ORDER 2011-203

AN ORDER REGARDING BLUE CHIP CASINO 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 July 25, 2011, Blue Chip Casino, LLC ("Blue Chip") 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 Blue Chip's plan based on its analysis of how the plan addresses structural and safety standards.

The proposal submitted on behalf of Blue Chip will be disabling its navigation and propulsion systems. The vessel is currently moored to the dock by two hydraulic clamps. The plan proposes that the power to these clamps will be locked out. The marine staffing levels will be reduced under the proposal, but not cut entirely. Some emergency situation duties will be shifted to other departments, but marine personnel will continue to be responsible for most of these duties.

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 Blue Chip Casino, LLC to convert its self-propelled riverboat into

a permanently moored craft.

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

THE INDIANA GAMING COMMISSION:

ATTEST:

Secretary