# Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation



TREBAL COUNCEL

## May 7, 2009

Honorable Jodi Rell Office of the Governor State Capitol 210 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Rell:

This letter is to describe the status of smoking and non-smoking areas and policies at Foxwoods Resort Casino including some suggestions we are considering to increase the nonsmoking areas. In addition to this letter we will provide floor plans which will depict smoking and non-smoking areas.

## Current Non-Smoking Areas - Foxwoods Not Including MGM

We generally divide the interior of Foxwoods and MGM into three areas other than the hotel rooms and corridors, spas, and other amenities and garage areas.

1. The first is the existing concourse level where in the front of the house we have a total of approximately 672,000 square feet. Currently, 156,000 square feet are restricted to non-smoking. We are in the process of expanding that non-smoking area to approximately 339,000 square feet so that a majority of the area will be non-smoking.

As to the back of the house for the concourse level we have approximately 189,000 square feet all of which is non-smoking and which would remain that way.

2. On the lobby level we currently allow smoking in approximately 50,000 of the 140,000 total square feet. We are in the process of expanding the non-smoking area in the lobby to 118,000 square feet.

3. The entry levels currently consist of approximately 33,000 square feet with 25,000 square feet where smoking is permitted. We are in the process of eliminating smoking entirely in the entry level.

In the back of the house at entry level the entire \$1,000 square feet of space is restricted to non-smoking and we would continue that policy.

4. The Grand Pequot Hotel totals approximately 913,000 square feet and 793,000 or eighty-seven percent (87%) will be non-smoking.

5. The Great Cedar Hotel consists of approximately 190,000 square feet and 115,000 square feet, or sixty percent (60%), is non-smoking.

6. The Executive Tower consisting of 44,000 square feet of office space is all back of the house non-smoking.

Thus, the grand total at Foxwoods is approximately 2,683,000 square feet and approximately eighty percent (80%) of that is non-smoking.

We will continually review these areas. Where enhanced signage may be necessary it will be provided. All personnel will become familiar with smoking and non-smoking areas particularly security.

### Current Non-Smoking Areas - MGM

1. Podium Levels 1.5 and 2 are entirely non-smoking both back and front of house. This totals approximately 188,000 square feet.

2. Podium Level 1 front of house totals approximately 265,000 square feet with approximately 212,000 square feet being non-smoking. The entire back of house consisting of 199,000 square feet is non-smoking.

3. One Hundred percent (100%) of the meeting and convention space, as well as restaurants and retail space, are non-smoking at MGM, and seventy-eight percent (78%) of the hotel rooms at MGM are non-smoking.

#### Ventilation and Maintenance

Our ventilation systems when installed utilized state of the art technology. As facility renovations or additions are completed, that technology is updated.

We have an extensive preventative maintenance program with frequent filter changes and cleaning.

- MPTN will continue to invest in new ventilation systems and technologies that are designed and maintained in accordance with all OSHA and other federal standards in both smoking and non-smoking areas.
- MPTN's air handlers will continue to exchange are in all gaming areas at an aggressive rate, no fewer than 15 times per hour on average.
- The dual filter system will include frequent filter changes, with the pro-filter changed every 30 days and the final filter changed annually. Table games (excluding those in smoke-free areas and certain games where systems may be unable to accommodate a

blower) will have a specially-designed air blower or air rail system to direct smoke away from employees.

### **Testing and Monitoring**

- Testing by independent, accredited air quality experts no less than two times per year.
- Regular air balancing by on-site engineering contractors to maintain peak efficiency.
- Centralized monitoring, reporting and investigation of environmental tobacco smoke conditions and patron and employee complaints.
- Testing reports to be furnished to State Division of Special Revenue.

#### **Employee Accommodations**

- Subject to new employee policies and availability, table games will make accommodations in smoke-free areas for dealers with documented chronic respiratory conditions or pregnancy, upon request.
- Continued support for employee health and fitness, including tobacco cessation education and programs.

The foregoing Standards are conditioned on no legislation, litigation or regulatory action to undermine the Tribal Nation's sovereignty and rights to exercise governmental control, including health and safety regulation, over the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation and gaming facilities. Any such efforts or interference that impacts the success and viability of operations would cause the Tribe to re-examine all of its options in gaming and non-gaming areas. These Standards are conditioned also on comparable government-to-government understandings or agreements between the State and other federally-recognized Native American tribes with gaming in Connecticut. Finally, if there are adverse economic effects due to the implementation of these Standards, the Tribe and the State agree to meet immediately again to discuss remedies.

We look forward to implementing these Standards and continuing to work with you and the State of Connecticut on these and our other shared goals for many years and generations to come. If the above Standards are consistent with your understanding of the terms and plans we have discussed, I would ask that you acknowledge and return a copy of this letter to me.

Yours very truly,

Michael Mona

Michael J. Thomas Chairman

ACKNOWLEDGED BY:

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

ier By: Governor M Jodi Rell

Cc: Richard Blumenthal Attorney General, State of Connecticut

> Paul A. Young Executive Director, Division of Special Revenue, State of Connecticut