

ORDER 2011-201

AN ORDER REGARDING AMERISTAR CASINO EAST CHICAGO LLC'S PROPOSAL FOR CONVERSION TO A PERMANENTLY MOORED VESSEL

On July 1, 2011, Senate Enrolled Act 47 went into effect. This law, among other things, contains a provision that allows riverboat licensees to submit to the Commission a plan to convert a "self-propelled" riverboat into a "permanently moored craft" and gives the Commission the authority to approve submitted plans.

Permanently moored vessels may disable propulsion and navigation equipment that is required to be maintained as a self-propelled riverboat. In addition, permanently moored vessels are not required to employ personnel that are necessary in order to operate as a self-propelled vessel.

On May 23, 2011, Ameristar Casino East Chicago, LLC ("Ameristar") submitted its plan in accordance with the new law. Commission staff sent the plan to ABS Group, which is the Commission's marine structural and life safety contractor. ABS Group has recommended approval of Ameristar's plan based on its analysis of how the plan addresses structural and safety standards.

The proposal submitted on behalf of Ameristar would not disable the propulsion or navigation equipment, and the vessel would keep the same mooring arrangements in place since it stopped sailing in 2002. The plan proposes to replace the existing marine staff positions with additional positions in the Facilities and Security Departments, including several new positions in the Facilities Department filled by individuals with marine experience and training.

The Commission has consulted with the United States Army Corps of Engineers as required under IC 4-33-4-13, notified both the United States Coast Guard and Indiana Department of Homeland Security of the plans, and provided an opportunity to comment.

COMMISSION ACTION

After reviewing the foregoing and in accordance with IC 4-33-4-13(b), and conditioned upon successful completion of emergency drills as described under an amended Emergency Response Plan within thirty (30) days from this date, which may be extended by Commission staff with good cause shown, and pending compliance with any United States Army Corps of Engineers requests, the Commission hereby:

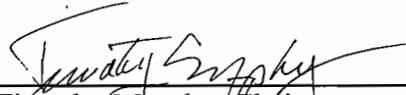
APPROVES

the plan submitted by Ameristar Casino East Chicago, LLC to convert its self-propelled

riverboat into a permanently moored craft.

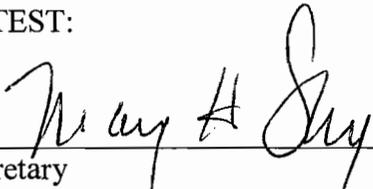
IT IS SO ORDERED THIS THE 15TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2011.

THE INDIANA GAMING COMMISSION:



Timothy Murphy, Chair

ATTEST:



Secretary