

## United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, DC 20240

SEP 1 5 2017

The Honorable Kevin P. Brown Chairman, Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut 13 Crow Hill Road Uncasville, Connecticut 06382

Dear Chairman Brown:

On August 2, 2017, the Department of the Interior received the Agreement between the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut (Tribe) and the State of Connecticut (State) dated July 20, 2017, related to the conduct of Gaming by the Tribe. The Agreement memorializes amendments to the Tribal-State Compact previously entered into between the Tribe and the State. Specifically, the Agreement amends sections 2, 15(a), and 17(d) (Amendment) of the Tribal-State Compact.

We have completed our review of the Amendment. We return the Amendment to you to maintain the status quo as action on the Amendment is premature and likely unnecessary. The Amendment addresses the exclusivity provisions of the Gaming Compact. We find that there is insufficient information upon which to make a decision as to whether a new casino operated by the Mohegan and Mashantucket Pequot Tribes (Tribes) would or would not violate the exclusivity clauses of the Gaming Compact. The Tribes have entered an agreement with the State whereby they have agreed that the exclusivity provisions will not be breached by this arrangement. Therefore, our action is unnecessary at this time.

A similar letter is being sent to the Honorable Rodney Butler, Chairman, Mashantucket Pequot Indian Tribe, and the Honorable Dannel P. Malloy, Governor of Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Black

Acting Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Dean Heller The Honorable Mark Amodei