generator to assist during power outages. The Tribe subsidizes elders' rent through Tribal hard dollars.
- **Single Family Homes** – There are currently five single family homes that sit along a neighborhood park. Families that live in these units pay no more than 20% of their adjusted income on rent. The Tribe subsidizes rent through Tribal hard dollars.
- **Playground Park** – The playground includes elements that have been designed with a nice touch of nature play, including a log jam concept inspired by the traditional stick game that includes large slahal sticks made from logs. Our Tribal carvers built a beautiful dugout canoe as a play element. The park includes a public restroom.

STILLAGUAMISH HEALTH CLINIC



- Open to Stillaguamish Tribal members and their families, other enrolled Native Americans, and Tribal employees
- Massage Therapy Clinic
  - Restores clients' health and wellbeing through massage therapy and bodywork

QʷəLÚT HEALING CENTER



- Assists the community to improve individual functioning and elevate the quality of life for all
- Behavioral Health Programs
  - Offers Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment and mental health services
  - Approximately 750 patients served in 2023
- Island Crossing Counseling Services
  - Assists the community to achieve a lifestyle of sobriety and health

COMMUNITY CENTER



- Located in the middle of the Tribal Housing Community
- Houses the Tribe's Daycare, part of the Cultural Department, Youth Services and Kitchen
- Youth Services
  - Goal is to make getting an education as accessible as possible
- Open and available to Stillaguamish citizens
- Cultural events, funerals, Summer Youth Program

NATURAL RESOURCES BUILDING







- Created in 1974 due to the Boldt Decision
- Manages, protects, and conserves the natural resources that are required to sustain healthy populations of fish, shellfish, and wildlife within the Stillaguamish Tribe's usual and accustomed areas (Stillaguamish watershed)

The Stillaguamish Tribe's Natural Resources Department focuses on protecting, enhancing, and restoring important treaty resources that are co-managed with other Treaty Tribes and the State of Washington. The Tribe's Natural Resources Department is home to 4 separate programs which include: Fisheries, Wildlife, Water Quality, and Environmental Restoration & Stewardship.
The work the Natural Resources Department is able to achieve through shared State and Tribal economic success and partnerships helps ensure greater climate resiliency and environmental stewardship for *all* Washingtonians.

Some key examples of this work includes:
Two Tribally Owned/Operated Hatcheries that produce ESA listed populations of Stillaguamish Chinook. The fish released from these hatcheries are genetically indistinct from their wild cohorts, and are produced solely to stave off extinction, while also serving as scientific indicators of where harvest impacts are hitting our salmon resources the hardest. Due to the co-management relationship between the Stillaguamish Tribe and state agencies like Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), we can responsibly manage salmon fisheries in Washington State, and work together to mitigate impacts on our stocks from northern fisheries in Canada and Alaska.

The Stillaguamish Tribe and WDFW have worked together over the past few years to invest over $5.3 Million dollars in completing 318 acres of wetland connectivity work, opening up a combined total of 7.3 miles of tidal channels that will improve climate resiliency, and provide refuge and nursery habitat to ESA listed salmon populations in Port Susan Bay.

236TH ST NE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS





Stillaguamish Tribe Completes 236th St NE Safety Improvements Project

- The Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians finished the 236th St NE Safety Improvements Project in September 2022. This project enhanced safety and environmental features along the roadway between 13th Ave NE and 35th Ave NE in Snohomish County.

- **Key improvements include:**
  - Wider shoulders and improved sight lines
  - Roundabout at the 19th Avenue intersection
  - Replaced fish barrier with a wildlife crossing
  - Raised roadway with new culverts for better water flow and animal passage
  - Stormwater management ponds
  - New sidewalks, curbs, and pavement markings

- Construction techniques minimized road closures, and detours were used when necessary. Access to homes and businesses remained open throughout the project.

River Rock Tobacco & Fuel





- Two locations:
  - 21125 Smokey Point Blvd, Arlington, WA 98223
    - January 1, 2024 – April 10, 2024
      Averaging 2,602
      Customers Per Day
  - 23704 13th Ave NE, Arlington, WA 98223
    - January 1, 2024 – April 10, 2024
      Averaging 5,856
      Customers Per Day

ANGEL OF THE WINDS CASINO RESORT



- Gaming (Slots, Table Games)
- 8 food venues
- RV Resort
- Hotel (125 rooms)
- Keno, Strikerz Bowling, Rivers Run Event Center, All Things Sports
- Employs 767 Community & Tribal Members as of March 2024

COMMUNITY IMPACT



"The Tribe's success is the community's success."

- Tribal donations from January 2023 to December 2023 totaled over $1.5 million
  - $100,000 to A Christmas Wish
  - $100,000 to the Arlington Food Bank
  - $100,000 to Bender's One Big Give Benefiting Seattle Children's Hospital Foundation
  - $100,000 to Cocoon House
  - $100,000 to Providence General Foundation
  - And much more
- Donates to five fire districts within the Tribe's watershed

2021-2022:
North County Regional Fire Authority $289,000
Snohomish County Sheriff $107,683
Snohomish County Public Works $56,675
Arlington Police Department $68,000
Washington State Patrol $11,391

2023:
$200,000 to Snohomish County Fire District 21 Arlington Heights Fire Department
$196,700 Snohomish County Fire District 25 Oso Fire Department

Commissioners



Chair Alicia Levy



Vice Chair Bud Sizemore



Sarah Lawson



Anders Ibsen



Michael Charles

Ex Officio Members



Senator
Steve Conway
29th District



Senator
Jeff Holy
6th District



Representative
Shelley Kloba
1st District



Representative
Eric Robertson
31st District

Next Steps

Today

- Hold required hearing
- Answer questions

Commission Meeting

November 14, 2024

- Vote to forward to Governor
- Vote to return for further negotiations