

**NATIONAL
INDIAN
GAMING
COMMISSION**

MAR 27 1997

Honorable Maryann Martin
Chairperson, Augustine Band of Mission Indians
84481 Avenue 54
Coachella, California 92236

Dear Chairperson Martin:

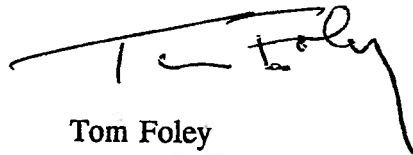
This letter responds to your request to review and approve the tribal gaming ordinance, adopted on January 17, 1997, by the Augustine Band of Mission Indians (Tribe). This letter constitutes approval of the ordinance under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA).

Under the IGRA and the regulations of the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC), the Chair is directed to review ordinances with respect to the requirements of the IGRA and the implementing regulations. Thus, the scope of the Chair's review and approval is limited to the requirements of the IGRA and the NIGC regulations. Provisions other than those required under the IGRA or the NIGC regulations that may be included in a tribal ordinance are not subject to review and approval. Also, such approval does not constitute approval of specific games. It is important to note that the gaming ordinance is approved for gaming only on Indian lands as defined in the IGRA.

With the Chair's approval of the Tribe's gaming ordinances, the Tribe is now required to conduct background investigations on its key employees and primary management officials. The NIGC expects to receive a completed application for each key employee and primary management official pursuant to 25 C.F.R. § 556.5(a) and an investigative report on each background investigation before issuing a license to a key employee or primary management official pursuant to 25 C.F.R. § 556.5(b).

Thank you for submitting the ordinance of the Augustine Band of Mission Indians for review and approval. The NIGC staff and I look forward to working with you and the Tribe in implementing the IGRA.

Sincerely yours,



Tom Foley
Commissioner