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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Business Input Sought for Casino Disparity Study**

**Indianapolis –** The Indiana Gaming Commission (IGC) is seeking input from all businesses that are ready, willing and able to provide goods and services to Indiana's riverboat casinos. This information is being sought as part of a statistical analysis, also called a disparity study, being undertaken by the Center for Urban Policy and the Environment on behalf of the IGC.

The study will determine if the amount of purchases made from minority business enterprises (MBEs) and women business enterprises (WBEs) is proportionate to the capacity of those companies to provide goods and services to Indiana casinos. If such a disparity is found, state law requires the IGC to establish MBE and WBE utilization goals.

"It is essential to the success of the study to determine the capacity of all businesses, not only MBE and WBE companies, to provide goods and services to Indiana's casinos. We are encouraging all business interested in being part of this study to complete a survey or attend one of our outreach meetings. Without their input, it will be difficult to arrive at accurate conclusions regarding disparity," said IGC Deputy Director Jennifer Arnold.

The survey is available at <u>www.in.gov/gaming</u>. Outreach meetings will be held from 4:00p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the following locations:

July 12, 2006

Argosy – Party Room 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor 777 Argosy Parkway Lawrenceburg, Indiana

July 19, 2006

Resorts East Chicago – Las Vegas Room 777 Harrah's Boulevard East Chicago, Indiana July 26, 2006

Indiana Government Center South 402 W. Washington Street Conference Room 22 Indianapolis, Indiana

August 2, 2006

Casino Aztar 421 Northwest Riverside Drive Evansville, Indiana