

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF SILETZ INDIANS
SALEM GAMING FACILITY PROJECT ON TRUST PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has released an Environmental Assessment (EA) dated November 2021 for the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians Salem Gaming Facility Project on Trust Property. The EA has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 United States Code [USC] §4321 et seq.) and assesses the environmental impacts resulting from the issuance of a Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) two-part determination under Section 20 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) (Proposed Action), and the subsequent development of a gaming facility and hotel by the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon (Tribe) on an approximately 20-acre parcel in Salem, Oregon that has been held in federal trust for the Tribe since 2000. The Tribe proposes to develop a casino resort on the Trust Parcel, with additional parking improvements occurring within fee land owned by the Tribe to the south of the Trust Parcel. Thus, the project site evaluated in the EA encompasses approximately 28 acres consisting of the Trust Parcel and the two fee parcels located to the south (Project Site).

The Project Site is located in the City of Salem, in Marion County, Oregon, directly northeast of the Interstate 5 (I-5) and State Highway 99E interchange. Surrounding land uses are primarily urban and commercial in nature. Based on the analysis and impacts discussed in the EA and comments received during the public review period, the BIA will decide whether to reach a Finding of No Significant Impact, direct further work on the EA, or initiate the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

The purpose of the proposed federal action is to facilitate tribal self-sufficiency, self-determination, and economic development, thus, satisfying the principal goal of IGRA as articulated in 25 USC § 2701.

The public comment period for the EA will be open for 30 days, beginning on January 7, 2022 and ending on February 7, 2022. An online virtual public meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2022 from 6:00 p.m. until the final comment is heard. Instructions for participation in the public hearing are available online at <http://SiletzSalemCasinoNEPA.com/>.

For additional information, please contact Scott Doig, Regional Environmental Scientist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Region, at (612) 725-4514 or by email at scott.doig@bia.gov. Written comments should be emailed to scott.doig@bia.gov or mailed to the following address:

Tammie Poitra
Regional Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Region
5600 American Blvd W
Suite 500
Bloomington , MN 55437.

Copies of the EA are available for public review on the internet at the <http://SiletzSalemCasinoNEPA.com/> or at the Salem Public Library located at 585 Liberty ST SE, Salem, Oregon, 97301, telephone (503) 588-6315.