

STATE OF INDIANA
INDIANA GAMING COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF AMERISTAR CASINO EAST CHICAGO, LLC REQUEST TO
MOVE CERTAIN GAMING OPERATIONS INLAND CASINO**

I. Background

House Enrolled Act 1540, which went into effect on July 1, 2015, contains a provision that allows casino owner's licensees to submit a plan to the Indiana Gaming Commission ("Commission") to allow docked riverboat casinos to relocate to an inland casino or offer certain gaming operations inland.

On or about June 10, 2019 Ameristar Casino East Chicago, LLC d/b/a Ameristar East Chicago ("Ameristar") submitted a request to offer a sportsbook lounge and/or self-service betting terminals (collectively, "sports wagering operations"), in the land-side pavilion area. Ameristar's request indicates the sports wagering operations will be located on property adjacent to the current riverboat dock site which was owned by Ameristar and used to conduct gaming operations since February 1, 2015. If approved, the addition of the sports wagering operations, conducted pursuant to Ind. Code art. 4-38, would not cause Ameristar to exceed the maximum number of gambling games offered by Ameristar since January 1, 2007.

II. Requirements to Relocate Gaming Inland

In order to relocate certain gaming operations inland, a casino owner's licensee must satisfy a number of conditions. First, the gaming area must be located on property that the casino owner's licensee owned or leased and used in the conduct of gaming operations on February 1, 2015. Second, the new inland gaming area must be located on property adjacent to the riverboat dock site. Third, the casino must comply with all building codes and any safety requirements imposed by the Commission. Fourth, the Commission must approve relocation. Ind. Code § 4-33-6-24(c).

Finally, the number of gambling games to be offered by the casino owner's licensee, in total, cannot exceed the greatest number of gambling games the casino owner's licensee offered at the docked riverboat casino since January 1, 2007. Ind. Code § 4-33-6-24(f).

III. Commission Delegation

Ind. Code 4-38-1-4 provides that the Commission has any power specified in Ind. Code 4-33 and Ind. Code 4-35 concerning the facilities in which gambling games are conducted, including the power to grant such requests to conduct sports wagering inland. Pursuant to this authority, Resolution 2019-115 delegated to the Executive Director the authority to approve sports wagering operation requests that fall under Ind. Code 4-33-6-24.

IV. Commission Action

The Commission, through its Executive Director by the authority delegated pursuant to Resolution 2019-115, hereby **APPROVES** the request submitted by Ameristar to offer certain sports wagering operations inland.


The Commission's approval of request is conditioned upon Ameristar: (1) meeting all conditions contained in Ind. Code § 4-33-6-24(c); (2) meeting the condition contained in Ind. Code § 4-33-6-24(f); (3) meeting any other requirement imposed by the Commission pursuant to Ind. Code § 4-33-6-24(e); and (4) receive plan approval from the Commission following the submission of plans to address security, currency collection, surveillance, kiosk and cage locations and any other issue identified by the Commission.

In addition, prior to the commencement of any sports wagering activities, Ameristar, or if applicable, its Vendor, must obtain all required Commission approvals. The Commission will provide express authorization to the sports wagering operator when sports wagering activities may be launched.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact the Commission's Legal Division, 317-233-0046.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 16th DAY OF JULY, 2019.

THE INDIANA GAMING COMMISSION:



Sara Gonso Tait, Executive Director